

of September and end on the last of June, thus articulating better with the colleges. This change would be a great convenience to intending matriculants to colleges and to candidates for teachers' licenses. It would give teachers an opportunity to make arrangements for the succeeding year's work and for self-improvement; enable parents to utilize the labor of their children and afford to over-worked pupils sufficient time to recuperate their exhausted energies.

Instead of the Harrington Compulsory Attendance Bill, it was proposed to have all children of school age in the section enrolled and to have the loss to the section of county grant, caused by non-attendance, made up by the parents of absent pupils being required to pay as an addition to their poll tax the sum of one cent for each school day lost without good cause, as determined by the trustees. Instead, therefore, of being subjected to the odium of enforcing fines, they they would have the more pleasant task of exempting the deserving.

It was generally agreed that the Council of Public Instruction should undertake to examine academic pupils of the various years—those passing the first year's work to receive a license entitled academic Grade D; second year's work, an academic C; third year's work, academic B; and fourth year's work, academic A. These licenses, when supplemented by a couple of weeks professional work, to permit the holder to draw government Grade D grant for one year. For a further continuance in the profession the academic licenses, C, B or A, would have to be further supplemented by a corresponding professional diploma from some accredited Normal school.

It was suggested that the Institute work desirable for a first year's teaching could be most economically obtained at the county academies. For one fortnight before the end of the year the academic departments would be in session only for three hours each forenoon. The afternoon would be devoted to Grade D professional work conducted by the inspectors, principals of the academies, or any other most suitable person. Any Grade D teacher taking a three months professional course at the Normal School might be allowed to teach two years on that grade. A minor, but very important, benefit derived from this system would be the stimulus given to professional study by those conducting such institutes.

The Normal School, it was agreed, should be relieved from academic work now required of it. All its students would, before entering, hold academic diplomas from the academies or high schools of the province. Psychology, the history of education, drawing, manual training, laboratory practice, elocu-

tion, tonic sol-fa, and calisthenics, would take all their time.

Full consideration of the course of study, and of improved text-books, had to be deferred for want of time. It is to be hoped that some, or perhaps all, of the above changes recommended by the inspectors may be agreed to by the Council of Public Instruction and carried out at a reasonably early date.

At the close of these meetings the members of the government, the professors of Dalhousie College and of the Normal School, and the inspectors, were entertained at the Halifax Hotel by Premier Fielding.

TALKS WITH TEACHERS.

When visitors come to the school greet them courteously and proceed at once with the work in hand. Do not stop to enter into a conversation concerning other matters.

At a meeting of a School Board not long ago one of the members moved that the teachers be supplied with pens and ink. He urged as a reason that at a recent visit to the schools few of the teachers had pens and ink on the desk fit to write his name in the register with.

Read educational papers and attend your County Institutes. No teacher can be continuously progressive who fails to do either of these things. It is commonly the teachers of the old regime who "know it all," that think lightly of the institutes and educational papers, and it is needless to add that most School Boards are fully conscious of this fact.

Change your time table whenever you change your working programme. Do not keep a time table posted as a matter of form, but follow it as a matter of duty. No work can be well done without system as well as method.

The mark of the good teacher is not the proficiency of a few brilliant pupils but the excellence of the school as a whole. The first indicates bright pupils, the second faithful instruction.

Lift your hat reverently when you pass the teacher of the primary school. She is the great angel of the republic. She takes the bantling fresh from the home nest, full of pouts and passions—an ungovernable little wretch whose own mother honestly admits that she sends him to school to get rid of him. This lady, who knows her business, takes a whole carload of those little anarchists, one of whom, single-handed and alone, is more than a match for his parents, and at once puts them in a way of being useful and upright citizens. At what expense of toil and patience and soul weariness! Lift your hat to her!—*New York Recorder*.