

spector of Schools, Mr. D. C. McLennan, Mr. McKenzie, and Mr. Forsyth, Miss Forbes (who is an undergraduate and exhibitor of Dalhousie College) gave an instructive class exercise in the shape of a lesson in Geography and History as taught by the daily newspaper. The proceedings were enlivened by educational discussions and addresses from the clergy and other gentlemen present. The local paper refers in warm terms of praise to the paper read by the President, Inspector Gunn. Mr. L. C. Boyd filled acceptably the position of Vice-President, and Mr. D. H. McKenna that of Secretary-Treasurer. It is a melancholy proof of the uncertainty of human life, that the esteemed Vice-President, Mr. Boyd, was drowned on the Monday following the meeting of the Association, as he was returning by sail boat to his school on Boularderie Island.

Next month's notes will contain reports of the recent Teachers' Associations at Sydney, C.B., and at Kentville.

The next ensuing annual session of the Provincial Normal School begins on the 5th inst. There is a good prospect of the attendance outstripping that of any previous year.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

We have had the pleasure of seeing a very neat and appropriate, though cheap, design of a Diploma issued by the Superintendent of British Columbia to present to pupils passing the Entrance Examination to the High School. It is of a convenient size and is suitable for framing. The motto is "Haec olim meminisse juvabit." It will delight in after years to remember these things. It bears the signatures of the Sup^t of Education and the headmaster with the seal of the Department attached, and no doubt will be highly prized by the winner. It appears to us that this will produce a healthy stimulant to the pupil who will take pleasure in preserving such a document. We would suggest that Ontario pupils might value a similar Diploma much more highly than the present "slip of paper," that "does for the purpose."

The lowest salary paid to teachers in British Columbia is \$600 a year while many receive sums ranging from \$960 to \$1320. It is simply humiliating to know that Ontario teachers, who devote much time and money to secure the necessary training, receive only a mere pittance in comparison, and work from an hour to an hour and a half longer each day, and have a much larger class as a rule. The Government fixes the salaries according to the school and there is no competition in salaries. If trustees imagine that when they engage a teacher for \$300 they are receiving \$500 worth they are in all probability mistaken. Do they make a practice of giving two dollars' worth for one dollar?

The number of schools in British Columbia is eighty-five. The increase during the past year has been over twenty per cent. This speaks well for the interest the people are taking in education, which, no doubt, has been greatly stimulated by the popular official head.

We are pleased to notice the efforts that Mr. Pope is making to establish a teachers' convention. Such an association cannot fail in good results to those who partake fully of its advantages and we trust every teacher will hasten to put a shoulder to the wheel. We no not want any drones, remember!

Teachers' Associations.

The publishers of the JOURNAL will be obliged to Inspectors and Secretaries of Teachers' Associations if they will send for publication programmes of meetings to be held, and brief accounts of meetings held.

PROVINCIAL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

THIRD DAY.

ONTARIO—Continued—The Public School section of the Association met, Mr. Duncan in the chair. On motion it was resolved that it is the opinion of the Public School section that the holidays in rural sections be six weeks, by Departmental regulation, instead of being as at present optional with trustees.

Mr. W. G. Duff moved, seconded by George Baird, That in the opinion of the Public School section of the Teachers' Association the history for entrance is too extensive, and would recommend that the history for entrance be Canadian history, and one period of English history, to be set by the department from time to time. The motion was carried.

Mr. F. C. Powell, of Kincardine, read a paper on reading and writing, in which he maintained that although the importance of these

subjects was generally acknowledged, sufficient attention was not paid to them in our school training, and that in some High Schools they were almost ignored.

Considerable discussion took place on a motion made by Mr. Alexander that in the opinion of this section the action of the Hon. Minister of Education in recognizing and placing a high value on the professional success of candidates for re-examination for third-class certificates is calculated to foster and promote that most essential part of a teacher's qualification, and that the recognition of the value and importance of successful work in the school-room should be extended to the higher classes of certificates, so as to make it possible for a teacher through success in teaching to raise his certificate from one degree to another in that class in which it belongs. An amendment offered by Mr. Barber, advocating the entire separation of the professional and the non-professional examinations was lost on a division, and Mr. Alexander's motion was carried.

Dr. Forest, of Bradford, explained the working of an ingenious machine called the "word builder."

The following officers were elected:—Chairman, Mr. Munro, of Ottawa; Secretary, F. C. Powell, Kincardine. Directors—Messrs. Wood, Steel, Deacon, and Coates. Legislative Committee—Messrs. R. W. Doan, Hendry, and Rannie.

The High School section recommended a more thorough study of botany.

In the afternoon—Mr. Scarlett presented the report of the Temperance Committee. The committee having duly considered the circular addressed to this Association by Messrs. Orchard, of Owen Sound, secretary of the Canada Temperance Union for Ontario, reported that the matters referred to them have been for some time and are still under the consideration of the Education Department, and that when finally settled their decision will no doubt be satisfactory to all concerned. The report was adopted. The Audit Committee's report was adopted. The election for President then took place by ballot, and Dr. McLellan was elected.

HIGH SCHOOL SECTION.

The High School section met in the library, with Dr. Adam Purslow in the chair. Principal McHenry read a paper on High School graduation. The plan proposed was that on the completion of the full course in a High School or Collegiate Institute pupils be regularly graduated, receiving a diploma issued by the Minister of Education, and that the bestowal of this honour take place at the annual public meeting of pupils, parents, and other friends of education. He suggested two means of carrying out this scheme: 1st. To have a final examination, conducted under the direction of the Education Department, take place in connection with the intermediate or teachers' examination; graduation exercises to be held in July or September. 2nd. Instead of establishing an additional departmental examination utilize the existing University Local Examinations. 1. the upper limit of the High School course, as now, correspond with that of Senior Matriculation, and have our High School candidates for graduation take either the Junior or the Senior Local Matriculation Examination, according to their degree of advancement in the course.

The section passed a resolution approving of the plan of Upper School graduation, and suggesting that the local university matriculation examinations could be utilized, and appointed a committee consisting of the High School representatives in the University Senate and Messrs. Bryant, McHenry, and Embree to prepare a scheme.

On motion of Mr. Miller it was resolved that the University of Toronto be requested to recognize as fully matriculated students all who at the local examinations shall obtain the standard required for matriculation and who in these subjects comply with the conditions of entering the University.

The committee appointed to consider the subject of natural science for junior matriculation recommended that a paper be set therein demanding from candidates such a knowledge as must be obtained from personal observation of Canadian plants, also a paper on physical geography, meaning thereby the scientific treatment of the upper portion of the earth's crust, the atmosphere, snow, ice, rain, hail, winds, clouds, etc.

As a result of this report the section resolved that the subject of botany and chemistry or chemical physics be placed as optional subjects on the junior matriculation curriculum.

Dr. Purslow moved, that in view of the objectionable nature of some of the papers set at the last matriculation examination of Toronto University, notably the pass papers in mathematics, the High School representatives to the Senate be requested to endeavor to have none but suitable persons appointed as examiners, and to this end to secure that one examiner shall be a professor of the subject examined on, and that another, if possible, a high school master, conversant with the capabilities of High Schools. (Carried.)

The committee on Mr. Bryant's paper on Commercial Education reported in favor of recognizing the claim of pupils who did not desire preparation for professional examinations, and recommended a course of commercial education, comprising the subjects mentioned by Mr. Bryant, with the addition of phonography as an optional subject.