

Schools, and the raising of the age of entrance to the profession to 21 years. Of the 8,988 Public School teachers of the province in 1896 4,415 held third-class certificates, 3,309 second-class, 297 first-class, and 967 held other certificates, including those of county boards; of the total number, 3,418 had attended Normal Schools. From these figures it will be seen that about one-half of the Public School teachers of the province have only the third-class qualification; but, in view of the recent agitation and the growing feeling in favor of a change, it is probable that in the course of the next few years it will scarcely be possible for a teacher to secure even a fair position without having attained that standard. The fact that the School Boards in the cities have recently been aroused to the importance of retaining competent teachers at reasonable salaries introduces an element of hope, and a better state of affairs generally may be looked for.

The position of the High School and Collegiate Institute teacher is considerably better; but here a new set of conditions have to be kept in mind. Competition has led to a raise in the standard, until to day one must practically hold a university degree in arts in order to receive consideration, and even then it is becoming rare for a teacher to receive more than \$600 or \$700, unless he is a specialist in his department.

At the top of the profession stands the university professor, whose position, though it is only to be attained even by men of conspicuous ability after many years of hard study, possesses many attractions from the atmosphere of culture which surrounds it. The field is, however, very limited, and before a man or woman can hope for consideration he must have given evidence of unusual intellectual capacity.—*Mail-Empire*.

At last Sousa's appeal to "let loose the dogs of war" has been answered by a fiery and impetuous nation, and the war cloud, which has been hanging for so long over the Western continent, has burst. The match which fired the train was lighted by Congress when they passed their memorable resolution, but there is still a good deal of doubt as to the nature of the magazine which has now exploded with a good deal of fire and an immense amount of smoke. Is it that feelings of outraged humanity have at length awakened Americans to a sense of their duty, or that Uncle Sam is casting covetous eyes on the brightest jewel in the crown of Spain? As regards the theory that the end and aim of the United States is to make themselves independent of all other countries by gathering under her flag, countries producing all things which are necessary for the daily life of her people, Cuba could hardly be said to be necessary to the States, as although she is perhaps the richest garden of the world, yet the Southern States of the Union are also large producers of the articles by which Cuba herself has become famous. It has often been said that Cuba, when freed from the Spanish yoke, will have a dark future indeed, unless she is able to enter the Union, as it will be long before a firm government of any kind is established and the country recovers from the effects of the protracted and devastating war. Of the issue of the present conflict there can be no doubt. A nation, whose history can in all justice be said to be drawing to its close, fighting for the sake of the glory and chivalry of the old days, can have little hope of ultimate success against a nation of practically unlimited resources, directed by men of the most energetic type, and, as the civil war has shown, second to none in individual courage and daring. Both countries are woe-