

EDUCATION IN NOVA SCOTIA.

high school grades and the B.A. or B.Sc. from a recognized university, plus Normal College training and a Dominion physical training certificate, with corresponding ages and good health and character, form respectively the approximate standards of the five classes of teachers, D, C, B, A and Academic.

Secondary Education.—This is provided for partly by the four high school grades of the public schools (IX to XII) and partly by county academies, of which there are 18 in the province, situated usually in the county towns. In return for an extra grant called the "Academic," the county academy admits free any pupil from the county who passes the county academy entrance examination, which is the common school-leaving examination on the standard of Grade VIII. Every high school must admit pupils free from within its own school section. In 1913, out of 8,638 high school pupils, 2,029 were attending the county academies. Provincial examinations are held for the high school grades at about 60 stations during the last week of school term, all candidates, whether making a "pass" or not, receiving a certificate showing the proficiency of the candidate in each subject. These certificates are accepted for what they are worth for admission to the normal and other colleges and universities, not only in Nova Scotia but by many provinces and states abroad. The relation of the secondary schools to higher institutions is practically as close as is that of the common schools to the high schools, due especially to the device of four grades of high school certificates containing estimates of proficiency in each subject. The universities and colleges of the province accept these certificates so far as they cover their respective matriculation standards in each subject.

Higher Education.—The universities and colleges having degree-conferring powers are eight in number, mostly with denominational affiliations. The largest had in 1914 an enrolment of 417, and of all eight the enrolment was 1,084. They are independent of the Education Department, but have affiliated to them first the Technical College and secondly the teachers' examination system, graduation from a recognised university—a four years' course following a matriculation standard approximating the high school grade XII pass—being accepted in lieu of some departmental examinations.

Religious Instruction.—No form of religious instruction is provided for the schools, the regulation of this matter being left to the local trustees. While, however, the law sanctions no special denominational teaching, it does instruct the teacher to inculcate by precept and example a respect for religion and the principles of Christian morality, and it prevents the forcing of any kind of religious exercises upon those formally protesting against them.

Manual Training and Technical Instruction.—A free manual training system is articulated with the public school system of twelve years' work. It is subdivided into three kinds, known respectively as (1) mechanic science, (2) domestic science and (3) rural science. The first two are most effectively developed in the cities and towns, the last in the country. The Normal and Agricultural Colleges in Truro co-operate in supporting a Rural Science Training School for teachers. The College of Agriculture at Truro had 102 students in its regular course,