

MALES SCARCE

Preponderance of School Ma-ams Regarded as Dangerous by Educationists.

The striking difference between the number of male and female teachers in attendance at the teachers' summer session in this city, caused the Mail and Empire to look into this most important matter and to secure the views of educationists upon it. Those interviewed look upon this disproportion as an evil, some as a serious one, and all give the same cause, the small rewards obtainable in the profession, and the consequent refusal of men to enter it, and their endeavor to get out of it as soon as they can, if they do become teachers. Since 1887 salaries have been going down, while the cost of living has been increasing, and along with the decrease of salaries has gone the steady increase in the number of female teachers in the province, until now they are three times as numerous as the men. All interviewed expressed the desirability of having men to teach the older boys, but while some advocated direct action to remedy the evil, others thought it should be left to work out its own cure.

DEPUTY MINISTER MILLAR

Mr. John Millar, Deputy Minister of Education, looked upon the movement as an economic one, and is counteracted by higher standards for teachers and by plans for better remuneration. In rural schools the children were mostly small, and therefore female teachers were not undesirable, but in cities and towns the proportion of men should be increased. Mr. Millar's views, as stated by himself, are:—"The increase of female teachers is largely due to economic causes, which have affected labor in a variety of departments. In modern times women are much better educated than they were years ago, and they are therefore in a position to take up many callings that were formerly closed to them. In teaching there are not many lucrative positions open, even for those who follow it as a profession, and that, of course, has its effect upon young men of ability who are looking forward to making a competence. This trend on the part of women to teaching is not exceptional. We find it in stores, factories, and offices. Women can afford to do some kinds of work at a less remuneration, ordinarily, than men, and therefore have an advantage in getting positions. The situation is not at all any worse in Ontario than it is in the United States, England, and especially Germany, however, have not felt the tendency so strongly."

"Is this in the interest of education?" "That brings up another question upon which I can only give my own opinion, which is that in elementary schools a woman has qualifications that usually make her better fitted for the work than a man. For the higher positions, where discipline and the development of character are important considerations, I do not think female teachers, as a rule, are as well qualified as men. The public, however, is ready to regard the imparting of knowledge as the chief object of the teacher, and while this mistaken idea prevails, the question of character-builder, or true education will not receive that attention to which it is justly entitled. I should think it a misfortune if a majority of our teachers in High Schools should be females, as is the case in the United States. At the same time it is an advantage, even in High Schools, to have a certain proportion of the staff ladies."

DEPUTY MINISTER SUGGESTS A REMEDY

"What suggestions would you make as to remedying this state of affairs?" "I think the proper step is to raise the standard of qualification, which would give us fewer teachers, and I think a larger proportion of men, as the rewards would increase. Besides this, the legislative grant might be wisely distributed, but upon the average attendance, but upon the qualifications of teachers. There would then be an inducement for the trustees to engage a teacher with a higher certificate, with the expectation of obtaining a larger government grant. If the rural schools were consolidated there would also be an opportunity of placing the advanced pupils under a man teacher. "I don't look upon this large proportion of female teachers as being so serious as some think. Take the rural schools, and here it will be found that perhaps there will be three or four children in the fourth book, five or six in the third book and twenty or more in the lower classes. The great bulk of the children in the rural schools are small children, and for this reason a female teacher is desirable."

THE DISTRICT.

ZION CORNERS.

The heavy rain of Wednesday evening destroyed a good many crops in this vicinity. The recent picnic in Mr. James Scalf's woods was a grand success. A large number attended. The proceeds amounted to about \$75. Lee Hess, wife and daughter, are visiting their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Chatterton, of Lunenburg.

S. S. No. 12, DOVER

The following is the honor roll for the June examinations: Class IV.—Rosa Adams, Edyth Williams, Inez Doolittle, Millie Beaubien. Class III.—Mamie Bishop, Clara Wright, Alice McKenzie, Harry Bishop. Class II.—Mattie Thomas, Jimima Cantlay, Maggie Murray, Clarence Rubacke, Edith Beaulieu. Part II.—Iva Rubacke, Edith Mar-

Dyspepsia AND Liver Disease CURED BY DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY.

"I was weak, nervous and dizzy, with a fainting sensation when walking," writes Jesse Childers, Esq., of Hamlet, Sullivan Co., Tenn. "Could not walk any distance; always felt bad after eating; felt as though something was sticking in my throat; always uneasy in stomach. Doctored with three physicians but they did not relieve me. I grew worse and used everything I could think of, was nearly ready to give up and then some one told me that Dr. Pierce's medicine was good, so I began taking his 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I have taken seven bottles of that now and am as stout and as well as ever before. My case was liver disease and nervous dyspepsia of which your medicine has cured me. In September 1898 my weight was about 95 pounds, now it is 125. Please accept my sincere thanks."

ray, Alma Brown, Orval Hind. Part I.—Jean McKenzie, Ethel Ryley, Henry Bechard. MISS M. BELL, Teacher.

S. S. No. 8, DOVER

The following is the report of the mid-summer examinations: Class IV.—Nora McKenzie 732, Bertie Parrish 675, Malcolm McLaren 640. Class III.—Pearl Brown 702, Jeanette Stoen 696, Verena Shoemaker 680, Harold Roe 607. Class II.—Mabel McLaren 568, Earl Tiffin 542, Myrtle Dunlop 499, Flora McLaren 485, Harry Brown 483, Hil- liard Allen 482, Gladys Roe 436, Frank Owen 409. Part II, Sr.—Maggie Sturdevant 582, Edna Shoemaker 553, Geo. Mills 508, Carrie Burke 498, Lorea Normandin 494, Mabel Burke 465, Attala Normandin 463. Part II, Jr.—Myrtle Parrish 444, Grace McKnight 401, Luke Owen 390, Robt. Dunlop 325, Weldon Brown 322, Harvey Roe 315, Regina Normandin 272. WM. S. BELL, Teacher.

