

The Canada School Journal

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CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL HAS RECEIVED

An Honorable Mention at Paris Exhibition, 1878.
 Recommended by the Minister of Education for Ontario.
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 Recommended by Chief Superintendent of Education, New Brunswick.
 Recommended by Chief Superintendent of Education, Nova Scotia.
 Recommended by Chief Superintendent of Education, British Columbia.
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The Publishers frequently receive letters from their friends complaining of the non-receipt of the JOURNAL. In explanation they would state, as subscriptions are necessarily payable in advance, the mailing clerks have instructions to discontinue the paper when a subscription expires. The clerks are, of course, unable to make any distinction in a list containing names from all parts of the United States and Canada. The present issue reaches nearly 12,000.

UNIVERSITY CONSOLIDATION IN NEW ZEALAND

Not only in Ontario, but in the far off colony of New Zealand, the important question of University consolidation is receiving a large share of public and official attention. In New Zealand, however, the question discussed is rather the remodelling of the present imperfect system of affiliation to the University than the settlement of the question, or principle of affiliation *de novo*.

At present the New Zealand University exists as an examining body. Affiliated with it is the Otago "University," Canterbury College, and six other smaller so-called "colleges." For many years it had been a moot question, as well as a topic of discussion both in the Legislature and in the public press, whether or not the University should continue to be a merely examining body, or whether it should not rather discharge the teaching functions of a University or University College. At length a royal commission of inquiry was issued directing the commissioners to consider and report upon a much broader question than that of affiliation of colleges. Taking advantage of the issue of such a commission, the Government of the colony wisely enlarged its scope, and directed the commissioners to inquire into a number of questions growing out of the university as well as the public educational system. The extensive and interesting character of this inquiry may be gathered from the fact that the commissioners were required to report upon the following subjects:—

"1. The constitution, organization, operations, resources, expenditure and efficiency of the University of New Zealand, and of the various institutions within the said colony, (1) for the imparting of the higher or University Education, (2) of the secondary or intermediate or grammar-school or high-school education, and (3) of the technical education by means of training schools, schools of art and design, and schools or colleges of practical science.

"2. The mutual relations and mutual influences of the University of New Zealand on the one hand, and of the secondary and technical schools on the other.

"3. The relations which the primary schools sustain, or

ought to sustain, to the secondary, technical, and superior institutions.

"4. The best means of bringing secondary and superior education within the reach of the youth of both sexes, by increasing the number of institutions for such education, by the establishment of morning and evening as well as day classes, by means of scholarships to be held by scholars from primary and secondary and technical schools; or by any other means for the purposes hereinbefore mentioned.

"5. The best means of making sufficient and suitable provision for the maintenance, administration and inspection of institutions for education other than primary; and,

"6. The condition, value, and application of endowments made out of public estate, or grants of public money, held under any trusts for the promotion of education, or which may have been obtained or procured, either directly or indirectly, under any grant from the Crown, or under any Act, ordinance, regulation, or other authority whatsoever for the purposes aforesaid; but nothing herein shall require you to make any enquiry respecting any lands or endowments set apart or applied for the purposes of primary education under 'The Education Act, 1877.'"

The Commissioners have presented an elaborate report, extending to nearly 500 pages. They have, however, only reported upon the "University question" and one or two minor matters. The recommendation which they make in regard to the University is to the effect that the University of New Zealand should continue to exist as an examining body, and that there be affiliated with it, under new conditions, the Otago and Canterbury institutions—the designation of which to be changed to that of University Colleges—and that the two colleges at Auckland and Wellington be enlarged to the status of University Colleges and have new buildings erected for them. The other four "colleges" are to occupy the position of grammar or high schools, and, as such, to sustain the relation of feeders to the four University Colleges. The Commissioners then say:—

"In devising a constitution for the governing bodies of the colleges, we have been influenced by three separate considerations of nearly equal importance. 1. In the first place, we have borne in mind that the colleges owe their existence and maintenance to grants of public money or land; and that, on that account, if for no other reason, the Government ought to exercise some direct control over them. 2. In the second place, the professors—whose duties and interests are so inseparably bound up with the prosperity of the colleges, and who must be more intimately acquainted than any other persons can be with the inner working of the colleges, and with the necessities of the students—have an undoubted claim to a voice in the management of these institutions, a claim which is fully recognized in other Universities. 3. And lastly, the graduates, with their experience of the special characteristics of the life of their college, and their personal reasons for desiring to see its efficiency and reputation well maintained, may be expected to exert a beneficial influence if admitted to a share in its government. We therefore recommend that the council of each college be composed of twelve members, as follows: four members to be nominated by the Governor in Council; four members to be elected by the professorial board of each college; four members to be elected by the graduates of the New Zealand University, on the books of the Colleges, as soon as there are twenty such graduates by examination; this last group of members to be appointed by the Governor in Council until there are twenty such candidates."