

Mutual hatred of the United States is credited with restoring friendly relations between Columbia and Venezuela.

It has been decided that the best route for the new Transcontinental Railway lies north of Lake Abitibi. The location of the route through New Brunswick has not yet been determined.

Both in the Baltic Provinces of Russia and in the Caucasus region, serious disorders still prevail, amounting almost to organized rebellion. Several towns in the Baltic Provinces have fallen into the hands of the insurgents. The people of these provinces are not Russian, but Lithuanian, and formerly had a government of their own; but Lithuania was united with Poland in the fourteenth century, and has since had no independent existence.

The Czar has definitely refused to grant universal suffrage at the demand of the socialists and others. The new representative assembly, if the disturbing elements do not prevent its election, will be chosen under a restricted franchise.

All the horrors of civil war are filling the crowded cities of Russia, where striking and riotous workmen are coming into conflict with police and soldiers; and in smaller towns, particularly in the southern provinces, where the people who suffer from the strike have in some instances turned upon the strike leaders for revenge. Anarchists who have long laid their plans for the overthrow of the monarchy, are unwilling to let it pass into the new form of a constitutional monarchy without a final struggle. What they now fear is not the continued rule of the Czar, but a popular government that will indefinitely postpone their plans. The most terrible scenes of bloodshed have occurred in the southwest provinces of Russia, where thousands of Jews have been killed by Christians, not because they were Jews, but because they were social-democrats, who threatened the very existence of Russia, as their avowed purpose is to overthrow the Russian government and all other governments and abolish national lines. They openly advocate killing every ruler or official, whether elected or appointed, so that none shall dare attempt to rule. The people who were responsible for the recent massacres assumed that all Jews were social democrats, which may not have been far wrong as a general assumption, and believed it necessary to kill them all or drive them out of Russia. The same political reasons account in part for the disturbed state of the Caucasus, where, however, the social-democrats are not Jews, but nominally Christians. Here, in one region, where the central government is unable to maintain its authority, the theories of the social-democrats and anarchists are being practically tried. If a man is guilty of stealing, or of any similar offence, he is not tried and punished. His neighbors avoid his company and show amends. If, in the meantime, he is thought to be their disapproval until such time as he repents and makes dangerous to the community, some one is secretly detailed to shoot him down in the street. This is the sort of rule the people have to fear if the anarchists get the upper hand; and bad as was the old form of absolute monarchy, they think it better than this.

SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

There were eighty-six applicants for third class license at the N. B. Normal school examinations in December—sixty-three from the English department, and twenty-three from the French.

Mr. F. A. Dixon, M. A., of Sackville, N. B., has been appointed to succeed Inspector Mersereau, M. A., who has obtained a year's leave of absence which will be spent in the West. Mr. Mersereau is the senior inspector of New Brunswick, and during his long term of service has won many friends by his impartial and vigorous administration. Mr. Dixon, his successor, has had large experience as a teacher and his scholarship and knowledge of the schools makes the appointment a very fitting one.

At an interprovincial convention held at Moncton on the 28th November, arrangements were made to issue four primary readers for French schools in the Maritime Provinces. The books will be ready at the end of this year.

Mr. G. H. Harrison, B. A., for many years principal of the Carleton County Grammar School at Woodstock, N. B., has resigned his position to enter into a general insurance business in that town. He will be succeeded by Mr. Chas. D. Richards, B. A.

Mr. Herbert Rose, of Hamilton, Ont., Rhodes scholar from McGill, has won both the Ireland and the Craven scholarships at Oxford University. Mr. Rose graduated with highest honors from McGill and his success at Oxford has been phenomenal. He has won the Craven scholarship at the beginning of his second year, and this is not usually attempted until the third year. Winning the Ireland at the same time makes the achievement an exceedingly rare one. Among those who have succeeded in winning both scholarships are such men as the Right Hon. Herbert Asquith, a member of the new Campbell-Bannerman cabinet; Goldwin Smith and William Gladstone.

Mr. S. Kerr, of the St. John Business College has just completed the thirty-eighth year of his management of that institution. Mr. Kerr's influence as a teacher of business methods and practice has steadily increased with the years, and there are many men scattered over the continent who owe much of their success to the sound and thorough training received from him.

The Maritime Business College, Halifax, Messrs. Kaulback & Schurman, principals, send to the REVIEW their New Year's cheque as usual, good for the payment of "One Thousand Good Wishes. The cheque is cordially accepted, and the REVIEW extends its best wishes in return for a year of increasing prosperity to this excellent institution.

The name printed Mrs. L. D. Jones in the report of the Restigouche County Institute in the December REVIEW should read Mr. L. D. Jones.

Allow a boy to neglect his studies, you allow him to neglect his duties; teach him to "skim over" his lessons, and he will learn to "skim" through life. But teach him to be truthful, conscientious, and thorough in his school work, and he will be the same forever.—*Herbert L. Wilbur.*