

## Standards Of Teaching Are Higher in Nova Scotia

Improvement Discussed by Presidents of Two Leading Maritime Universities in Elementary and University Education.

While those who are interested in the Educational System of New Brunswick are interested in seeing this province take its place again where it once was namely a leader in Educational affairs, An article herewith on the standards of teaching, on the curriculum of the school, on the aim of the university and on other matters may be of interest. It was written for the Halifax Mail by Dr. F. W. Patterson, president of Acadia University.

Space does not allow us to publish in detail the good work carried on by the extension movement of Saint Francis Xavier University one of the leading educational institutions in the Maritime Provinces.

Rev. Dr. M. M. Coady, director of Extension, St. Francis Xavier University says that the extension movement carried on by St. Francis Xavier University is neither a correspondence

course, nor is it essentially a lecture course. Members of the Extension Staff go out to the people and organize them into small study groups—an average of ten to a group. A leader is selected by the members of each group and these members are pledged to meet weekly during the fall and winter months, and to carry out a series of studies outlined by the Department. Monthly rallies of group leaders or sometimes of all students in the movement are held to check up on progress, and to discuss the larger community issues resulting from the group studies. During the last year 952 such groups, both men and women, were actively engaged in study.

Study material is furnished these groups through a bi-monthly publication called the Extension Bulletin, a circulating library, and an Open Shelf Library, from which the people may

borrow books and pamphlets according to their needs. In addition to this a school is conducted for four weeks at the university each year, for the purpose of training community leaders to carry on the various activities arising out of the people's studies.

It is probable that education in Nova Scotia has never been without criticism, but during the past year the critics have been especially active. No form of education from the elementary school to the university has been exempt, while nearly every party of the educational program—teachers, texts, curricula, methods, organization, costs, has met with some criticism. And as so often happens, the critics have, at times, been strange bedfellows, having little in common but their criticism.

### Danger in Criticism

With criticism as such one can find no fault, for the critic of educational detail is not necessarily an enemy of education or of the institutions he criticizes. It must be clear, however, that the criticism which rushes into print or into speech has its dangers. The critic has chosen a public and feels that he must make his case. It is difficult to retain perspective. The critic tends to become myopic and to see only the detail that is being criticized. His ideals in education are not realized, and in his eagerness to pose as the apostle of improvement he ignores, if he ever knew, the progress that has been made. He studies the cost of education in a day of depression, until he sees only the cost; he ceases to think of cost in relation to permanent values.

As I have suggested the critic is not necessarily an enemy. An indictment of short-sightedness and publicity in seeking criticism is not an indictment of all criticism. I am quite sure that education in Nova Scotia has had no more severe critics than those responsible for its policies. They could be the last to claim that an educational millennium is upon us. They have questioned themselves and their work. They have asked and tried to answer such questions as these: Wherein are our programs inadequate? To what extent have they been fitted to our needs, while becoming truer to high educational standards? In what ways may they be improved? These critics have worked from within. They have said little but they have done much; they will probably continue to say little but they will do more.

I thing it worth while at such a time to note some of the progress that has been made.

### Teachers Are Key

1. The standard of teaching has been raised. In any educational system, the teacher is pivotal. However perfect the system may be in other respects it cannot rise above the level of its teachers. And in the making of teachers a sound education does not make the teacher. Sir Henry Jones speaking of Lord Kelvin, we were with the greatest physicist and the poorest teacher of our day." But given the ability to teach, the teacher with the best education is best fitted to teach.

During the past six years, the lower grades of teachers have been abolished; the standards of the training in the Normal College have been raised while the number of teachers, with such training as a university course affords, has been doubled. Only a few months ago I visited a number of one-roomed schools in rural communities and found them all manned by university graduates. Further at no time in the history of education in Nova Scotia have there been so many teachers who have secured, in addition to the four years required for an Arts degree, one or two years of advanced training. There is still room for improvement to the training of teachers; at least in the university I know best, and possibly elsewhere, but in viewing our educational position, the trend is not static.

### Commends Trend

Less important than the improvement in teaching, thought given greater publicity, is the improvement being made in the curriculum of the schools. I say less important because the formal set-up of the curriculum is always subordinate to the insight and art of the teacher. The best teachers, if given freedom, will make a poor curriculum the medium of a sound education, while the best curriculum in the hands of a poor teacher is a lifeless mechanism.

