

### Kings and Queens County Institute.

The twenty-fifth Annual Session of the Teachers' Institute for the Counties of Kings and Queens convened in the new high school building, Sussex, Kings County, on Thursday and Friday, September 24 and 25, President H. G. Perry, presiding. One hundred and seven teachers enrolled, the largest in the history of the Institute.

President Perry gave an excellent opening address. He spoke very encouragingly of the advances made in education in Kings County in the last few years. This was followed by addresses from Inspector R. P. Steeves, Mr. T. B. Kidner, director of Manual Training, W. M. Barker and F. A. Jewett.

At the second session, papers were read as follows: Geography, by R. B. Masterton, principal of the Havelock Superior School; Provincial Geography, by A. C. M. Lawson, principal of the superior school at Norton, and Physical Geography by Kenneth Fisk. In these papers the following were advocated: The sand table, free use of maps, both wall and blackboard, and such geographical training as will give the pupil intelligent thought from the book. A spirited discussion followed, which was ably opened by Mr. Orland Atkinson, of the Sussex high school. He was followed by Inspector R. P. Steeves, who was of the opinion that geography recitations were rapidly passing out. He urged teachers not to be bounded by the text book, and to make a free use of the "globe."

Mr. W. Barker spoke to the subject, and thought the shortage of material in the text-book has thrown the teacher on his own resources. He gave an outline of how he taught physical geography, using the blackboard.

A resolution was passed thanking Inspector R. P. Steeves and his associate inspectors for issuing a pamphlet on nature work and asking the Board of Education to issue similar pamphlets upon various lines of work at stated periods for distribution among the teachers of the Province.

Mr. T. B. Kidner next gave a practical address

on raffia work in schools. He spoke on the progress of Hand Work, and urged its introduction in all schools.

At the third session on Friday, two excellent papers were read. One on Nature vs. Science by Mr. M. G. Fox, principal of the Apohaqui School, and one on Nature Study in Rural Schools by Mr. F. A. Jewett, principal of the Kingston Consolidated School. Mr. Fox in dealing with his subject showed the proper relation of nature study to science and our common school course. He also dealt with the modes of study of plants, insects and birds. He spoke of school gardens, and showed their value in correlation to other subjects, and said that drawing was one of the great aids in bringing about exactness in nature study. Mr. Jewett in his paper, emphasized the fact that the object in view was to find out the uses, means of propagation, protection, etc., of plants, insects and birds. He said that nature study was closely related to agriculture, and should be educative along agricultural lines. He said our normal school should have a garden by means of which instruction could be given as to how to give the school garden an educative value.

Mr. H. H. Hagerman next gave an illustrative address on drawing, which was full of helpful suggestions. He said that a pupil who has been through the common school should be able to sketch with fluency and rapidity common objects. The teacher, he said, was the main factor in the teaching of drawing. It should be taught by a method similar to that by which we learn to speak; first, by imitation, and from that to independence.

At the fourth session two valuable papers were read, one on Written Composition by Miss Luella B. Chapman, and one on Oral Composition, by Miss Annie Parks. The discussion on the last two subjects was opened by Mr. C. W. Lawson, principal of Sussex Grammar School, who strongly advocated home essays for pupils. He was followed by Inspector Steeves, R. B. Masterton, T. B. Kidner, and others.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year: President, H. G. Perry; vice-president, Miss Jessie Weyman; secretary-treasurer, Wm. N. Biggar. Additional members of the executive: F. J. Patterson, Bessie A. R. Parker.

W. N. BIGGAR,  
Secretary.