

EDUCATION

In urban districts each ward is represented by two trustees, or in municipalities, where there is no division into wards, six trustees are elected. The duties of the trustees as laid down by the Public Schools Act include the provision, equipment and maintenance of schools, the engagement of teachers and the preparation of financial estimates. The legal school age is from five to twenty-one years and the compulsory age of attendance is from eight to fourteen. The financial support of the schools is derived from three sources, viz., (1) the appropriation from the Legislature; (2) county rates and (3) municipal assessments.

Secondary Education.—Secondary education in Ontario is provided by continuation schools (in connection with the public and the separate schools), high schools and collegiate institutes, the latter having superior equipment and employing more teachers of higher attainments than those of the high schools. They are controlled by trustees whose duties are similar to those of the public school trustees, and they are supported financially from four different sources: (1) government grants; (2) county grants; (3) district or municipal grants and (4) fees from students. Only graduates in arts of a university within the British Dominions may hold the position of principal in these schools. In June every year a uniform examination called the "entrance examination" is held, and only those pupils who pass it, or who have been specially recommended by the teacher as fit to pass it, are admitted to a high school or collegiate institute.

Training of Teachers.—Elaborate provision is made for the training of teachers for elementary schools by means of a number of county model schools, and of seven normal schools, with model or practice schools as adjuncts, situated at Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, London, Peterborough, Stratford and North Bay. Teachers for the highest grade of certificate in the public schools, and all those in high schools and collegiate institutes, are trained at one or other of the faculties of education at Queen's (Kingston) and Toronto Universities. Every position from the lowest in the kindergarten to the highest in a collegiate institute must be filled by a trained teacher, and no permanent teaching certificate is granted to any candidate who does not possess the threefold qualifications of scholarship, a knowledge of pedagogical principles and successful practical experience. Public school teachers, except those of the lowest grade, who are trained in county model schools and whose certificates are valid only in sparsely settled districts, must have a second class certificate.

Superannuation of Teachers.—The Teachers' and Inspectors' Superannuation Act, 1917, establishes a superannuation fund to which all teachers and inspectors must contribute annually two and a half p.c. of their salaries. The Government adds a sum equal to the amount of these contributions. In the case of teachers employed by the Government, or by any board or corporation, the contributions are to be stopped out of the salaries. Every teacher or inspector retiring after forty years' service is to receive an annual allowance equal to one sixtieth of the average salary during the last ten years of employment multiplied by the number of years of employment. Those retiring after thirty years are to receive an allowance "actuarially equivalent" to the above. On retirement