

with regard to the programme laid down for teachers, in so far as they could not have their children educated in the arithmetical rules which they thought would be useful to them in commercial matters, without they, at the same time, took up the corresponding branches as per the limit time-table.—Mr. McAllister regretted having mentioned Normal Schools, as it seemed to have shaken the red flag in the bull's face—all in connection with that institution had been after him. He replied to several exceptions that had been taken to the remarks in his paper; and after these remarks the subject dropped.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS.—The committee appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year, reported in favour of the following gentlemen, who were elected accordingly:—President, Professor Nicholson, Toronto; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. R. Alexander, E. B. Harrison, J. H. Hunter, M.A., D. J. Johnston, G. D. Platt, and Dr. E. Crowle; Treasurer, Mr. S. McAllister; Recording Secretary, M. A. McMurchy; Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Thos. Kirkland, M.A., Councillors, Messrs. McIntosh, McCallum, Glashan, Watson, and Anderson.

STANDING COMMITTEES AND DELEGATES.—High Schools—Messrs. Hunter, Strang, Tambllyn, Anderson, and Miller. Public Schools—Messrs. Alexander, Lewis, McAllister, McCabe, and Smith. Inspectors—Messrs. Miller, Fotheringham, Scarlett, McCallum, and Turnbull. M. R. Alexander was appointed delegate to represent the Association at the next meeting of the Protestant Teachers' Association of Quebec; Mr. J. R. Miller to be alternative delegate.

HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE.—Mr. Hunter moved the adoption of the following report from the Committee on High Schools: That the Teachers' Association would respectfully urge upon the early attention of the Legislature the complete reorganization of the Council of Public Instruction upon a representative basis; and that the Association would further urge the importance of the following provisions: (1) That the Council include one or more properly elected representative of the following classes, viz.:—Masters and Teachers of Collegiate Institutes and High Schools, Masters of Public Schools, and Inspectors of Public Schools. (2) That the representatives of the several interests shall return to their constituents for re-election at intervals of time not exceeding three years. (3) That full reports of the Council's proceedings be published in the *Journal of Education* after each meeting, the various resolutions and amendments proposed, having appended thereunto the names of the movers and seconders, the Yeas and Nays being, in every case of division properly recorded. (4) That an allowance for attendance and mileage be granted out of the Provincial Treasury to non-resident members of the Council. Mr. Alexander moved that the report be referred to the Committee on Incorporation, and that the names of Mr. Hunter and the mover be added to that committee. After a good deal of discussion, Mr. Hunter accepted Mr. Alexander's motion, with the understanding that the combined questions of corporation and representation shall be taken up by the Legislature next session, and otherwise the principle of representation alone be urged upon them in the terms of his motion.

AUDITORS' REPORT.—Mr. Hunter reported, for the Auditors, that the books of the Treasurer were correctly and carefully kept, and the report was adopted. The meeting then adjourned.

PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMITTEE.—The first clause in the report recommended that an addition of lessons in Natural Science be made to the fourth and fifth text lesson books; and this was proposed in order to keep down expenditure in new books. But it was argued that this would cause the issue of a new text lesson book, against which the country would be certain to appeal. It was therefore negatived by an overwhelming majority. Clause second, also proposed to change the text-books in order to have the meanings of words placed at the beginning of each lesson, as well as the Latin and Greek prefixes, roots, and affixes. This was also lost. Clause third was to the effect that the "Companion to the Reader" should contain some method of teaching the pronunciation of geographical and historical words. An amendment was moved that the pronunciation of the words referred to be inserted in the next edition of the "Readers." The motion and amendment were both lost. Fourth.—That every text-book be placed for twelve months in five schools in the district, to have its worth and utility tested before making its use general. It was complained, in connection, that books were placed in the hands of teachers without the least previous notice; and one gentleman asserted, with regard to the sixth text-book last issued, that after he had purchased a copy, which the bookseller asserted was authorized by the Educational Department, the head of that department had actually asserted that it was not yet issued. After discussion, the clause was lost. Fifth.—That a standing committee of this Association be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine the present authorized text-books, and suggest any im-

provements in such; and further, that all new text-books be brought under their supervision, funds being placed at their disposal to enable them to carry out in an efficient manner such duty. Carried.