Yet the curriculum is not unimportant. Its qualities tend to impart

themselves to teaching. The curriculum may be remote from life or it may grow directly out of the needs of life. It may clutter the memory with details or it may promote a deep and unifying knowledge of principles. It may cover so much ground that it provides only a superficial knowledge of many subjects, or it may open the door to a relative mastery of a few subjects that fit only for the labor of life, or it may be richer in its content and provide also for the wise use of the leisure of life.

The details and the changes already provided in the curriculum of Nova Scotia are discussed elsewhere. I wish merely to note and to commend the trend of the change. The new curriculum is more practical more vitally related to life, more concerned with principles, seeks a more unifying knowledge and seeks also to provide some of the enrichment that issues in the highest character and the finest culture. If the motives promoting the change are understood by parents and teachers and the teaching responds to the change, education in Nova Scotia will move to a new "high".

### Aim Of University

With regard to the universities I can speak authoritatively only for the university I know best. Here also change is constant; it must be constant if a university is alive. A university can no more regard its program of today as final than the professor can teach from the lectures prepared a decade ago. Each course given must change with the growth of the instructor in his reactions to a changing world, and a similar growth must take place in the program of the university itself.

The changes at Acadia grow out of the recognition that the most important service a university can render is to arouse an interest in and a desire for knowledge, to secure a mastery of the tools of knowledge and to provide criteria—criteria for the recognition of the true, the just and the good. Such an aim indicates at once the character of the ideal teaching. A university cannot educate its students; it can help them to educate themselves. Lectures, laboratories and libraries are merely means to this end. Fields of concentration exist that the student may secure the mastery of the technique of a relatively advanced study and of some one field of knowledge. Honor courses exist that the student with creative abilities may do—not a little more work than the average student—but work that will call his special powers into their fullest exercise.

There is, of course, nothing new in this. It is the ideal that educators have always before them. Each change merely helps to bring the ideal a little nearer.

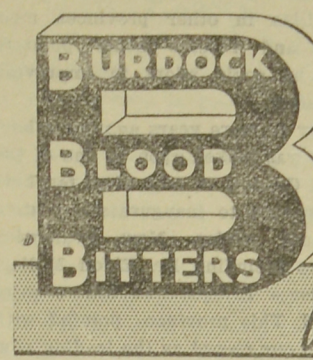
### Summer Studies

A fourth trend should be noticed. For years education in Nova Scotia assumed that there was something about the months from October to June especially favorable to study; summer was a barren season. To such an extent was this true that when Acadia opened a Summer School for graduate study there were those who said—"What! Graduate study in summer?" The Department of Education pioneered with its summer work for teachers in Truro and Halifax and during the past two years the growing interest in summer study, both graduate and undergraduate at Acadia indicates an almost complete reversal of the earlier judgment.

## VAGARIES OF FATE MAKE STRANGE PALS IN FILMS

Los Angeles, Jan. 12—Hollywood being a democratic community, one never knows whether a star's best friend is of titled nobility or the boy who sells papers on the corner. Strange ties bind people in Hollywood. Many of these friendships date back to earlier days, when the going was not so good; others are made in the studios.

Marlene Dietrich may be inaccessible person to many near-great in film, but when Dorothy Penedel, Paramount make-up expert, has a gathering of friends at her home, Miss Dietrich is a guest, because Miss Penedel was one of the first persons she met



### Do Nagging Headaches Torment You?

Headaches are warning signals that something is wrong with your system. Whatever is the cause, Burdock Blood Bitters will bring relief. This great herbal remedy goes right to the root of disorders and restores the blessing of normal health, free from aches and pains. Recommended for 57 years. The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

for **THE STOMACH  
BLOOD AND SKIN**

## Of Interest to the Women

### Delicious Honey Drinks

Honey is a valuable ingredient in making nourishing and stimulating drinks which in winter impart a warm glow to the body. If the drinks are made with hot water the honey will, of course, melt easily, but if cold drinks are required have some honey-syrup prepared, and bottled ready for use.

