

Question Drawer.

All questions for this department, like all communications for any other department of THE JOURNAL, must be authenticated with the name and address of the writer, and must be written on one side of the paper only. Questions should also be classified according to the subject, i.e., questions for the English, the Mathematical, the Scientific, and the general information department should be written on separate slips, so that each set may be forwarded to the Editor of the particular department. If you wish prompt answers to questions, please observe these rules.

L.N., COBOURG, holds a Senior Leaving Certificate and wishes to become a High School specialist in English and history, or in moderns. She wishes to know (1) what time would be required? (2) What studies would be required? (3) Where may information be obtained?

REPLY.—The proper source of information is the Education Department, Toronto. You will probably require two, or perhaps three, years to complete the course, and will have to pass two or three University examinations. Write to the Registrar of Toronto University for the curriculum. Address, J. Brebner, M.A., Toronto. Write to J. Miller, M.A., Deputy Minister of Education, Toronto, and ask for the latest regulations in regard to special sts. State fully your intentions, and you will probably receive prompt and satisfactory answers.

TRUSTEE.—Your question is really a legal one. There are several points involved. Was the contract with the first teacher for a year only? If so, we should suppose that, unless renewed, it ended without notice at the close of the year. Was the trustee meeting at which the two trustees made the new appointment legally called? As to the wishes of the ratepayers, they should, perhaps, be morally binding upon the trustees, but after being elected the trustees have, we suppose, the power to act according to their own views during their term of office. If the ratepayers are in deep earnest, however, they can easily bring to bear a pressure of public opinion which few trustees would care to disregard.

J.D.—Write to the Education Department, Toronto for circulars giving full information. It is better that information on such matters should always be obtained from official sources.

TEACHER.—Write to the Registrar of the University you wish to attend, stating your points clearly, and you will, no doubt, receive full information. Regulations vary in different universities. We have not room to print long lists of textbooks, etc., which may be found in the catalogues of the institutions in question.

X. Y. L.—The Truancy Act provides that all children between eight and fourteen years of age shall attend school for the full term during which the school of the section or municipality in which they reside is open each year, unless the child receives efficient instruction otherwise, or is unable to attend on account of sickness or other unavoidable cause, or in certain other specified cases. Are you not implying too much when you ask why the Act is never enforced? The mode of enforcing it is clearly pointed out in the Act, and it must be the fault of the municipal councils, the police authorities, or the school board, if truant officers are not appointed and required to enforce the law. The trustees, or school boards, are, probably, primarily responsible for any failure to enforce the law, and should be called on to do their duty.

"A SUBSCRIBER" sends us the following: "I have some difficulty with a

Part II. class. They are bright pupils, and I always was quite successful with them. They are well up in mental arithmetic, but when asked to write down the solution to the easiest problem they completely fail, although they can read and write well. I am sure they understand the problem when required to write down the solution. I have taught them scores of times how to write down a solution, but never could obtain a good result."

Probably some subscriber will be able to point out the cause and the cure of the want of success.

Book Notices.

OLD SOUTH LEAFLETS.

Nos. 57 to 64 of these publications are full of valuable historical matter. No. 57 contains extracts from the important English versions of the Bible from Wiclif to the King James' version. It is very interesting to run over the different versions, in their order: Wiclif, Tyndale, Coverdale, Cranmer (the great Bible), the Geneva Bible, the Bishop's Bible, the King James' version, and, finally, the Revised Version of our own times (1884). After a number of extracts from each of the foregoing, the 13th chapter of first Corinthians is given in the different versions. A concise history of these versions is added, and an extract—familiar to most readers—quoted from Green's felicitous remarks on the effect of the English Bible in English literature.

No. 58 of the series contains letters of Hooper to Bullinger. Hooper, it will be remembered, was often styled "The First Puritan," and was one of the most noted of the victims of the Marian persecution. He had, in early manhood, been deeply influenced by the writings of Zwingli and Bullinger, and, fleeing from persecution in England, he spent two years with Bullinger at Zurich. On the accession of Edward VI. he returned to England, and became the leader of the advanced Protestants. He was made Bishop of Gloucester in 1551. He kept up a correspondence with Bullinger for many years; and his letters, and those of his wife, which have been published by the Parker Society in the collection of "Original Letters Relative to the English Reformation," are invaluable to the student of the history of these times. The letters are dated from various places, Strasburgh, Antwerp, London, and the last two from prison. They breathe the heroic spirit and fervent piety which those days of fierce persecution called forth; and the last letter of all, written in the very shadow of death, is the calmly courageous farewell of a man to whom death had no terrors, and the future none of that troubling uncertainty which, more than all else, makes "cowards of us all."

No. 59 contains Sir John Eliot's "Apologie for Socrates." This was probably the last work of that martyr in the cause of English liberty, and was written by him when he was a prisoner in the tower in 1632. Every reader of Green and Gardiner remembers their pen-portraits of this noble character; and the story of the stormy scenes between Charles I. and his early Parliaments is largely the story of Eliot. To those who have read Forster's "Life of Eliot," the "Apologie" will be even more interesting. It was, as that author says, Eliot's own appeal to a later time. It was found after Eliot's death, in his room in the Tower. Beneath the title, "An Apologie for Socrates," was written, "An reute fecerit Socrates, quod accusatus non resp. ndit." The Socrates about whom this inquiry is made, whether he had acted rightly in not replying to his accusers, was an English rather than an Athenian philosopher. Others who had been imprisoned with Eliot had been

induced to knock at the "back door of the court," and thus to obtain release; but Eliot stubbornly and steadily refused to compromise. In this paper, the author's aim was, no doubt, as Foster puts it, "to ask from a later age, when the writer should be no longer accessible to praise or blame, the justice denied in his own. No immodest comparison, we may be sure, was intended by the choice of a name so illustrious. It was taken simply as that of a man who had been the subject of unjust accusation, who, on being called to plead or defend himself, told his accusers that, so far from having offended against the laws, he had done nothing for which he did not think himself entitled to be rewarded by them; who took his sentence with uncomplaining calmness, and to whose memory a succeeding time offered late, but repentant, homage by decree of a statue to

himself and of ignominy to his accusers."

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It has been represented to us that many of the subscribers to THE EDUCATIONAL JOURNAL might be glad of an opportunity to get, in connection with it, one or more of the leading weekly newspapers or magazines of the day at reduced rates for the two or more. We are, therefore, making the best arrangements in our power to supply to every subscriber who wishes it any one or more of a good list of papers and magazines, on the terms given in the following table. Our arrangements are not far enough advanced to enable us to name more than a few Canadian periodicals in this number, but we hope to have the table considerably extended in our next and following numbers. Of course, the advantage of this clubbing arrangement is available only to those who pay cash in advance. Immediately on receipt of the subscription-price named for any paper or magazine on our list, we forward it to the proper office and have the subscriber's name and address put upon the mailing list, after which the subscriber must look to the publishers of the periodical in question for his copy.

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