

"OBSERVER" FINDS TEACHERS OF THE PROVINCE IN TWO CLASSES

One Group Has No Ideas, Second Group Presents Constructive Criticism

(Continued)

Continuing our discussion of examinations, most teachers consider it too early to make any comment on the new high school entrance regulation, since this is the first year it has been in force. On the face of it, however, it would seem to be a good move merely because it eliminates some of the superfluous exams that exist at present. It is thought that some such regulations as this could very well be adopted with regard to the matric. exams.

4. That in any changes made in the present curriculum, due attention should be paid to the cultural subjects, and emphasis should be placed on those subjects which train for good citizenship, and less attention paid to mathematics, with which the course is now overloaded.

5. That our whole system of teacher training as now carried out in the Normal School is woefully inadequate. Up until the last year or two the course was wholly academic. While it is now claimed that more time is given to professional work and to teaching practice, it is still felt that there is not nearly enough. The only teaching practice the teacher gets is before the Model School and before his own class. One proposal I heard mentioned was that the schools of the city be opened to the student teachers; this would give them a greater variety of experience, and has already been done for the students of education at the University.

It is also claimed that the Normal School term of one year is too short, and that the term should be increased to two years at least. When the time used for teacher training is compared to the time needed for qualification for the other professions, it is seen that the former lags far behind. It is this fact more than any other which is regarded as the cause of the low standard of the profession. The recommendations of the Chief Superintendent in his last annual report that third class licenses should be discontinued, and first class licenses only made permanent after a probation period seems to meet with favor. Since Grammar School Licenses are possessed mainly by those engaged in teaching high school work as well as by the principals of Grammar Schools, it is felt in some quarters that the grant belonging to that class of license should be paid to all those who are making use of it, and not restrained as at present to a certain proportion only. The criticism is made that very little attempt is made by the Normal School instructors to show the student how the work should be taught to others, but is still presented to the class in a purely academic manner. There is also no provision made in the Normal School course for methods in teaching advanced work. The emphasis is all placed on the lower grade work. The teachers who wish to learn methods in other subjects can only get them by attending summer courses at their own expense. At the present low rate of teachers' salaries, this is often difficult to do.

5. There seems to be a consensus of opinion that not many useful changes can be made in the educational system while the provincial board of education is made up as it is at present. As at present constructed the board of education consists of the members of the provincial cabinet together with the president of the University of New Brunswick and the Chief Superintendent of Education. Outside of the two last named there is no guarantee that the other members of the board will be in any way qualified to deal with matters of an educational nature. What is needed is a council of educationists. Would a medical council be made up of any but doctors? Or a legal council of any but lawyers? Regarding the recent move of appointing a Minister of Education, conflicting opinions are expressed. The chief criticism is that if a good man is secured his tenure of office is limited to the time his party is in power, and thus no continuity of service is assured. In a matter like

education, when the right man has been put in the right position he should not be subject to political changes. On the other hand the great advantage of having a Minister of Education is the fact that such an official can secure necessary money appropriations for educational purposes which was always difficult before. It is felt by all, however, that there is altogether too much politics in education.

6. Some years ago, a commission of inquiry was established to recommend changes in our educational system. A very good report was drawn up, which advised many of the changes discussed in these articles. This report was shelved, and nothing has been heard of it since. This fact has made the teachers rather shy of commissions of inquiry; and when such a commission was discussed a few months ago it did not arouse much enthusiasm. That this attitude was justified seems to be borne out by the fact that nothing more has been heard of this commission either. There is a text-book committee in existence in the province, but it seems to be a very inactive body. Any changes recommended by this committee, it is alleged, are made without consulting teachers who are familiar with the type of work in which the change is made. Also, very few of the members of the committee can call themselves specialists in any particular line of work, and some of the members are not teachers at all, or have any direct knowledge of educational needs.

To sum up, then, those teachers who are capable of having any opinion at all feel that they are not responsible for the present system but are rather victims of it. They have been reluctant to express opinion directly because such a course could easily involve them in difficulties with the powers that be. Although much criticism is levelled at teachers from time to time, it must be remembered that no educational system will produce one hundred percent perfect teachers. There will always be some poor teachers, just as there are some poor doctors, dentists and lawyers. I have tried in justice to the teachers to present their views in the present instance; and I think that my readers will see that their views agree with much that has been said by others. Reform is needed, and everybody wants it. It is up to those who have the power to act, to do so.

OBSERVER.

Underground

(Continued from Page One)

traction to the root zone in some sections.

Oscar Meinzer, the Geological Survey's authority on underground water supplies, said field men in the drought area had been instructed to co-operate with army engineers in studying fluctuations.

Approximately fifteen papers prepared on the subject for the American Geophysical Union, he said, had been sent to the Government Printing Office and would be made public within the next few days. They are expected to disclose whether surface reservoirs may have to be constructed because of a decline in underground supplies.