**TO MAKE HONEY-SYRUP**—Dissolve two parts of honey in one part of hot water. If put into an air-tight bottle this will keep for several weeks without fermenting. These delightful drinks can be made with honey-syrup as a base:—  
**LEMON DRINK**—The juice of half a lemon and one or two dessertspoons of honey-syrup, according to taste, in a glass of water.

**ORANGE DRINK**—The juice of one orange and one or two dessertspoons of honey-syrup in a glass of water.

**HEALTH COCKTAIL**—The juice of two oranges, one egg yolk, juice of half a lemon, two tablespoons of honey. Beat all together, and drink each morning.

**HONEY GINGER BEER**—Five lbs. of sugar, one cup of lemon juice, half-pound honey, five ozs. bruised ginger, five gallons water. Boil ginger for thirty minutes in three quarts of water, and add sugar, lemon and honey with remainder of water. Strain through a cloth, and when cold add one-egg

when she came to America. When her first tests were being made, Miss Penedel worked on her hair. Since then the actress has insisted on having only her on every picture.

Madeline Fields is Carole Lombard's secretary, but, be sides that, they are friends. They worked together in Mack Sennett comedies in the old days. Together, they used to plan what they would do if they ever got dramatic roles in feature pictures. Miss Lombard got the chance—but they are still together.

Although Mack Gray has been touted as George Ratt's bodyguard, the reverse is just as true. The fact is that George and Mack are old friends, and are always in each other's company.

Gary Cooper's good friend is a Hollywood extra, Harry Mayo. They went to school together in Helena, Mont. Eight or nine years ago they drove buses for the same company in Yosemite National Park. On days off they went fishing, and compared their ambitions while camping under the stars.

Cooper wanted to be an actor; Mayo wanted to be a newspaper artist. Not long ago, Mayo turned up in Hollywood, looking for his friend. Cooper got him work as an extra, which has been his job ever since. They are now working at the same studio.

Mae West and her colored maid, Libby Taylor, form one of Hollywood's oddities combinations. Libby was quite an accomplished actress with a Negro troupe. Then came the depression, and Libby found long and hungry waits between jobs. Having admired her work on the stage, Miss West made Libby her personal maid, major domo of the West household and her companion. She took to this job with avidity, but Miss West won't let her drop her acting. In every picture which Miss West makes, she writes in a part for Libby.

A far different friendship has sprung up between W. C. Fields and Baby LeRoy. The former, a bachelor, conceived much admiration for the infant who steals scuffles from him without even trying. On the other hand, Baby LeRoy had clutched at all sorts of noses in his short career, but the one possessed by Fields has an absolute fascination for him. There is never a dull moment for either of them as they appear together in scenes of their current picture, "It's a Gift."

white, one teaspoon essence of lemon, one small teaspoon essence of ginger. Allow to stand four days, and then bottle.

Cocoa, coffee, and chocolate are improved by using honey in place of sugar, or they may be sweetened with honey-syrup.

### BABY'S FIRST WALK

Some mothers imagine that immediately a baby shows signs of trying to walk he should be encouraged to do so; so this is not always wise. Usually leg bones are not strong enough to bear the weight of the body until a child is fifteen months old. They have not hardened sufficiently. The weight of the body on soft bones causes bandiness.

There is sometimes a tendency to bandiness even when babies are not allowed to walk before this time but this is usually due to rickets. A rickety child is generally bandy, with weak and flabby muscles, and the only way to cure this condition is to feed him with cod-liver oil and plenty of butter, milk, and eggs. A rickety child must be kept from walking until his bones and muscles are stronger, and hospital or clinic advice should be sought.

An ordinary healthy child should begin to walk at about fifteen or sixteen months. Before the walking stage, however, there is the crawling stage, and baby should always be encouraged to crawl. If the weather is cold, put down a crawling rug or an old blanket and let him amuse himself on that; if the weather is warm, let him crawl on a rug in the garden.

As baby grows bolder, he stands on his feet and begins to totter. He must be helped until he has mastered the art of balancing himself, until he can take two or three steps alone without difficulty. Precautions are necessary at this stage, or in his enthusiasm he will overtake himself and walk too much upon legs which have not become accustomed to his weight. Take him off his feet, therefore, immediately he has had his little walk.

