

another page will be read with interest. In the Normal School where a cadet corps has been organized and where military drill and physical training are being vigorously carried on the students are beginning to show good effects by improvement in bodily health, increased vigour and a more erect carriage. With enthusiasm and training the teachers throughout the province will be able to show excellent results from these exercises.

#### **Need of Industrial Schools.**

A few weeks ago a little girl, eight years of age, was sentenced in one of our provincial courts to a term in the penitentiary for a petty theft. A sentence of this kind is demoralizing and shocking to the public sense. And yet what was the judge to do under such circumstances where guilt was clearly proved?

There is a great responsibility resting on society concerning children who have a feeble intellect and moral sense, whose habits are vicious because of improper training in the home, and who are brought up amid unwholesome surroundings. The public has a duty towards these children as clearly as it has to those for whom public schools are provided. An industrial institution or reformatory maintained by government and by private benevolence would relieve those who are called upon to administer the law to youthful criminals. Instead of sending them to gaol or the penitentiary to herd with hardened criminals they should be sent to a school where under proper restraints, away from the influence of evil home surroundings and the streets, they would be taught a trade and receive an education to fit them to lead honest and useful lives.

If children of vicious tendencies, from homes where there is little or no parental restraint, could be guided with firm but kindly hands over those years in which they are most susceptible of receiving good impressions, what a service would be rendered to the whole community!

#### **Teachers' Pensions.**

Nova Scotia has a fairly liberal pension scheme in operation for its teachers who have been in service for thirty years and upwards, and the New Brunswick government is about to pension the teachers of the province under similar conditions.

This step meets with the approval of the thinking class of people. No one will deny that teachers are insufficiently paid. While the cost of living has greatly increased in recent years, their salaries have not been augmented to any considerable extent. This is not just to a class of people who render a most important service to the public. If teachers had an income that would enable them to live respectably and with comfort, and to put by something from their salaries, they would reject the idea, as many do, of being pensioned. But often they have others dependent upon their scant earnings and then the struggle is a hard one.

It is the duty of all, especially those who live on a salary, to save something for a rainy day or for the time when their power of earning will inevitably grow less. It is a great comfort to have a bank account, however small, and to reflect that it is the product of sacrifice and self-denial. It is not everyone who can save, especially from small earnings. The habit of spending as fast as one earns is a habit that requires a great deal of firmness to resist. But it is firmness and self-denial that help to form character, and to dread anything that approaches dependence.

#### **Technical Schools.**

Nova Scotia has been making great strides in technical education during recent years. In addition to the splendid technical college opened last year in Halifax and designed to afford training in scientific and technical subjects, there are evening continuation schools scattered throughout the province, especially in the eastern portions. While the writer was in Sydney some weeks ago he was afforded an opportunity of looking into the work of these schools and he came away impressed with what he saw.

In previous years much money was spent in correspondence schools by those desirous of improving their technical and general knowledge. Now very little money is sent out of the province for this purpose. The technical or evening continuation schools are doing the work, in great part, and doing it better than can be done by the distant correspondence schools. It only remains to perfect this system in its details to make these continuation schools, of which about fifty were open in Nova