

with the suggestion that the time has arrived when the Department should insist that this objectionable practice should be discontinued ;

Seventh. That the Board of School Commissioners of each municipality should be urged to provide a prize to be awarded to the teacher whom the Inspector may report as the most efficient teacher of the municipality, and that an effort be made to induce friends of Education to provide prizes for the most efficient teacher of each county ;

Eighth. That each district school should be provided with at least a good Black-board and chalk, a map of the Dominion, a map of the Western Hemisphere and a map of the Eastern Hemisphere.

GÉDÉON OUMET,
Chairman.

ELSON I. REXFORD,
Secretary.

THE STUDY OF ENGLISH.

By M. W. SMITH, *Hughes High School, Cincinnati.*

There are two distinct methods of instruction. One makes the acquisition of information the primary object of work, the other gives mere information a secondary place. Of these two, the former is growing more popular every day, and the latter is being largely ignored. Not only parents but teachers say they want something more practical, something that the children will carry with them into the business of the world. Courses of study must, therefore, be so modified as to exclude everything of a purely disciplinary nature. It is said that even mechanical trades, although machinery has robbed nearly all of them of their educating power, should be introduced into the schools in order to put a stop to the useless cramming now so prevalent.

There are good grounds for this discontent, and hence it may be called a healthy one. Many pupils leave the schools at different stages of progress who manifest not only little information, but also little capacity development. They cannot use good English in writing or speaking, have forgotten much of their geography, and can apply but little of their knowledge of arithmetic to any practical purpose. Our schools are evidently not doing as good work as they ought to do, but the remedies so far proposed will not make them any better. Contrive as we may, one fact, a very old one too, cannot be set aside. *Information itself cannot be imparted without the development of a capacity to receive it.* Human