

have not been properly kept, if at all; and that definitions and other memory work, and problems (except those on specific heat, electrical energy, and photometry) are fairly satisfactory.

Chemistry. The papers seem to indicate that there is too much theoretical and too little practical work in the schools. If notebooks had been carefully kept, the students would have been far better prepared to express their ideas in the examination. In writing, drawing, and general neatness there is great room for improvement. The examiners urge greater care and accuracy in observation, in recording observations, and in making explanations of or drawing inferences from observed facts; and ask also that practical examination work be taken more seriously by teachers and pupils.

MATHEMATICS

Mental Arithmetic. The examiners ask that more care be exercised at examination time by those in charge of students writing on this subject. Pencils should be prohibited, as the tendency is to use them for calculating with instead of writing in the answer. Many papers showed that calculations had been made with the pencil, the figures being erased afterwards. The time limit should be strictly adhered to everywhere.

Arithmetic. A large percentage of the students fail to understand the principles involved in commission and profit and loss. Very few solved the commission question. Fully 50% of them reckoned the gain on the selling price in question 3. In question 5, more than half of them calculated the interest in months. Many of those who calculated the interest in days were one day out in their reckoning. Only 5 or 6 obtained the correct answer in the bonus question. Apparently the pupils did not possess a sufficient knowledge of business transactions to enable them to solve it.

Geometry, Algebra, Trigonometry (Grade XII.). Very satisfactory re-

sults were obtained in all three subjects, very few of the candidates falling below the required pass mark. The quality of the papers prevented the possibility of many high marks being made. Grade XI. Geometry is fairly well done this year. It would be better if not more than half of the marks were given to propositions. No student should be given a pass who cannot work one or two very simple sight deductions.

WRITING

Writing seems to have deteriorated since last year. A small percentage only can be regarded as satisfactory. Many candidates still continue the use of the vertical system, or what is intended for vertical. Schools proposing to send candidates for examination in writing should at intervals submit specimens of their writing to the local inspector for criticism.

MUSIC

Generally speaking, the papers show careful preparation. The answers were very satisfactory on the whole. In many cases candidates failed to show a clear knowledge of what "time signature" means.

DRAWING

There is an improvement in the quality of the work this year, especially where the Graphic Drawing Book has been used as a reference. The decorative treatment of the corner of a room has been well done. It is encouraging to note that in trying to secure "tone," the pupils in some cases depend not upon "blackness," nor upon repeated working over of the same surface, but upon the strength secured by one strong stroke of the pencil. Softly drawn outline work was found in some papers in place of the hard, monotonous ruled line. The method of illustrating the last three definitions of question 1 was good. The meanings of the Colour Theory terms were to the point where the Drawing Book had been used.