

In the Roman Catholic schools, which are mainly French-speaking as the Protestant schools are English-speaking, the administration is in the hands of the Catholic Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, with a French Secretary. General elementary and continuation or "complementary" training is given by means of a curriculum, extending over a preparatory course of six "years" of an elementary course and two "years" of a complementary course. Some of these "years" require more than a year to complete, the work of the "eighth year" corresponding in a general way to the work of Grade X, as that work is usually understood.

Recent Developments in Education.—In recent years there has been a tendency to lengthen the period of compulsory attendance and to enforce the law. This tendency has been most marked in Ontario, where in 1919 an Act was passed providing:—(1) that children 8 to 14 must attend full time and that children from 5 to 8, once enrolled, must attend full time to the end of the school term for which they are enrolled; (2) that adolescents from 14 to 16 who have not attained university matriculation standing must attend full time; those exempted owing to circumstances requiring them to go to work must attend part-time classes during the working day for 400 hours a year in municipalities providing part-time courses, which all municipalities of 5,000 population and upwards must do from September, 1922, smaller municipalities having an option in the matter. Further, those who had not attended full time up to 16 were required, after September, 1923, to attend 320 hours a year of part-time courses up to age 18. In other words, an Ontario adolescent has the alternative of full-time attendance to 16 or full-time attendance to 14 plus part-time attendance to 18. The operation of this Act has greatly increased the attendance in Ontario secondary schools.

Further, as a result of the keeping of children in school to a more advanced age, increasing attention has naturally been devoted to technical education of various kinds, especially as required by those students who are not adapted to higher intellectual work. The number taking technical training of some kind or other is rapidly increasing. Details are given in sub-section II of this section, dealing with "Vocational and Technical Education"

Statistics of General Education.—The statistical tables on education in Canada commence with a statistical summary (Table 1), which shows that in the academic year ended in 1926 there were 2,272,415 pupils in attendance at educational institutions in Canada, or 24.2 p.c. of the estimated 1926 population. Of the above, 1,998,579 were enrolled in ordinary day schools under public control, the average daily attendance numbering about 1,500,000. Those attending vocational schools—agricultural, commercial, industrial and other technical schools—numbered 96,655. There were 17,818 students in private business colleges, and 70,959 in other private schools under college grade. University students in regular courses numbered 21,327 and college students in regular courses 6,301. Students in classical colleges numbered 9,904.

There were, in 1926, 63,840 teachers in schools under public control, 12,069 males and 51,771 females. The total expenditure on schools under public control was \$122,701,259, of which governments contributed \$16,860,596 and local taxation most of the balance.

The balance of this section of the Year Book is divided into four sub-sections dealing respectively with elementary and secondary education, vocational and technical education, higher education and miscellaneous education activities. More detailed statistics are published annually in the "Annual Survey of Education in Canada" prepared in the Education Statistics Branch of the Bureau. Copies may be obtained from the Dominion Statistician.