

and has drawn upon the information possessed by these officials respecting the schools under their supervision. From the knowledge thus gained, a policy has been put in operation which will, it is hoped, if continued for a few years, place the educational facilities of the new districts on a better basis. The creditable zeal shown by the settlers to give their children the benefit of a good practical education will be stimulated by the Department in every reasonable way. Some of the steps already taken in behalf of the school system in the new districts may be here briefly summarized:

A Normal School of special character is being erected in North Bay to train teachers for the schools of the northern districts.

A special grant has been made toward the establishment of a technical school at Sault Ste. Marie, which is an important industrial centre.

Grants are being made, where absolutely necessary, toward the cost of building new schools in places where the settlers are shown to be unable to bear the whole expense themselves.

An increased sum is being voted to establish night schools in such places and under such conditions as the Inspectors recommend.

A sum is being paid toward the cost of holding Teachers' Institutes, with a view to encouraging this important factor in educational progress.

Increased grants will be made this year toward the consolidation of schools, to aid in providing means for the conveyance of pupils to central points.

The total grants paid to the schools of the districts have also been largely increased, as will be seen from the following table:

	Grants in 1904	Grants in 1907	Increase
Algoma.....	\$ 7,898	\$13,324	\$ 5,426
Muskoka.....	10,175	14,851	4,679
Manitoulin.....	5,620	9,787	4,167
Nipissing.....	7,683	17,757	10,074
Parry Sound.....	10,915	16,840	5,925
Rainy River and Thunder Bay....	4,981	9,953	4,971
Temiscaming.....	630	1,110	480
Total.....	\$17,902	\$83,625	\$35,722