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THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW,  
St. John, N. B.

For some time now the school teachers of St. John have been agitating for an increase in their salaries, and on January 22nd, a resolution asking for such an increase was read before a special meeting of the Board of School Trustees; but in our opinion unfortunately was defeated by a large majority. Whilst it might not be advisable to have endeavored to meet the

increased expenditure by an overdraft it certainly would have added strength to the movement if some resolution had been proposed and passed supporting the teachers in their request. For the year 1917 nearly every branch of civil administration, as a set-off against the high cost of living, has shown increases in salaries. Going back two years ago, in the days before the war, many branches of labor were receiving almost one-half of that paid to school teachers. Later their plea of increased cost of living, war prices, etc., resulted in higher wages being paid to that class, but in the case of school teachers their salaries remained unchanged though they had to meet the higher prices in all directions the same as other wage-earners.

We sincerely trust that when the Provincial Government meets that one of the first items to be given attention is that of the teachers' increase in salaries.

The world appears to be made up of three classes, pessimists, optimists, and actualists,— the two former being in majority. We run across people whose lives apparently fail to contribute to society's well being because of the constant pessimistic view-point which overshadows all action and thought. It is not uncommon to find such people airing their views about school and educational matters. Teachers, for instance, adopt this attitude frequently in their daily work. The pessimist generally has restricted ideas which prevent a proper view of life and its activities. The optimist on the other hand always appears to see the brighter side of everything. Unfortunately there is a lack of balance in judgment, with the result that the hobby of optimism is often ridden almost to death. Yet the world is better off for these extreme optimisms even though at times it may be unwarranted.

The great need today in education, as in other matters of importance in life, is a larger development of actualism. The men and women