During the day, President Roosevelt discussed the latest drought developments and relief proposals with Rexford Tugwell, Resettlement Administrator, and Aubrey Williams, Assistant Work Progress Administrator. Tugwell said another conference would be held tomorrow, and that the President might have an announcement to make then.

Meinzer said geological studies resulting from the 1934 drought did not disclose whether a retreating water table signified the approach of a desert-like condition, but that they did show too many arid years for profitable farming.

In the spring of 1934, he said, the water table at Harvey, N. D., was only six feet below the land surface. By March 1, 1935, it had dropped to eighteen feet, but good rains the following May brought it back to three feet—the highest point in nine years. With the advent of the 1936 drought, he said, the table probably has recorded below that of 1935.

Farrell said he found much gloom among farmers at Fargo, Minn., Billings, and Wolf Point, particularly since grasshoppers and Mormon crickets threatened to destroy all that had been saved from the drought.

"The farmers did not air their pessimism," he said, "but they definitely were more discouraged than ever. Sixty days ago they had good prospects. Now they have nothing." Farrell said abandonment of spring wheat would be terrific. He did not disclose the loss, but said he saw very few fields between Grand Falls and Fargo that had a chance of making a crop.

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

Miss Gertrude Macaulay of Brooklyn, Mass., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bacon Dickson.

Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Levine, accompanied by their twin daughters, Marilyn and Joyce, are spending a few days at Old Orchard, Maine.

Mrs. Frank Patrique (nee Miss Lorna Fenety) and baby son, David, of Saint John, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Fenety on University Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Dunham and children have returned home after spending their vacation in Campbellton with Mrs. Dunham's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Dunham.

The Misses Lois and Lenta Hall of North Devon have returned home from Vancouver where they attended the Nurses' National Convention and visited relatives.

Master Murray Blair, son of Dr. and Mrs. Murray Blair of Somerville, Mass., is the guest of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Blair at North Devon.

Mrs. J. M. Lemont and her guest Mrs. Johnson of Mobile, Ala., who were visiting friends at Brown's Flats, has returned home.

The marriage of Miss Thelma Gwendolyn Staples to Professor Jas. Manchip, organist of St. George's Anglican church in Moncton, has been arranged to take place on Wednesday July 22, at Christchurch Cathedral in the city. The ceremony will be performed by Venerable Archdeacon A. F. Bate.

Engagement Announced
Mrs. Jas. Miller, Hartland, wishes to announce the engagement of her daughter, Florence Elizabeth, to E. Byrne Carey of Bristol, N. B. The marriage will take place in the near future.

Cup and Saucer Shower
Miss Frances Vanwart was hostess at a buffet supper last evening at her home for Miss Thelma Staples, whose marriage takes place in the near future. Covers were laid for seven guests, the tea table being centred with red roses and old fashioned corsages for favors. Following supper the bride-elect was presented with a shower of cup towels from the guests which included Miss Frances Vanwart, Miss Thelma Jewett, Miss Frances Jewett, Miss Amelia Levine, Miss Sylvia Levine, Miss Millicent Ramsay and Miss Irma Paynter. Miss Staples has recently been honored a variety shower given by the Misses Levine and a luncheon given by Miss Millicent Ramsay, which was followed by the presentation of an old fashioned noesgay handkerchief shower.

Annual Celebration of Feast of St. Anne on
SUNDAY JULY 26th, AT ST. ANNE'S CHURCH, KINGSCLEAR.
First Mass — 8 a.m.
Second Mass — 10:30 a.m.
At 3:30 p.m. Benediction, procession and Veneration of the Relic.

A & B CLUB REGATTA & WATER SPORTS
— PROGRAMME —
Wednesday, July 22nd—Band Concert—Dance and Reception.
Thursday, July 23rd—Regatta and Water Sports.
Thursday Evening—Speed Boat Racing; Presentation of Cups; Dancing in the Clubhouse; Band Concert.

The Royal Kennebecasis Yacht Club and the St. John Power Boat Club will be guests of the A & B Club and will assist with the Regatta.

Beautiful Silver Trophy donated by Mr. Jarvis Purdy, Saint John, N. B., for the Queen of the Regatta.

Make your entries immediately with the Stewart of the Club as only a limited number will be allowed in each event.

30 Beautiful Silver Cups have been donated for the Water Sports.

Identification of the body was made by Mrs. Williamson who was taken to Carmen Creek by police officers as soon as the word of the finding of the body was learned. Mrs. Williamson who with her two year old son Robert, were spending the past week at the tourist camping grounds here in company with Mr. Williamson. The body will be taken back to Toronto by Mrs. Williamson for burial.

Ellick, a returned soldier, had been engaged with his fishing nets at Carmen Creek this morning when he saw the body caught in one of the nets.

The late Mr. Williamson had left the West end bathing beach in a row-boat on Tuesday afternoon and no word of his whereabouts was known until the finding of the body today. On Tuesday evening the overturned boat the two paddles, and a shirt were found floating in the river.

