

secondary education of an undenominational character be made, by State aid, supplementary to private teaching. The Left proposed a formal amendment, which, on a division, was lost by sixty-four to twenty-two votes; whereupon the Right, which is dominated by the Clerical party, proposed an amendment for "the abolition of the certificates of fitness for secondary education, for children taught at State schools, and for the granting of a subsidy to sectarian school." This amendment was also rejected, by a still larger majority. Subsequently, however, the Chamber divided on the Government proposal as it stood, and rejected it by fifty-six to thirty votes. The Government were thus defeated, and the Minister of the Interior, who had charge of the bill, announced its withdrawal, in order that the entire proposal might be reconsidered.

HERR WYCHGRAM, a professor at the Higher School for Girls at Leipzig, has been making a tour of inspection through the girls' schools of all grades in France, and has been immensely struck by the high and genuine character of the education given in them. Though a German, he gives the palm in this respect to a foreign country, that foreign country being France, which is a tribute of admiration indeed. But, while finding much to praise all round, and very little to blame, he was principally struck by the care with which French girls of all classes are taught to speak and to write their own language, and, above all, to the use made of reading aloud. In this accomplishment, or rather branch of education, even young persons become acute critics, and observe canons of taste whereof the more slovenly German, or, we may add, the shy Briton, would never dream. The result, Herr Wychgram, adds, throws a shadow over social intercourse, as well as a light—a tendency to admire what is simply well spoken without respect to sense or matter. That is to say, he thus accounts for the essentially French characteristic of phrase-mongering. Probably the cause for this lies a good deal lower, and we may be allowed to envy the easily cultivated, but, with us, absolutely neglected, faculty of correct speaking and of reading aloud without inflicting torture upon any ordinarily sensitive ear. For one reason or another, the average British girl or boy is absolutely ashamed of speaking anything but carelessly, and of reading anything but execrably—unless, growing up, he or she is afflicted with the *cacoethes recitandi*, when want of every requisite is at once painfully displayed. Our amateurs have not even yet discovered that essential difference, noted even by so ancient an authority as Quintilian, between reading and acting, which seems familiar to every French school girl. Perhaps the next conference of elementary teachers will (says the *Globe*) suggest some means of promoting the acquirement of an elementary reverence for our mother tongue. — *The Schoolmaster (London, Eng.)*.

PROGRAMME of the North Wellington Teachers' Association, to be held on May 27th and 28th.

1. Opening Exercises; 2. Induction of new President by retiring President; 3. President's annual address to association; 4. Roll call; 5. Reading minutes; 6. Appointment of general committee to name the standing committees; 7. Auditors' report; 8. Officers' reports; 9. Question Drawer in charge of Messrs. Noble, Westervelt,

