

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION IN CANADA.

Foreign Travel.—The "Hands Across the Seas" Movement, organized under the auspices of the Department, enables teachers at comparatively small expense to avail themselves of the advantages of foreign travel. Already 496 teachers have taken advantage of the opportunities afforded and have visited England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Italy, Malta and Egypt. Operations were suspended after the outbreak of the war, but it is hoped to resume them when peace comes.

Consolidated School Districts.—The enlarging of the administrative unit has been chiefly by way of consolidation, and there are now seventy-two consolidated districts in Manitoba. The advantages of the system are numerous and have been frequently recapitulated. The disadvantages are due to difficulties arising out of the problem of transportation. Ten years' experience in this province has shown the scheme to be a great improvement upon the one-roomed country school.

School Gardens.—More than 525 schools were reported during the year 1916 as having school gardens worthy of the name. A special grant of \$25 per annum is paid to every teacher who does satisfactory work along this line and earns the recommendation of the local inspector.

Schools for the Deaf and Blind.—The Manitoba School for the Deaf is situated in the city of Winnipeg, and serves the whole of Western Canada in regard to the education of the deaf, the different provinces having an inter-provincial arrangement whereby each province is able to grant free education to every deaf person of school age in Western Canada. The present population is 168, divided as to sex into ninety-one males and seventy-seven females. Two methods of instruction are used, the manual and oral. Great importance is attached to the use of technical training; so that each deaf person may have a trade to make a profitable living. Blind children for Manitoba are at present cared for in the Ontario School at Brantford. There are now ten Manitoba children there. They are clothed by their parents, and the province pays board and tuition at the rate of \$150 per child for the school term.

Industrial Training School.—The Industrial Training School at Portage la Prairie gave instruction during the year 1916 to 140 boys. Of these sixty-six were admitted during the year 1916 and forty-seven released. These lads are those whom their parents have been unable properly to discipline, and an opportunity is given the boys to start work anew under more favourable auspices. Two regularly qualified teachers give instruction in ordinary school subjects, and instructors are provided in blacksmithing, shoemaking, tailoring, baking, horticulture, laundering and farming. The boys are offered every inducement to live a busy, happy life, and a short time spent in the school generally alters their whole viewpoint on life. A system of self-government has been introduced among the boys, and the discipline of the school is largely in their own hands. This system is working out very satisfactorily.

SASKATCHEWAN.

Elementary Schools.—The educational system of the province of Saskatchewan, so far as elementary schools are concerned, is administered under the provisions of the School Act. A Department of Education, presided over by a Minister of Education, has the control, management