

There were also seven Art schools in operation, with, as far as can be ascertained, about 558 pupils. In connection with and under the control of the Department of Education were 265 Mechanics' Institutes, with over 404,605 books, and about 32,603 members. Their property was valued at \$363,835, with liabilities of \$11,850. Besides these there were fifty-four free libraries with upwards of 254,091 volumes and 60,833 readers, with assets amounting to \$454,138, and liabilities \$131,057.

The second Friday in May in each year has been set apart under the name of Arbor Day, for the purpose of planting trees and improving the school grounds. In 1895, 14,130 trees were planted.

The following table gives the number of teachers receiving superannuation allowances and the amount paid to them during the years 1880-96 :

SUPERANNUATED TEACHERS, 1880-96.

YEAR.	Number of Teachers on list.	Expenditure
		\$
1880	391	48,229
1881	399	49,130
1882	422	51,000
1883	422	51,500
1884	443	54,234
1885	423	55,003
1886	440	58,791
1887	454	58,295
1888	472	58,290
1889	457	60,365
1890	463	62,105
1891	456	61,080
1892	456	63,751
1893	459	63,685
1894	442	64,046
1895	435	63,800
1896	430	62,597