GLENWOOD.

Leo Barker, of Chatham, was the guest of H. Brown this week. Mr. Cartier, of Chatham, was the guest of Wm. May last Monday. The Misses Estabrook and Miss Gordon were in Detroit last week. Chris. Armstrong was in Leamington on Dominion Day. Mrs. Clunn, of Newbury, is the guest of Mrs. D. Mulligan this week. At the school meeting on Wednesday last, David Mulligan was elected trustee, to take the place of John Jufensville, who has moved from the section. P. J. McGee was in Detroit on Thursday on a business trip. Miss Alice Estabrook is spending her holidays at her home. Miss Sophia Brown, of Detroit, spent Sunday and Monday at her home here. James Bishop visited friends in Dover this week. Mrs. A. Bishop, of Dover, is visiting at her daughter's, Mrs. W. Blake. Miss Eva Ryan, of Chatham, visited at J. Bishop's this week. John Charlton, of Lakeview Farm, pleasantly entertained a number of young people last Monday evening. "Charlie, dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "do hear the baby crying!" "I haven't heard anything else for the last twenty minutes," was the not very amiable answer. "Isn't it lovely?" "What do you mean?" "The way the baby shouts. I can shut my eyes and imagine that we are at a ball game when our side has just scored a home run."

It says Something

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SECONDHAND STORES.

Modern Houses Vastly Different From the Old Time Junkshops.

"One of the curious aspects of modern business conditions," said a philosophic business man, "is the growth of what we call the secondhand business. There are more secondhand houses now than ever before, and I attribute it to the changes in style which are constantly taking place in all things which enter into the social life. When one speaks of a secondhand store, there are many persons who will think simply of secondhand furniture, bureaus, wardrobes, tables, beds and things of that sort. But the business has become so extensive that one may find almost anything in either the useful or the ornamental line in these places."

"I am not speaking of the curio shops either, where you can find anything from an antiquated penny to the rarest and most elaborate thing in an artistic way, old pictures and new ones, old books, old anything you may desire for chairs or almshouses, a place for chairs with broken arms and tables with broken legs and beds with scuffed heads and old clocks with broken faces and missing hands and all that sort of thing. But the conditions are different now. You see, people want to keep up with the progress. Styles are always changing. A new kind of furniture comes in. The furniture on hand is good as new, but one must have the new thing; this new colored bedroom suit or this latest thing in something else. The old stuff is sold and the new is bought."

"This is one reason, and the main reason, for the growth of the secondhand business. Of course the change has not affected merely furniture and household goods. It has applied to all the utilities and all the ornaments, and hence a vast variety of things may be found in the secondhand store."

Frank Stockton and Poetry. Frank Stockton never could write a successful poem. In this connection the novelist frequently told a good story on himself and his friends. In connection with his brother John he wrote many poems with which he afflicted the editors of various Canadian periodicals. The effusions always came back. The editor of one magazine was an especial target of the Stocktons, but as none of their poems were accepted the brothers came to the conclusion that the editor had no conception of good poetry. To prove their belief they hunted up and dispatched to him an ode, little known, by Milton. Within two days they received a check and a letter of thanks. "I came to the conclusion that editor knew poetry when he saw it after all," Mr. Stockton used to say, "and gave up trying to write it."

One Woman's Way of Painting. The bright life of a bright Philadelphia newspaper man has to do some of the housework herself, as her husband's income does not justify the luxury of employing help. The other day, finding out that the floor needed painting, she procured the necessary materials and early in the afternoon set to work. When her husband returned in the early evening, he found her in tears in the center of the room. She had painted the floor all around herself, and there she was, on a little dry island in the middle, afraid of spilling all her work. Her husband, instead of imitating Sir Walter Raleigh, procured a board and released her from duress vide. Then he meantly told the story.

A Former Predicament. The cook in a southern family was fat, black and sixty and a devoted churchwoman. A "laboring brother" in the same church, a widower with a dozen children, was so assiduous in his attentions that he could be seen haunting the kitchen at all hours. The mistress of the house finally said to the cook: "I do hope you don't mean to marry that old man, with all those children." "No, ma'am," was the reply. "I done been kitched in dat predicament once already," which was the first intimation that had been given in a long service that she was entitled to wear the weeds of widowhood.

Hugo's Egotism. Victor Hugo had a very inflated opinion of himself. One of his intimates called on him once and found him walking in his garden, apparently thinking deeply. The visitor asked the great French poet what he was meditating upon, "I was wondering," replied the poet, "what I should say to the Creator when I meet him. Can you imagine what I would say?" "Yes," answered the poet's friend. "You would say, 'My dear confrere.'"

Her Generosity. Madge—How you take your sister to the movies every week. De Garry—I do. Madge—If you'll take me there as often as that, I'll promise to be a sister to you.—New York Times.

It doesn't matter so much how many mistakes Moses made if we only follow up the advice he left us when he did hit the nail on the head.—American Thesauriana.

LOSS OF APPETITE. If your stomach is upset or in any way out of order—if food seems distasteful to you—if acidity, burning or fullness of the stomach prevents you from having an appetite—if you wish to eat and eat well—take, before each meal, a wine glassful of VIN ST MICHEL. (ST. MICHAEL'S WINE) It will create an appetite and restore to the palate that lost relishing taste for food. It will make the digestive organs act naturally and properly digest the food eaten, whether your stomach is in good order or not. No matter if you are young or old, sick or healthy. —VIN ST. MICHEL— MAKES YOU EAT

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