

local school boards which were denominational. This Committee, however, was not in close contact with the problems of the Department and proved to be ineffectual.

In 1939 the Education Act was again amended bringing back a Departmental organization similar to that existing prior to the changes made in 1935. It established a Council of Education with a Commissioner and Secretary, three Assistant Secretaries (now known as Executive Officers) and a member of the Salvation Army, each officially representing one of the large religious groups of the country. The Salvation Army representative has since become the fourth Executive Officer in the Department. The 1939 establishment is still operative but in 1944 three Assistant Executive Officers were appointed, and in 1946 an Assistant Secretary was added to headquarters staff.

The Council of Education is responsible for educational policy, subject to the approval of the Minister, and the Executive Officers who, outside of the Council, are regular civil servants, carry out, under the supervision of the Secretary, the Council's policies affecting their respective denominations. In effect the Executive Officers are denominational directors of elementary and secondary education. Since Apr. 1, 1949, when Newfoundland became the tenth province of Canada, the Minister of Education has taken the place of the Commissioner and the title of the permanent head of the Department has been changed from Secretary to Deputy Minister.

**Elementary and Secondary Education.**—In order to have a correct perspective with regard to the denominational system of education functioning on the elementary and secondary school level in Newfoundland, it is necessary to realize that the country was served by church schools for at least 100 years before the State took any part in public education. Furthermore, the population, which is spread out in a thin ribbon along 6,000 miles of coast line, is to a great extent still distributed denominationally. A survey made in 1944 by the supervising inspectors showed that less than 15 p.c. of the settlements were affected by a duplication or multiplication of school services, and that approximately one-half of the 36 p.c. of the population affected was located in the larger settlements, such as St. John's, Grand Falls and Corner Brook, where a number of schools would be necessary whatever the system.

In Newfoundland there is really but one system of education operating through a number of branches. All schools follow the same curriculum. All secular teachers follow the same education courses. Certification of teachers is uniform. Except for religious instruction and basic readers, all schools follow the same prescribed textbooks. The same policy of supervision is carried out in all schools.

The following statement gives summary education statistics for the year ended June 30, 1948:—

Population.....	No.	320,000	Median salary paid teachers.....	\$	981.32
Enrolment in schools.....	"	72,940	Compulsory school age.....	yr.	7 to 14 <sup>1</sup>
School districts.....	"	250	Appropriation for all educational services (1947-48).....	\$	3,662,959
Schools.....	"	1,200	Appropriation for elementary and secondary education services.....	\$	3,367,011
One-room schools.....	"	796	Per capita Government expenditure on education (all services).....	\$	11.45
Classrooms.....	"	2,240	Per capita Government expenditure, elementary and secondary education	\$	10.52
Supervising inspectors.....	"	22	Per pupil Government expenditure, elementary and secondary education	\$	46.16
Total teachers.....	"	2,278			
Uncertificated teachers.....	"	393			
Teaching days required in school year.....	"	190			
Average attendance.....	p.c.	76.4			

<sup>1</sup> A child reaching his 14th birthday during a school year must remain in school for that year.