

enrolment in teacher-training institutions. While the other provinces do not show any improvement in the past year in statutory minimum salaries, they do indicate a general increase in their estimates of median salaries in rural schools.

Many School Boards in Canada have revised their salary scales during the past year, paying increased salaries or cost-of-living bonuses. Outside of the Maritime Provinces, whose schools are largely rural, this is not reflected as yet in any change in statutory minimum salaries authorized by the provinces. As a result, the teacher who begins his professional career in the rural school or, as is often the case, continues to teach in such a community, is generally unaffected by improvement in conditions of urban teachers. For example, the secondary teacher supply situation, which is largely urban, showed a marked improvement in 1947. The shortage of secondary teachers was 198 as compared with 400 in 1946. There were 2,319 secondary trainees enrolled in teacher-training institutions in 1947 against an annual enrolment required of 1,515.

In 1947 both Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan adopted salary scales which showed substantial increases and were related to the experience and the class of certificate of the teacher.

Among the steps taken by various Provincial Departments of Education to meet the present teacher shortage, in addition to encouraging increased salaries, have been loans without interest to Normal School students, provision of scholarships, the issuing of permissive or provisional licences, accelerated teacher-training courses or special emergency training classes, the closing of some schools and the transportation of the pupils to schools in an adjacent area, and some increase in the use of correspondence courses. Arrangements have been made for giving greater supervision and teaching assistance to teachers who temporarily lack full qualifications.

Employment of Teachers—

In September, 1947, the Canadian Education Association appointed a Committee to study and report on the status of the teaching profession. The report was presented at the Winnipeg meeting of the Association in September, 1948. The Committee, using the questionnaire method with sample groups in each province, obtained from a cross-section of those in education and industry views regarding teachers and the teaching profession. Of the 4,920 questionnaires distributed, 60 p.c. were returned, with general agreement that: (1) salaries and pensions for teachers must be increased substantially; (2) living and working conditions as they affect housing, school plant, school equipment, class load and other factors must be improved; (3) those accepted as candidates for the teaching profession must have a higher standard of general education, acceptable character and personality traits and above-average intelligence; (4) assistance should be given selected trainees by means of scholarships and other financial aid. A Committee was appointed to initiate a program of action designed to carry out the recommendations of the report.

Other Trends.—Increased emphasis is being laid throughout Canada on Audio-Visual Aids in education. This is shown by the purchase of projectors, films and radio receiving sets by school units, and central provincial libraries. Audio-visual aids courses were held in both Toronto and Victoria in the summer of 1947 with special attention being given to selection, evaluation and utilization techniques. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, as well as a number of