

Secondary education may extend over a period of four or five years. Courses and subjects of study are diversified. A student may choose the academic course leading to university entrance or select courses or subjects preparing for employment in agriculture, commerce or industry. A student may pass from secondary school into commerce or industry at any time during this period provided he or she is beyond the age of compulsory school attendance.

Further education is available to the high-school graduate through teacher-training courses of one or two years for elementary school teachers; specialized technical training extending up to two years in a technical institute—there is at least one such institute in almost every province; nurse-training school where training extends over three years; or university. University courses are available in arts, commerce, science, education, philosophy, medicine, theology, etc. Graduation with a first degree (B.A., B.Sc., etc.) requires three to four years, medicine requires six years and theology seven years. Post-graduate courses require another two or more years.

**The French Tradition.**—The Quebec Department of Public Instruction is represented in the Cabinet by the Provincial Secretary. Although the Superintendent of Public Instruction is the head of the Department, a Roman Catholic Committee and a Protestant Committee, in charge of the education of Roman Catholics and Protestants, respectively, constitute the Council of Education which formulates policy and superintends the administration of all educational matters. The Council, however, has no authority over many special and technical schools that come directly under various government departments. The Protestant schools follow the English tradition already described; the Roman Catholic schools follow the French tradition.

From the very beginning boys are separated from girls. Both sexes follow through the Primary Grades, I to VII. The girls may then take the Complementary Grades, VIII and IX, and thence enter a regional household science school, begin a four-year course in teacher-training school or enter a superior school where a two-year course leads to a school of fine arts, a commercial course or a nurse-training course.

At the end of the sixth year a boy may enter a classical college for an eight-year course ending with a baccalaureate degree, which is prerequisite for entrance to a professional course in university, or he may continue on to the end of the primary course and then spend two years in the complementary course. From this point he may enter a technical school or any one of four sections of the two-year superior course—commercial, scientific, agriculture, technical or pre-teacher-training school. The latter leads to entrance to a teacher-training school, the others lead to specialized schools and advanced courses in technical schools or, after another year of preparatory work, to the higher schools of applied science, commerce and agriculture affiliated with the universities.

The boy who neither enters the classical college nor goes on to the complementary course may go directly from the primary course to a trade school or one of the regional agriculture schools. These schools offer two-year terminal courses.