

EDUCATION.

and for instructors in special subjects, such as manual training, household science, music, art, agriculture, etc., which compensates the progressive town or city school board in a large measure for the lowering of the grant payable in the larger centre.

Secondary Education.—In the development of the system of education in the province there has been a constant purpose so to arrange the school grants as to provide for an almost imperceptible transition from the elementary to the secondary grades, as well as from the secondary grades to the university. To further this purpose and to guard against any divided interests with respect to elementary and secondary education, the plan that has been adhered to from the beginning is that of having all schools in a school district, whether elementary or secondary, administered under the same local school board. Thus there are technically no high schools in the province, though the schools giving instruction in Grades I-VIII inclusive are commonly spoken of as public schools, and those giving instruction in Grades IX-XII inclusive as high schools. Upon completing the work of Grade XI, that is, the third year of the secondary or high school course, a candidate may enter on the first year of his university course, or, upon completing the work of Grade XII, he may enter upon the second year of the university course.

Training of Teachers.—Every person employed as a teacher by a school board must hold a certificate of qualification from the Department of Education. The qualifications consist of two parts—academic and professional. The academic qualification required for first class teachers is the Grade XII Alberta Diploma, or other standing admitted by the Department to be at least equivalent thereto. The academic qualification for second class teachers is the Grade XI Alberta Diploma, or its equivalent. Alberta students with the requisite academic standing, as described above, are admitted to one of the provincial normal schools to train for first or second class certificates according to the academic standing of the candidate. Teachers from the other provinces of Canada, from the United Kingdom or elsewhere, may be granted such standing as the Department finds them entitled to receive. Should the applicant be found to possess the requisite standing, both academic and professional, no further examination is demanded, but should he possess the academic without the professional training required, he is admitted to one of the normal schools to train for the grade of certificate which his academic standing will warrant. Every teacher obtaining professional standing in the province is granted an interim certificate, and is required to prove his ability in the schoolroom for at least one year before receiving a permanent certificate.

Higher Education.—An University for the province has been established at Edmonton under the provisions of the University Act (1 Geo. V., 1910, c. 7). Various colleges and professional societies in the province are affiliated to the University.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

General Organization.—The members of the Executive Council constitute a Council of Public Instruction, and the Provincial Secretary acts also as Minister of Education. A Superintendent of Education has, subject to the Council of Public Instruction, the supervision and direction of the inspectors and schools.