

The schools of Newfoundland operate on an eight plus three plan, eight grades for primary and elementary education and three for high school. Pupils completing the high school course may obtain a school-leaving Grade XI diploma or a Junior Matriculation diploma. To obtain the former a pupil must pass in English and any other four subjects from a list of about 13 subjects. To matriculate the candidate must pass in English, history, mathematics, a foreign language, a science and one other subject, gaining not less than 50 p.c. in each subject.

Council of Higher Education.—Newfoundland's external examinations are conducted by a body corporate established in 1892 and known as the Council of Higher Education. At the present time this body conducts external examinations in Grades IX, X and XI. The Council has been a member of the Common Examining Board of the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland from the inception of that Board's operations in 1932. A small number of Newfoundland schools take the Nova Scotia Grade XII examinations. The Council's Junior Matriculation diploma qualifies Newfoundland students for admission to the first year of most Canadian universities as well as to the first year of the Newfoundland Memorial University College.

Memorial University College.—The Memorial University College was founded in 1925. It is recognized by such institutions of higher learning as Dalhousie, McGill, Toronto, Harvard and Columbia. The College has established a reputation for maintaining high standards of scholarship. It offers the following courses: two years of arts and science; two years pre-medical; a four-year education course (only three years given at present); a three-year pre-engineering course; and a two-year course in household science. There is a growing demand that the institution be granted a charter and become a full degree-conferring university.*

Adult and Visual Education.—One of the major divisions of the Department of Education is that of Adult and Visual Education. Adult education is broadly conceived and takes many forms. It combats illiteracy and organizes study groups and women's clubs for the purpose of encouraging enlightened civic and self-interest among the people. It carries on regular night classes for adults whose scholastic requirements vary from Grade I to Grade XI. The work of adult education has been greatly handicapped in recent years because of lack of trained field workers, but certain activities have prospered in spite of all difficulties. This is particularly true of the Adult Centre at St. John's.

Visual education has advanced considerably in recent years. The demand for films and film strips is very high. Unfortunately communications throughout the country are too meagre to allow more than a superficial distribution to coastal settlements. However, in the past three years 60 schools have been equipped with projectors and the Division library contains some 1,400 films and 5,000 strips.

Government expenditure on the adult and visual education services for the year ended Mar. 31, 1948, amounted to \$83,227.

National Handicrafts.—The Division of National Handicrafts is administered by the Department of Education. The Handicraft Centre, located at St. John's, serves the whole Island by promoting an interest in handicrafts as a cultural and economic asset to the people and to the country. Young people from the outports are trained in such skills as woodworking, wood carving, leather craft, pottery, rug designing and hooking, stone polishing, weaving, dressmaking and cooking,

* Since the above was written full degree-conferring powers were granted by the Charter conferred by the first session of the Provincial House of Assembly, July, 1949.