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* Editorial Notes. *

INSPECTOR HUGHES is proposing a new plan for the management of the Toronto schools. He recommends the division of the city, for school purposes, into twelve districts, and the appointment of a supervising principal for each district, at a salary of \$1,500. This would give each supervisor about forty rooms to oversee. Under the plan adopted a year ago, and now in vogue, there are four supervising principals, each overseeing about 120 teachers. The school principals of the city recently met in their Association and condemned Mr. Hughes proposal as unjust, expensive and inefficient. The Trustees are said to be also opposed to it, but the Inspector hopes to be able to bring them over to his views. The question seems to be whether it is better that a lesser part of the time of the principal of each school should be given to the work of supervision, or a larger part or the whole of the time of twelve principals. To us it seems that there is much to be said in favor of the former.

THE following is worth publishing as a curiosity :

I have been taking your EDUCATIONAL JOURNAL, and I wrote on two of your lessons for prizes. So if I do not win a prize you need not send the JOURNAL any longer. Awaiting an answer, I remain, etc., etc.

We wonder what this young man's idea is of the way in which the prizes are to be

awarded. For his information, as he is awaiting an answer, we may say that more than fifty competitive papers have been sent in. These papers are put into the hands of competent and impartial judges who will know nothing of the personality or locality of the writers. They will be marked and prizes awarded solely on their merits, and not till after this has been done will the envelopes containing the writers real names be opened. We might, it is true, give the writer of the above a couple of special ten-dollar prizes, in order to induce him to continue his subscription, but we do not quite see how that would pay.

TOUCHING the subject of Sunday observance, dealt with in a brief editorial in this number, there can be no doubt that the tendency of large classes of workingmen to hold themselves aloof from the churches and all religious organizations and movements, is one of the most serious problems of the day. If any one needs all the vital re-inforcement and moral uplifting which can be derived from true religion, it is surely the man and the woman whose work days are full of exhausting and unceasing toil. To our thinking there can be no doubt that the failure of many churches and their well-to-do members to sympathize with the trials and struggles of the toiling millions, and to aid them in their efforts to improve the position and remuneration of labor is mainly responsible for whatever tendency to alienation exists. The power of the employing capitalists, who are often the mainstays of the churches, is believed to be too often used selfishly and oppressively. A bright day is, there is reason to believe, dawning, when the Church will come to be recognized as the friend of the poor and the enemy of all unrighteousness in the individual or the nation.

IN addresses recently made, both Mr. Acland and Mr. Mundella, two of the highest educational authorities in England, paid high compliments to women teachers as compared with men. "Mr. F. Storr," we quote from *The Educational Times*, "corroborated the latter as regards the superiority of the teaching in the girls' high schools. Those who have had opportunities of comparing a boys' school and a girls' school of this class will certainly agree that, in

zeal, devotion, and willingness to give up their own time to the work of preparation, the mistresses surpass the masters. They have felt more keenly the necessity of training, and they are the first to secure a firmly established training college for higher teachers. Such eulogy as that spoken by Mr. Mundella causes reflection on the speed of progress. Only twenty years ago the Women's Education Union was formed, and soon after that the Girls' Public Day School Company was inaugurated. Many prophesied nothing but evil from the movement for the higher education of women, but some foretold the success of to-day. Twenty years ago Mr. Fitch was one of the latter, and his remarks then made help us to measure the progress."

SINCE the article on "School Athletics," in our last number, was published we have seen the following from the pen of the venerable Dr. Cuyler, in the *Evangelist* :

Whatever the views of college faculties may be, there are thousands of sober alumni who look on this whole craze for inter-collegiate athletic games with profound regret. Even if these match games were not attended with such a saturnalia of gambling and drinking they are attended with mischievous results that affect the colleges themselves. . . . For weeks before these inter-collegiate contests, scores of young men are kept in training for the fight, and the talk and thought of the whole college is, to a great degree, drawn towards the impending grapple of brawn and muscle. Who needs to be told that all this is terribly demoralizing to the true literary and scientific aspirations of any college? It sets up a false standard; and holds out a false incentive and inflames a false ambition. . . . That the men who distinguish themselves in inter-collegiate games become also distinguished by legitimate intellectual eminence in after life, is denied by those who have made careful observations. Those whose names are trumpeted by the press over the land for their prowess at football, are seldom trumpeted afterwards for their great intellectual achievements. . . . I am only voicing the honest sentiments of hundreds of the alumni and of hundreds of fathers and mothers who look upon these inter-collegiate saturnalia with a sort of dismay. An education in college and university is vastly more expensive than it used to be. And one source of extra cost is to be attributed to the rage for athletics. The atmosphere of college-life is now tainted by a dangerous influence that was not known in former times.