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VICTORIA COUNTY EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

(Continued from Page 1.)

towards making changes in the spelling book, and soon we will be spelling "thru" like the Toronto World.

Mr. Bryson: "Let the subject stand for a year, and history will be brought to bear and we can then judge by the records."

Mr. Stevens: "I would like to hear from some in the room who are following out different ways of teaching writing."

Miss Adair: "I am trying to teach the principles instead of the old way, and there is a noticeable improvement. I teach from the black-board."

Mr. Wilson: "I teach a different system from that prescribed in the copy books. I use the business college system. Exercises and letters are put on the board. I find a marked improvement."

Principal Harstone: "Stress should be laid upon good work. The right thing is what shows up. A good deal of the work comes by not insisting upon accuracy."

ADDRESS BY MR. LEAKE.

After opening exercises on Friday morning, Mr. A. H. Leake was called upon by Mr. Stevens, chairman, for his address, according to the program. He exhibited some very interesting specimens of decorative work done by pupils in actual school study without access to the regular copy books.

An interesting class of study work is making blue prints of leaves and showing the peculiarities of the grain of the various woods. Such specimens mounted in passe-partout make nice adornments for the school walls.

TEACHING GEOGRAPHY.

Mr. J. Murray Wilson read a paper on "The effect of the New Regulations on the Teaching of Geography."

The features of the ordinary local forms are used as a background for the world's features of geography. Thus there is a development of the power to imagine other places from descriptions given.

Mr. H. H. Knight: "The members of the library board would be glad to get information as to how they can best deal with readers. It is difficult to get them to read the better class of books."

Mr. Rogers: "The prevalence of light literature is an argument in favor of school libraries. The government should put a label of ingredients on books as well as on patent medicine bottles."

Mr. Broderick: "Against the character of many of the books in the public libraries nothing too strong may be said. But after all the library board must provide books that the taste of the people calls for."

Mr. Knight: "The responsibility of selecting the books of the course devolves upon the inspectors, and so

trustees are empowered by law to withhold pay from teachers for these convention days if they do not attend the meetings.

LITERATURE.

After recess the convention listened to a paper on "Literature" by Mr. Duncan McDougall, of Lindsay.

This is a subject with no limits. In our schools are found those who are in a natural tendency towards the works of literature, and we find also those who have no natural liking for it.

The work of supplementary reading in the schools can at best be imperfectly carried out, but it gives the teacher an opportunity of guiding the minds of his pupils. We are reading people, and there is much literature available of a highly satisfactory character.

Light reading has a bad effect upon the mind. There is such a thing as being spellbound with a story, but when it is finished it is about or may not be the author.

Mr. McDougall gave instances to show that young people will become weaker in mind every day by pursuing a wrong course of reading, and also cases where reading bad books has led boys to worthlessness of character.

Reading gives one a preponderant advantage in the commercial world. Reading the best authors gives style in writing. Style doubles the force of whatever is written.

Miss Amy White: "The plan I have been following is to put on the board some short pieces of light literature or prose and leave it there for a week or two so that all may learn it."

Mr. Stevens referred to the prodigious memory of Lord Macaulay, which was developed by reading a page and then seeing how much could be repeated of it.

Another teacher spoke of the aesthetic value of memorizing poetry. Mr. Stevens believed in much to repeat the exact words of an author, not in a blind way.

Mr. Knight: "Is remembering happenings of years ago and forgetting recent happenings a defect of the mind?"

Mr. Stevens: "It may be a proof that the attention of a child is greater than that of a man in advanced life."

At the Friday afternoon session a paper on Memorization, read by Mr. A. A. Greenway, of Fenelon.

MEMORIZATION.

The main work of the schools is the training of the young mind. Every subject is for this purpose memorization is by which we train the relative powers.

It is useless to memorize to the text. It is useless to memorize to the meaning. Unsystematic memorization should be taken up early in the day, for the mind is more retentive when the body is not fatigued.

Mr. Knight complimented the writer of the paper, and discussed some of the questions it contained. Mr. Hickson recommended a review work on memory study.

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Mr. W. H. Stevens in the chair. As no delegates were appointed to the meeting of the Ontario Educational Association meeting, no reports were read.

OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows: president, Mr. T. C. Birchall, Cobocook; vice-president, Miss Amy White, Valencia; secretary, Mr. W. H. Stevens, Fenelon; treasurer, Mr. W. H. Stevens, Fenelon; additional secretary, Mr. W. H. Stevens, Fenelon; and Mr. A. C. Greenway, Powles' Corner.

Trustees' Section

In the absence of President E. E. Weekes, who was called to Toronto, and of Vice-President Wilson, who was absent on account of family affliction, Mr. Jos. Staples was elected to the chair, and Mr. L. V. O'Connor to act as secretary.

This subject is one of a broad nature, said Mr. O'Connor, the education of the masses is the great source of national strength. The school controls the schools, and the property of the schools as well as the education of the children is placed in control of trustees.

Mr. Smale: "I agree that the curriculum is a subject that should be so amended as to allow for winter holidays and allow for winter holidays."

Mr. O'Connor said that the rule for compulsory attendance might not be applicable to the rural schools, but it is necessary in the towns.

Mr. Trueman mentioned that a resolution was passed at the last meeting asking that the home work of pupils be lessened.

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THE BISSELL. The only Disk that does Twice the Work with Half the Cost on a horse-drawn mowing machine. T. E. BISSELL, ELORA, ONT.

THE WEEKLY SERMON

The Rich Fool

By the REV. H. ELVET LEWIS.

"And he said: 'This will I do: I will pull down my barns and build greater.' But God said, 'Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee.'—Luke xii, 15, 19.

In this parable of the Rich Fool, it is the cause of the soul against the world that the Master pleads.

He was a man considering his position. He appeared to be much exercised by his balance-sheet; he could not be a good farmer.

He flourished the one-sided statement proudly before his soul, saying, "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years."

Our besetting sin. "What shall I do?" How often has that question been the beginning of a new life!

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man or a young man that is pictured in this parable, but a man of middle age. There is no trace of the half-spiritual dreaming of youth or of the timid apprehensions of sunset years; it is all hard, sensual, matter-of-fact.

He still knew he had a soul; or can we correctly say he had a soul? It is a weird dialogue; we cannot repeat it in the searching light of this mysterious existence of ours without shivering.

God cannot be kept out of the dialog. Often had he spoken to the Rich Fool before—spoken to him in the harvest fields, spoken to him in the disturbed hours. But his voice and word had been disregarded.

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A Hair Dressing. Nearly every one likes a fine hair dressing. Something to make the hair more manageable; to keep it from being too rough, or from splitting at the ends. Something, too, that will feed the hair at the same time, a regular hair-food. Well-fed hair will be strong, and will remain where it belongs—on the head, not on the comb!

Sunshine Furnace. The "Sunshine" furnace and "sunny" ways are synonymous. The cold, dreary winter days can be made cheery and warm with a pure, healthful heat if you have a "Sunshine" furnace. Is easier to operate, cleaner, uses less fuel and "shines" in many other ways over common furnaces. Two shakers are used to shake the heavy, triangular-shaped grates. This just cuts the work of shaking-down in half, besides being easier on the furnace than the old one-shaker style. Sold by enterprising dealers everywhere. Booklet free. McCarty's KEYS & MORRISON, Sole Agents