

*History—Preliminary.*—The answering was on the whole satisfactory, but very unequal in quality. In the arranging of answers and in general methods of explanation there is still some room for improvement. The principal point which the examiners would insist upon is that many of the candidates have yet to learn the value of minute and perfect accuracy in answering questions. Further, it is desirable that pupils be taught more clearly the distinction between important historical facts and mere trifles of information concerning historical characters.

*Advanced.*—The results in this subject are pleasing. Most of the successful candidates show signs of having been carefully taught. The examiners would again mention for special commendation the Girls' High School, Montreal, and also the two from Eliock School, Montreal, all of whom gave in accurate, full, and well-written papers.

*Botany.*—The examinations in botany show an improvement in many respects over those of last year. Most of the papers are more or less faulty in terminology, which is probably due to the use of unrevised text-books. There is also a great deficiency in the descriptive work, the want of systematic treatment being most conspicuous. This appears to result, however, from improper methods of instruction, at least in some cases. To remedy this defect as far as possible, and secure greater uniformity of method, the examiner would strongly urge that every school sending up candidates should be required to use in its classes printed forms on which the analysis of plants may be written. (See form appended). It is also evident from some of the papers that imperfect specimens are supplied; in one case only a blossom being given. This should be strictly avoided. Some of the papers would likewise indicate that the pupils of very tender years, who are wholly incapable of grasping the subject, are allowed to come up for the examination. This should certainly be discountenanced, as it can only result in useless loss of time to the examiners.

*Physiology and Hygiene.*—A large number of papers were given in (90), and of these nearly all showed a fair degree of familiarity with the statements of the text-book, though in many cases with a very imperfect conception of their meaning and evidence. The text-book is also so desultory in its mode of presenting the sub-