## WAVERLY HOTEL

New Steam-Heated Rooms

BEST DINING SERVICE IN THE CITY

A HOTEL YOU WILL LIKE, AT MODERATE RATES

**H. E. Dewar & Son,**  
Proprietors.  
Regent Street - Fredericton

## THE DAILY MAIL

is on sale at the following places of business in the city—

### UP-TOWN:

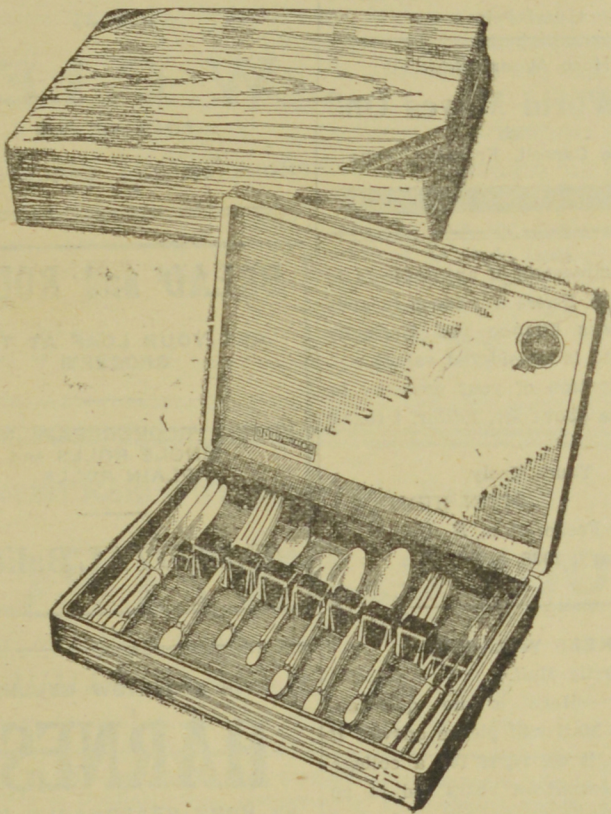
W. G. Quinn, 147 Westmorland St.  
F. Donahoe, Smythe, & Charlotte Sts.  
Geo. A. Farris, 332 York Street.  
W. A. Erb, Grocer, York St.  
Alonso Staples, York Street.  
S. Keetch, grocer, Charlotte-York Sts.  
J. E. Saunders, 199 Northumberland Street.

### DOWN-TOWN:

Crowley's Cigar Store, Queen St.  
Royal Cigar Store, Queen street.  
Hawthorne's Cigar Store, Queen St.  
T. M. Boyd.  
A. E. Eardley, Grocer, St. John and Brunswick Streets.  
H. C. Jewett, cor. Charlotte & Regent.  
VanWart Grocery, Cor. Charlotte and St. John Streets.  
C. C. Wood, Grocer, University Ave.  
O'Neill's Bakery, Regent Street.  
John F. Timmins, Grocer, King St.  
Devon, N. B.  
Claude J. MacDonald, South Devon.  
J. R. Monteith, North Devon.  
J. K. Morrison, North Devon.  
and from the carrier boys in the city and in Devon and Marysville.

If you have any trouble in the delivering of your paper, please complain to us. Ring Phone 67 and we will have your paper at your door at ONCE!

## The Daily Mail's New Year's Gift



## One Case of Silverware

1847 ROGERS BROS.

**Sylvia**  
DESIGN

This walnut tarnish-proof Chest, containing 32 pieces of Rogers 1847 Sylvia Design Silver—the Newest and Best on the market today, WILL BE GIVEN ON JANUARY 15th 1934, TO THE PERSON BRINGING OR SENDING TO THE DAILY MAIL BY THAT DATE THE LARGEST AGGREGATE PAID-FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS. This is not a voting contest. It is a fair and square deal. Whoever wins in subscriptions gets the prize. Subscriptions to be secured on yearly, half-yearly and on quarterly basis.

IN ADDITION TO THE PRIZE A LIBERAL COMMISSION WILL BE PAID TO ALL CANVASSERS WHETHER THEY WIN THE PRIZE OR NOT!

(This contest is open to everyone except employees of The Daily Mail and their families).

For Further Particulars

CALL AT THE DAILY MAIL OFFICE,  
OR 'PHONE 67.

