

## EDUCATION

of grade IX, X, XI, XII, or graduation from a recognized university; plus normal training, physical training under the Dominion Department of Militia, age, health and character conditions. Without normal training the teacher's minimum professional examination pass admits the candidate to a class one degree lower; and third class licenses may be granted without the physical training certificate.

**Superannuation of Teachers.**—After thirty-five years' teaching, or thirty years' if sixty years of age, teachers can retire, drawing thereafter semi-annually their respective provincial aid grants. Academic teachers can draw double the amounts of their grants or more according to their importance as measured by position and salary—no annuity to exceed \$600. Normal college teachers and inspectors can retire with annuity under somewhat similar conditions.

**Secondary Education.**—This is provided for partly by the four high school grades of the public schools (IX to XII) and partly by county academies, of which there are eighteen in the province, situated usually in the county towns. In return for an extra grant called the "Academic," the county academy admits free any pupil from the county who passes the county academy entrance examination, which is the common school-leaving examination on the standard of grade VIII. Every high school must admit pupils free from within its own school section. In 1916, out of 9,726 high school pupils, 2,057 were attending the county academies. Provincial examinations are held for the high school grades at about sixty-five stations during the last week of school term, all candidates, whether making a "pass" or not, receiving a certificate showing the proficiency of the candidate in each subject. These certificates are accepted for what they are worth for admission to the normal and other colleges and universities, not only in Nova Scotia, but by many provinces and states abroad. The relation of the secondary schools to higher institutions is practically as close as is that of the common schools to the high schools, due especially to the device of four grades of high school certificates containing estimates of proficiency in each subject. The universities and colleges of the province accept these certificates so far as they cover their respective matriculation standards in each subject.

**Manual Training, etc.**—There is a threefold system affiliated to the regular (academic) school system: "Mechanic Science"—wood, paper and iron work, mostly in the cities and towns; "Domestic Science"—cooking, laundry and other household work, mostly in the cities and towns; "Rural Science"—the elements of science and art underlying agriculture, horticulture and forestry, school gardens and home gardens under school direction. There is a Director of Rural Science Education, and the members of the staffs of the normal and agricultural colleges, at Truro, co-operate with the Dean of the Rural Science Training School in conducting a vacation course in July and August for teachers desirous of obtaining "rural science" diplomas. There is also an inspector for the Mechanic and Domestic Science schools which receive special grants.

**Miscellaneous.**—Phenological observations have for many years been conducted by the pupils of the schools under the direction of the