

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION IN CANADA.

Ontario the separate schools are in almost all cases synonymous with Roman Catholic schools, in Quebec the separate schools may be either one or the other; in local education parlance, the distinction between the two classes is not Roman Catholic and Protestant, but "commissioners' schools" and "trustees' schools." The procedure for the establishment of a separate school is similar to that of Ontario, one difference, however, being that in Quebec any number of ratepayers may give the statutory notice of dissent. If the dissentient ratepayers amount to two-thirds of those ratepayers whose religion differs from that of the majority, then all the ratepayers professing the same religion as that of those who have given the notice, and whose children do not attend the majority schools, are deemed to be dissentients and are rated accordingly. The religious training prescribed for the Roman Catholic schools consists in prayers, the teaching of the catechism, of sacred history, and of manners.

Arrangements in other Provinces.—There are no separate schools in the Atlantic provinces; they formerly existed in New Brunswick, but were abolished by the Legislature in 1871. In Manitoba separate schools were established in 1871, very soon after the creation of the province, but they were abolished by the Manitoba Legislature in 1890. In Saskatchewan and in Alberta there is provision for the establishment of separate schools by either Protestant or Roman Catholic minorities under general conditions similar to those above described.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

General Organization.—The Public Schools Act of 1877 forms the basis of the existing system of education in Prince Edward Island. Supreme control lies with the Board of Education, which consists of the members of the Executive Council, the Chief Superintendent of Education and the principal of the Prince of Wales College and Normal School. The province is divided into school districts. In urban centres these consist of the whole city or town, and for rural communities each district contains an area of about four square miles.

Local Management.—The local management for each school district is in the hands of three trustees, one of whom retires annually. In Charlottetown and Summerside there are seven trustees, four of whom are appointed by the Board of Education and three by the city council. The schools are divided into (1) primary, (2) advanced or graded and (3) first class schools, and the teachers are trained in the Normal School Department of the Prince of Wales College. The annual school meeting is held in every district on the third Tuesday in June, when moneys are voted for all school purposes, and a trustee is elected in place of the retiring member of the board. The school year consists of two teaching terms, one ending on June 30 and the other on December 31. The vacations are: six weeks beginning July 1, two weeks in October, and the last week in December. Charlottetown and Summerside arrange for their own times of vacation with the approval of the board. A majority vote at an annual meeting