Sanderson, and Bright; 10. "How to Teach Transitive Verb with Class," — Miss Rachel Mitchell, Mount Forest P.S.—Discussion opened by Messrs. Sanderson, D. McEachern and Miss Anderson; 11. "How to Teach Arithmetic to a Second Class,"—Miss Mary A. Noonan, S.S. No. 11, Minto—*Critics*—Messrs. Darroch and Fyfe, and Miss McKinnon; 12. "How to Teach Arithmetic with a Third Class,"—Henry T. Jarrett, S.S. No. 8, Arthur—*Critics*—Misses McTaggart, Ghent and McCloy; 13. "How to Teach G.C.M. to a Third Class,"—Miss Helen Spark, S.S. No. 1, West Luther—*Critics*—Misses Laurence and Lewis, and Mr. Hamilton; 14. "Fitch on Discipline, Chap. IV,"—J. J. Tilley, Esq., Model School Inspector, Toronto — Discussion opened by Messrs. Westervelt, Noble and McMurchy; 15. "Sequence in Education,"—S. B. Westervelt, H. M. Mount Forest Model School—Discussion opened by Messrs. Tilley, Munro and Wilkins; 16. "Writing for Junior Classes,"—Miss Sara McCloy, S. S. No. 5, West Luther—*Critics*—Misses Franks, Craig and Mitchell; 17. "How to Conduct a County Promotion Examination,"—D. C. Munro, H. M., Palmerston P.S.—Discussion opened by Messrs. Bryans, Gray and Murchison; 18. "Question Drawer"; 19. "How to Teach Composition,"—J. J. Tilley, Esq.—Discussion opened by Messrs. Masales, Bright and Harper; 20. "Drawing for Entrance Examination,"—R. W. Bright, H.M., Drayton, P.S.—Discussion opened by Messrs. Wiseman, Philp and Hastings; 21. "A Grain of Sand,"—D. F. Wilkins, B.A., Mt. Forest H. S.—*Critics*—The Convention; 22. "Written Examinations,"—A. B. Cushing, S.S. No. 4, Arthur—*Critics*—Misses McIntyre, Ross and Hyndman; 23. "Aims in Teaching,"—J. J. Tilley, Esq.; 24. "Reports to Parents,"—James L. Smith, Glenallen P. S.—Discussion opened by Messrs. P. McEachern, Ferguson and Fotheringham; 25. "Our Profession,"—R. Sanderson, H.M. Harriston P. S.—*Critics*—The Convention; 26. "Reading Course"; 27. "Should Teachers Form a Union?"—John Noble, H.M. Arthur P. S.—*Critics*—The Convention; 28. "School Hygiene,"—Discussion opened by H. P. Yeomans, M.D., Mount Forest. Subjects taken up as may best suit the convenience of the association. Parties wishing classes must apply to Mr. Westervelt, Prin. P. S. All the classes of the Mount Forest Model School, except the highest division, will be in session during Thursday forenoon. A musical and literary entertainment, followed by a lecture on "A Plea for National Education," by J. J. Tilley, Esq., Model School Inspector, will be held on Thursday evening, May 27th, 1886, in the Town Hall. All schools shall be closed on Thursday and Friday, the 27th and 28th May, 1886. According to law, all teachers must attend the association the whole time. Roll called at every session, and each teacher must answer to his or her name. Trustees and other friends of education are cordially invited.

Summer Shorthand Class.

With the consent of the Hon. the Minister of Education, the undersigned will conduct a Shorthand Class in the Education Department concurrently with the sessions of the Botany Class in July. For particulars address,

THOS. BENGOUGH,
Shorthand Institute, Public Library Building, Toronto.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, ONTARIO,

TORONTO, 29th April, 1886.

SIR,—I have been informed that many High School Masters and Assistants would gladly avail themselves of a course of lessons in Botany during the summer vacation, provided arrangements were made by the Education Department for that purpose.

It has occurred to me that a series of lectures by some competent teacher each forenoon for three weeks, with field work in the afternoons, would be such a happy combination of both theory and practice as would secure the best results, and at the same time prove the least irksome to many who could not very well dispense with the relaxation which the summer vacation is intended to provide. The lectures would be given in the Public Hall of the Education Department by Mr. Spotton, M.A., and the field work directed according to his instructions.

As it is desirable to ascertain the number likely to take this course in order to complete arrangements, would you kindly let me know, at your earliest convenience, how many of your staff are prepared to join this class.

Yours truly,

GEO. W. ROSS.

CIRCULAR TO PUBLIC SCHOOL INSPECTORS.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, ONTARIO,

TORONTO, May 1st, 1886.

SIR,—The Drawing Classes conducted at the Education Department, Toronto, during the last two summers will not be continued during the current year. It is nevertheless desirable in order still further to qualify teachers in this subject, that facilities of some kind should be offered for their self-improvement. Instead of the classes formerly taught at the Department it is now proposed to give a grant to each Inspectoral Division in which a class is formed for instruction in elementary drawing.

The conditions on which such classes may be formed are:—

1. The class must consist of at least ten persons holding a Public School Teacher's Certificate.
2. The teacher in charge must possess a legal certificate to teach drawing; or be approved of by the Education Department.
3. At least 30 lessons of two hours each must be given.
4. Teachers who attend this course will be allowed to write at the Departmental Examination in Drawing in April, 1887.
5. The Primary Drawing Course only shall be taught.
6. A grant of \$20 will be made for each class of ten pupils, but only one class will be paid for in any Inspectoral Division.

Will you be good enough to inform the teachers of your Inspectorate of these proposals in order that they may make the necessary arrangements for organizing classes.

Yours truly,

GEO. W. ROSS.

Minister of Education.