

as to the extent and kind of co-operation which should exist between the Education Department and the Senate are so well-known that we need not take space to repeat them. In our last issue we referred to the large number now attending the High Schools who have declared their intention of preparing to pass the examination for a teachers' certificate of some grade. We are well aware that a number of those who have so declared themselves have no intention of actually teaching; and also that there are not a few who intend to use these certificates for some other purposes. But after making these allowances there remain close upon 8000 who at present are attending the intermediate schools and intend to teach for a time, likely to be a very brief period.

The advantage of having an examination for the admission of candidates to universities and learned societies, and for teachers' certificates of all grades, is so obvious that it is not likely to be abandoned, however it may be modified, for many a year to come. The case being so, it behooves all educators to take all possible precautions to anticipate the evils which accompany examinations, and which will be intensified by such a crowd pressing for some mark of recognition at the hand of examiners.

One precaution of special importance is that the work prescribed for the teachers' certificate will not, *per se*, tend to unfit the candidate for the efficient performance of the duties of any avocation in life. This danger was referred to in very appropriate terms in the report of Lord Macaulay's committee, which was published in 1854:

"We think," says that report, "it most desirable that the examination should be of such a nature that no candidate who may fail shall, to whatever calling he may betake himself, have any reason to regret the time

and labour which he spent in preparing himself to be examined."

Last year an experienced and able educator in England expressed himself upon this subject in the following suggestive words:

"The main object to be borne in mind with reference to the entrance examination (to a profession) is to secure a youth who has had a thoroughly well grounded education as an English gentleman. Any curriculum which renders those who are unsuccessful unfit for other professions is greatly to be deprecated."

While the Department of Education adopts, as it has for some time past, the work prescribed for junior matriculation, pass and honours, this evil of narrow eclecticism will be to a very large extent avoided.

Teachers are, or should be, members of a profession, but first and foremost they must be members of the Republic of Letters.

THE LATE JOSEPH S. CARSON.

IT is with feelings of deep regret that this journal has to chronicle the death of Mr. Joseph S. Carson, Inspector of Public Schools for West Middlesex, which sad event took place at his residence, Strathroy, on Thursday, the 19th day of December, 1889. Mr. Carson was born in Mono in the County of Dufferin, on the 14th of November, 1841. He early took to teaching as a profession, his first school being at Mooretown, in Lambton, where he taught while yet scarcely eighteen. With the exception of a break of two years, most of which time was spent at the Toronto Normal School, where in 1874 he was successful in carrying off the silver medal, Mr. Carson has been constantly engaged in the work of his profession.

He taught in the Strathroy public schools about two years, when he received the appointment of Public