Since the man's disappearance Mrs. Williamson and her young son have been taken care of by Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Cooper who have shown them every kindness and sympathy in the unfortunate tragedy.

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Congratulations

(Continued from Page One)
was the anxious feeling that every Briton was shocked and ashamed. "I heard a good many criticisms of the police. A man prominent in public affairs said: "Such a thing ought never have been allowed to happen. On other occasions during royal processions this type of man, like McMahon, always has been successfully kept out by the police. I consider it a grave blunder that he was allowed to be present at all."

Under the present charge, McMahon faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. Aiming a firearm at a Sovereign is punishable by imprisonment with flogging, under an unused law dating to the attempted assassination of Queen Victoria in 1882.

In Glasgow, news of the affair was kept from the aged, bedridden mother of McMahon, Mrs. John Bannigan. "I am doing my best to keep the news from her," said her 80-year-old husband. "She is dangerously ill."

He added, sobbing: "To think one of my own would come to this!"

McMahon's wife, in London, said: "Whatever it means to me, I shall stick by him." She works in a dress shop.

McMahon, who changed his name from Jerome Bannigan several years ago, dabbled in journalism and once kept an herb shop, his neighbors said. "He always regarded himself as a social reformer," one acquaintance remarked. "We always regarded him as rather a crank."

The neighbors added McMahon held a grudge against the police, whom he had sued unsuccessfully for £4,000 for alleged wrongful arrest three years ago.

Still Unexplained
There still was no clear indication of what McMahon meant when he said, after his arrest yesterday, that he wanted "only to protest."

Police said unofficially they thought the protest had nothing to do with the execution this week of Mrs. Charlotte Bryant, mother of five, for poisoning her husband. Mrs. Violet van der Elst, crusader against capital punishment, who demonstrated at Exeter Jail during the hanging, said she had met the man "only casually," and "had virtually nothing to do with him at all."

The public divided its adoration between an "unknown woman in grey" whom some spectators credited with knocking the gun from McMahon's hand, and Special Constable Gordon Dick, said by others to have intervened first.

Dick, employed as a traveling salesman by a firm making furniture polish, was besieged at the firm's office with visitors who came to congratulate him. They also kept him awake all Thursday night to heap him with praises.

Hundreds of persons stood about Buckingham Palace all day. They joined in the expressions of relief at the outcome of yesterday's incident.

F. B. Smith

(Continued from Page One)
graph service with the old Whitby and Georgian Bay line and as operator at Markham, Ontario, received despatches of the Crimean war. In Fredericton, F. B. Smith will be among the many who will return to the key again.

For the ceremony a special hook-up will be made, which will cover Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific. An analysis of the lists of old-timers up to last night indicates that the greatest representation will be in Toronto where more than twenty-five will gather in the old Great North-western headquarters, at Scott and Wellington streets. Montreal comes next with approximately a dozen. These will gather at the old Montreal telegraph headquarters. Approximately twenty-five cities will be represented. It is anticipated, however, that by the time the ceremony commences further augmentation will be made both to the cities and towns already represented in the hook-up.

CHURCH SERVICES

Christchurch Cathedral
The Most Reverend John A. Richardson, D.D., Archbishop; The Very Reverend W. H. Moorhead, D.D., Dean; Sixth Sunday after Trinity. 8 o'clock, Holy Communion; 11 o'clock, Morning Prayer and sermon; 7 o'clock, Evensong and sermon. The Dean will preach morning and evening.

Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Rev. George E. Ross, D. D., Minister, 11 a. m. and 7 p. m., Public Worship conducted by Rev. A. S. Morley, B. D., Ph. D. of St. Catharines, Ontario. Rev. Dr. Ross will officiate next Sunday, July 26th.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION
The annual celebration of the Feast of St. Anne will take place on Sunday, July 26 at St. Anne's church at Kingsclear. The first mass will take place at eight o'clock, and the second mass at 10:30 a. m. At 3:30 p. m. there will be a benediction, procession and Veneration of the Relic.

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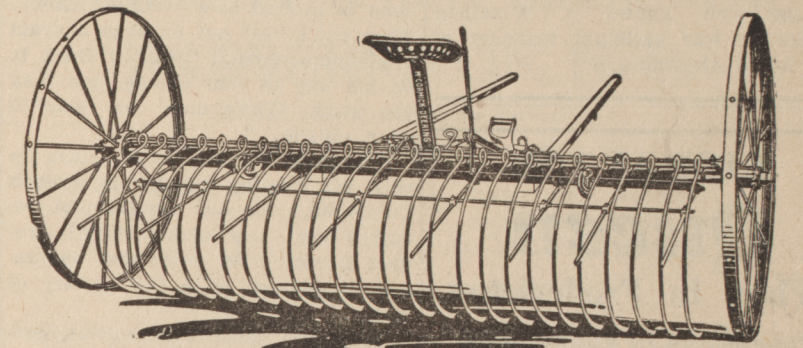
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