

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION IN CANADA.

by the government grants payable on the conditions prescribed by the Secondary Education Act. As a further source of revenue to both public and high schools, grants are paid from the supplementary revenue fund in accordance with the provisions of the Supplementary Revenue Act.

Formation of School Districts.—The School Act for Saskatchewan provides for the establishment of schools wherever necessary, and any portion of the province with an area not exceeding twenty square miles may be organized into a school district, provided there are residing therein ten children of school age, and four persons, each of whom on its organization is liable to be assessed for school purposes. These schools are under the control of local bodies of trustees chosen on a popular vote. The appointment of teachers is in the hands of the trustees, and the central authority (the Education Department of the Province) issues the certificates of qualification.

Consolidated School Districts.—Provision was made in 1913 for the establishment of consolidated districts containing from thirty-six to fifty square miles for the purpose of conveying pupils to a central school. There are sixteen consolidated schools in operation, and wherever due care and judgment have been exercised by the officials the results are satisfactory. In addition to the usual school grant the Government pays an additional grant of one-third of the actual cost of conveyance.

Small Districts.—In case a small district is unable to raise sufficient taxes by reason of its limited area to operate a school, or has insufficient school population, the resident children may be conveyed to a neighbouring school at the expense of the district. In this case also the Government pays one-third of the cost of conveying the children.

School Districts Established by the Minister.—In case an unorganized area is settled by families with children of school age, the Minister may order the establishment of such area into a school district. This action is necessary only in foreign-speaking settlements where the settlers are not sufficiently acquainted with the English language to conduct organization proceedings.

Professional Training of Teachers.—There are two normal schools for the professional training of teachers. They are located at Regina and Saskatoon. In addition, local sessions of the normal school for the training of teachers for elementary schools are held during the winter months at several points in the province and are conducted by the inspectors of schools. Normal school training is considered of supreme importance, and permanent certificates are issued only to those who have received professional training in the training schools of the province or upon satisfactory evidence of equivalent training elsewhere. A reading course for teachers is regarded as part of the professional training, and permanent certificates are not issued until the regulations governing the course are complied with.

ALBERTA.

General Organization.—There is a Department of Education presided over by a Minister of Education who is assisted by a Deputy Minister as permanent administrative head.