

Education Act most of the Ontario cities, and several of the towns and villages, manage their public elementary schools and their high schools by means of one Board.

In Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta the local authorities may be divided on denominational lines, the religious minority (Roman Catholic or Protestant, the latter term in practice including all who are not Roman Catholics) electing a separate Board. In Quebec, and in a few cases in Alberta, this separation applies to both elementary and secondary schools, but in Ontario and Saskatchewan, and for the majority of cases in Alberta, it is confined to the elementary schools. In Quebec the schools are generally known as "Catholic" and "Protestant". In Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta the schools of the separating minority are known as "separate schools" and the schools of the majority as "public schools". Most of the dissentient or minority schools of Quebec are Protestant, and with few exceptions the separate schools of Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta are Roman Catholic.

The local school authorities are most commonly called *trustees*. In the province of Quebec, however, *trustees* is the name applied to the managing authority of the minority schools whether Protestant or Catholic, while the members of the local governing body of the schools of the majority are referred to as *commissioners*. The only other exception is in Nova Scotia where the term *commissioners* is used in cities and incorporated towns.

In most of the provinces the members of the Local School Boards are elected by vote. Exceptions to this rule are found in the cities and incorporated towns in the Maritime Provinces, the cities of Montreal and Quebec, and in the high school districts of Ontario. The School Boards in the cities and incorporated towns in the Maritimes, and in the cities of Montreal and Quebec are appointed in part by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, and in part by the Council of the city or town. In the high school districts of Ontario the trustees are appointed by the Council of the municipality in which the district is situated, and in some cases the Public and Separate School Boards within the high school district each appoint a member to the High School Board.

According to the latest figures issued by the provincial Departments of Education there were approximately 23,500 School Boards operating schools in Canada. In Quebec and British Columbia, where there are rural administrative units of municipal size, there is a much smaller number of Boards than in other provinces of equal population.

**School Organization.**—The complete course in the provincial schools, elementary and continuation or secondary, consists of 12 or 13 grades, each requiring one year for the average child to complete. The final year has in the past been equivalent of the first year at university, but some universities are now demanding that students complete it before being admitted. The first seven or eight years have in the past been considered elementary, the remaining years secondary or high school, and this is still the most common arrangement. But a junior high or intermediate school is being introduced in several provinces, usually occupying pupils for three years, the seventh to ninth.

It is only in the larger towns and cities that elementary and secondary schools occupy separate buildings. Secondary work is taught in schools of all sizes, often in one-room schools, sometimes with the assistance of lessons by correspondence from the Departments of Education. The schools that are considered as secondary in French Quebec, the classical colleges, are conducted by religious communities, not elected Boards, and are not supported by local taxation. As they carry students through to the *baccalaureate* they are included in the university tables of this chapter.