

## EDUCATION

empowers trustees to take July and August as the vacation period. There are ten inspectors of schools in as many inspectorial divisions. Primary education is free and compulsory; but the regulations regarding compulsory attendance are not very rigorously enforced.

**Sources of Income.**—The schools are supported by government grants, supplemented by the local rates levied by assessments on property. There may be also a poll tax not exceeding \$1, if the ratepayers at the annual meeting so decide.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

**General Organization.**—Education in Nova Scotia is under the general administrative control of the Council of Public Instruction, which consists of the Executive Council of the province with the Superintendent of Education as Secretary. The Premier, who is also the Provincial Secretary, is practically the Minister for Education, although he presides in the Council and shares his responsibility with all the other members of the Cabinet. The Secretary of the Council of Public Instruction, as Superintendent of Education, is the chief executive officer, occupying a position virtually the equivalent of a deputy minister. An Advisory Board of Education consisting of seven members, five appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council and two elected biennially by the teachers at the regular conventions of the Provincial Educational Associations, advises the Council and the Superintendent on matters referred to it by them or otherwise coming under its jurisdiction under the statute. There are 33 boards of district commissioners, of not less than seven members each, appointed by the Council of Public Instruction—each board covering a territory averaging half a county. Their principal function now is the control of the size and boundaries of school sections, the condemning of defective schoolhouses, the appointing of trustees and the authorizing of the levy of school rates, when these are not regularly or effectively provided for. The executive officer of each board is the inspector within whose division the district lies. He is not only the clerk of the board, but the most important member of it.

**Inspection.**—There are twelve regular inspectors, whose inspectorial divisions average a county and a half. They are also the agents of the Superintendent of Education in paying the provincial aid to teachers and the municipal fund to trustees. They examine, pass and compile the statistics of the annual returns from teachers and school trustees, and are responsible for the legal administration and conduct of the schools under their jurisdiction. There is also a Director of Rural Science Education for the province; an Inspector of Mechanic Science, Domestic Science, and Technical local schools; and a special Visitor for the bilingual French (Acadian) schools.

**Elementary Schools.**—The province is further divided into school sections, each of which is a self-governing educational corporation, comprising the territory of a city, town, or a rural area approximating four miles in diameter, and electing three trustees for the local management of the schools. At the annual meeting of the school section, held on the last Monday in June—except in fishing settlements, where the Council of Public Instruction on petition of the school board fixes the