

NIGHT SCHOOLS.

YEAR.	Number of Night Schools.	Teachers.	Number of Pupils.	Average Attendance.
1891.....	36	76	2,930	686
1892.....	32	63	2,293	506
1893.....	28	65	2,062	522
1894.....	25	54	1,937	444
1895.....	31	56	2,130	443
1896.....	21	41	1,349	329

There were also seven Art schools in operation, with, as far as can be ascertained, about 566 pupils. In connection with, and under the control of the Department of Education were 245 Mechanics' Institutes, with over 419,576 books, and about 30,771 members. Their property was valued at \$368,339, with liabilities of \$13,603. Besides these there were 78 free libraries, with upwards of 308,236 volumes and 68,262 readers, with assets amounting to \$476,353, and liabilities \$126,163.

The second Friday in May in each year has been set apart under the name of Arbor Day, for the purpose of planting trees and improving the school grounds. In 1896, 15,337 trees were planted.

The following table gives the number of teachers receiving superannuation allowances and the amount paid to them during the years 1880-96:—

SUPERANNUATED TEACHERS, 1880-96

YEAR.	Number of Teachers on list.	Expenditure
		\$
1880.....	391	48,229
1881.....	399	49,130
1882.....	422	51,000
1883.....	422	51,500
1884.....	443	54,234
1885.....	423	55,003
1886.....	440	58,791
1887.....	454	58,295
1888.....	472	58,290
1889.....	457	60,365
1890.....	463	62,105
1891.....	456	61,080
1892.....	456	63,751
1893.....	459	63,685
1894.....	442	64,046
1895.....	435	63,800
1896.....	430	62,597