Further, That the committee were in favour of a Legislative grant to secure the services of a legal adviser for the benefit of this Association, if it do not bear too heavily on the funds. This was negatived also. A vote of thanks to the committee was then passed. Mr. Johnston moved that Mr. Hunter, Mr. Campbell, and himself be appointed a committee to wait on the Attorney-General, and represent the views of the public-school teachers with reference to the superannuation fund, as expressed by this Association after discussion. The motion was carried.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

It was moved by Mr. J. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Somerset, "that one insertion of the notice of the annual meeting of the Association be published in the principal daily and weekly papers in this city, at least one week before the meeting." Mr. McCallum moved as an amendment that the notice be inserted in *The Globe* only, seeing that this paper was read by everyone, which could not be said of the rest. Both the motion and amendment were ruled out of order, not having been previously submitted to the Board of Directors.

It was also moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Glashan, that a committee on text books during the forthcoming year be appointed.

RECEPTION OF DELEGATES.—This business, which had been down upon the programme more than once before, and which the secretary regretted had been delayed on account of the heavy press of other business, was now proceeded with. From the reports given by these delegates it would appear that the local associations they represented are in a flourishing condition and yearly gathering strength, both as regards numbers and public enterprise. It also appeared that in the great majority of counties the feeling against the compulsory payment of subscriptions to the superannuation fund was very great, and the determination to oppose it and have it removed, if legitimate effort would gain that object, has also been very generally adopted. The membership of these associations varied considerably, some of them reaching one hundred. The number of teachers represented by these delegates was somewhere over one thousand. The attendance at the convention has, this year, increased sixty per cent. Mr. J. Campbell said he had a matter of much importance to every teacher to bring up. When the School Bill was discussed in the Local Legislature of Ontario, he attended during a great part of the debates on the various clauses, and was present when the amount of the Legislative grant was appropriated for the year. He was pleased to hear from the President of the Council, Mr. Blake, that the grant was largely supplemented, with the sole object of increasing the teachers' salaries, which he considered very inadequate, and not in keeping with the progress of the country. He did not remember the amount of the supplement, but would ask if any teacher had been benefited in consequence; and he would throw out the hint to those present, that they may use the argument with trustees as a precedent for asking an increase of salary, if the grant cannot be appropriated otherwise than as referred to in the Public School Teachers' Report. Mr. Lewis gave some statistics regarding the salaries paid to teachers in England. The lowest average salary there was \$400 per year, and the general salary from \$750 to \$1,000. Liverpool had lately fixed the salaries as follows:—Head-masters of public schools, \$1,000, with Government grant, which would be equal to something like \$100; head-mistresses, \$600; and the lowest salaries were fixed at \$350 for males and \$250 for females—the class receiving the last quoted scale of pay being certificated teachers on trial. He said we were always told that things were much better in this country than in England; that mechanics were more highly paid, as were all classes of labourers; but what of the comparative salaries of the teachers of the rising generation? He asserted that the cost of living in Canada was much higher than in England; it was so in towns, he was certain; and he presumed things were pretty much the same in the country. He thought this was a matter deserving the consideration of the Association, and at the same time a thing that had little to recommend its continuance as a matter of fair play.

NORMAL SCHOOLS.—The Convention met again in the afternoon. The first order of business before the meeting was Mr. Kirkland's essay upon Normal Schools. That gentleman said he would not, at this late hour, inflict upon his hearers the essay in full, but would give, in as few words as possible, a synopsis of the contents. The first resolution he would propose to discuss in that essay, was that no person should have a certificate of any grade, unless they had some practical professional training. A higher state of training was required before the profession could have the desired respect from the public, and as long as the door was opened to every man