

SUMMER SCHOOLS AND HOLIDAY COURSES.

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It will be sometime yet before the announcements and calendars of the Summer School sessions of 1913 will be in our hands, but for the benefit of those teachers who like to make plans for the summer during the Christmas vacation, we give some information on the subject that may be of use.

Our own Summer School of Science for the Maritime Provinces is too well and favourably known to our readers to need more than a mention here, as are also the courses offered at Truro by the educational authorities of Nova Scotia.

The Summer School of Queens' University, Kingston, was noticed in the August number of the REVIEW. McGill University has special courses in summer for students of French. The University of Chicago has continuous sessions during the summer months. The Summer School at Harvard University ought to be well known to Canadians, but in 1913, out of over 800 students there, only seven were from Canada, and but one of these from the Maritime Provinces. Last year, this school offered sixty-eight courses, covering twenty-three different subjects. The session usually lasts for six weeks, and work is carried on every day but Saturday. There are lecture classes in the morning, and laboratory and library work in the afternoon. The ground covered is generally the same as in a corresponding number of lectures in the regular college course, but there are many special courses for teachers. Students are usually advised to attempt but one subject, at any rate in their first session. The fee for each course is \$20.00 to \$25.00, and a rough estimate of necessary expenses, including fees, books, board and travelling expenses is from \$65.00 to \$85.00 for the session, varying of course with the standard of living desired, and the distance of the journey.

Among the advantages of summer courses at one of the large Universities are:— the access to well equipped laboratories and large libraries, and the chance of meeting and exchanging ideas with people from widely distant parts.

Detailed information about the schools already mentioned can be had on application to the respective Universities.

But it is more especially of courses of study available in summer on the other side of the Atlantic that we want to speak in this paper.

Every year more and more of our teachers go abroad. And probably many who are planning such a trip will be glad to know what opportunities are offered in some of the places they are most likely to visit. Apart from the actual work of the course, it is a very desirable thing to be tied for a set time to some historic town, or famous district and to feel oneself a little more at home than one does as a mere tourist.

The famous old town of St. Andrews, in Scotland, has a Summer School under the direction of the Provincial Committee for the Training of Teachers. The classes are held in the rooms of the United College, and go on for four weeks. Last year the dates were July 17 to August 11. But students may attend for either the first or the last fortnight of the time. The courses are all for teachers, illustrating aims and methods of instruction, and include lectures on the teaching of history (ancient and modern), geography, English, applied mathematics, applied phonetics, voice production, nature study and other subjects. The fees are very low, fifteen shillings for a single fortnight, thirty shillings for the whole session, allowing attendance at three courses. No estimate of general expenses can be given here, but the trip ought to be done cheaply if passage is taken to Glasgow. Then a part of Scotland that is famous in story could be seen on the way to the "Ancient Kingdom of Fife" and the loyal burgh of St. Andrews. Particulars, including a list of rooms to let, will be sent to anyone applying to James Mallock, Esq., Director of Studies, 77 North Street, St. Andrews, Scotland.

Before we leave Scotland, mention must be made of the vacation courses in English at the University of Edinburgh, held in August. These are intended primarily for foreigners, but the secretary writes:—"Although our courses are attended by only a few regular students whose mother tongue is English, the lectures on literature are found by these stimulating and instructive, while the evening meetings, the excursions, and the opportunities for social intercourse with members of various nationalities from the continent provide many with a period of intellectual relaxation which they find both pleasant and profitable." These courses, like those at St. Andrews, extend over a month, but here also, fees may be paid for a single fortnight. (£2 for a month, £1 5s for a fortnight.) Here is an excellent opportunity to see Edinburgh and its surroundings. under good guidance. Excursions are taken to