

applied towards the expenses of the establishment, teaching or maintenance of such preparatory school, class or classes ;

(c.) No additional local assessment for High School or Collegiate Institute purposes shall be applied towards such expenses without the consent of the Council of the Municipality in which the High School or Collegiate Institute is situated.

Admission of High School Pupils.—The Chairman of the High and Public School Boards, the Public School Inspector and the High School Master constitute the new Board for the admission of pupils to High Schools. The Inspector is the responsible party, and to him all papers are sent. He makes the report and certifies the return, &c.

New High Schools.—Hereafter no new High School can be established, or an old one discontinued, except by by-law passed at or before the June session of the County Council, and then only when such by-law is favourably reported on by the Chief Superintendent to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, for his allowance or disallowance.

Miscellaneous High School Matters.—Provision is fully made in the new Act for the formation of High School Districts in towns separated, for the appointment of trustees, admission of non-resident pupils, and the status of High and Public School Boards already established. None can be united after the 1st of next July.

3. PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

School Section Boundaries.—Provision is made that these boundaries cannot be altered after the 1st of May in any year, so as to allow ample time to appeal to the County Council, if necessary, against such alteration. The facilities for this appeal are greatly increased, as will be seen by the following extract :—

“The majority of the trustees, or any five rate-payers, of one or more school sections, shall have the right of appeal or complaint to their county council against any by-law or resolution passed at any time previously by their township council for the formation or alteration of their school section or school sections, or against the neglect or refusal of the township council, on application being made to it by the trustees or inspector, to form or alter the boundaries of the school section or school sections ; and the county council shall appoint a committee of not more than five, or less than three, competent persons (two of whom shall be the County Judge and a County Inspector), and a majority of whom shall form a quorum, to investigate the matter of the appeal or complaint, and to revise and alter the boundaries of the school section or school sections, so far as to settle the matters complained of.

“(a.) No person shall be competent to act on the committee who was or is a member of the township council which passed the by-law or resolution complained of.

“(b.) The alterations made in the boundaries of any school section or school sections by such committee shall not take effect before the twenty-fifth day of December of the year in which the alterations are made (and of which alterations due notice shall be given by the inspector to the clerk of the township and to the trustees of the school sections concerned).”

Union School Section and Division Boundaries.—The new law provides that hereafter “every alteration in the boundaries of a union school section or division shall, (under the restrictions imposed by law as to notices, &c.) be made :

“(a.) In the case of the townships, by the reeves or deputy reeves of the townships and the inspector of the county or counties ;

“(b.) In the case of towns and villages, by the reeves or deputy reeves, the county inspector or inspectors, and a person appointed by the Public School Board as its representative for this purpose ;

“(c.) The alteration is to be made by a majority of the said persons who may be present at a lawful meeting called for that purpose.”

Town and Village School Boundaries.—The law on this subject is made clearer than formerly, as follows :—“The school boundaries of a school section or other division existing at the time of the passage of a by-law incorporating it as a village or town municipality, shall continue in force, notwithstanding its incorporation, until such boundaries are altered under the authority of the school laws” (as above).

Status of Union School Sections and Divisions.—As to the status of these two classes of Union School Divisions, the law declares that “Every union school section or division, composed of portions of adjoining townships or portions of a township or townships, and a town or incorporated village, shall, for the purposes of the election of trustees, be deemed one school section or division, and shall be considered in respect to inspection and taxation for school purposes, as belonging to the township, town or village in which the school house is situated.”

Equalization of Union School Section Assessments.—This matter is

provided for as follows :—“It shall be the duty of the mayor, reeve, or deputy reeve of the municipality concerned, and of the county inspector, annually to equalize the assessment of union school sections or divisions.”

It provides further, “that any portion of a county assessment for school purposes, which may be raised within any town or village school division, shall be paid over by the county treasurer to the order of the board of trustees for such school division.”

School Section Loans.—The new law is more clear and explicit on this subject. It provides that “Any township council may by by-law grant to the trustees of any school section (on the application of the said trustees) authority to borrow such sums of money as the trustees may deem necessary for the purchase of school sites, for the erection or repair of school-houses and their appendages, or for the purchase or erection of a teacher’s residence ; and in the by-law the township council shall provide for the issue of a debenture or debentures, in the form given in schedule A of this Act, for the amount of the loan, and shall cause to be believed in each year, upon the taxable property of the section, a sum sufficient to pay the interest on the amount borrowed ; and also a sum sufficient to pay off the principal during any period not exceeding ten years, as may be agreed upon by the trustees and the lender of the money.”

The following important proviso has been added :—“That the taxable property situated in any school section or division at the time when such loan was effected shall continue to be liable for the rate which may be levied by the township council for the repayment of the loan, notwithstanding any alteration which may be made in the boundaries of such section or division ; and such rate may be collected by the township council, by distress and sale of goods and chattels, or by suit in the Division Court.”

Procuring School Sites.—The provisions of the new law in regard to school sites are now quite sufficient for all practical purposes. They embrace facilities for obtaining sites on mortgaged land, or on land owned by persons under disability, unknown, &c. In regard to enlarging school sites, the new law declares that the Act of 1871 “shall not be held to restrict trustees in the enlargement of a school site existing at the passing of this Act to the required dimensions” of an acre, or not less than half an acre. But it very properly provides “that no such enlargement shall be made in the direction of the orchard, garden, or dwelling-house, without the consent of the owner of the land required, unless the school site cannot be otherwise enlarged ; nor shall it, without the consent of such owner, include any part of his garden, orchard or grounds attached to his dwelling-house.”

Selecting School Sites—Arbitration.—The new law has made a wise change in regard to arbitration for the selection of school sites in case the trustees and ratepayers disagree. Formerly the arbitrators were authorized “to finally decide the matter ;” but now their powers are more clearly defined, as follows :—The “three arbitrators named in the Act, or a majority of them present at any lawful meeting, shall have authority to make and publish an award upon the matter or matters submitted to them.” This award may however be reconsidered as follows :—“With the consent or at the request of the parties to the reference, the arbitrators, or a majority of them, shall have authority within three months from the date of their award, to reconsider such award and make and publish a second award, which award (or the previous one, if not reconsidered by the arbitrators) shall be binding upon all parties concerned, for at least one year from the date thereof.”

Compulsory Education.—The new and important provisions of the law on this subject make it “the duty of the trustees of every public school :

“(1.) To ascertain before the thirty-first day of December in every year, through the assessor, collector, or some other person to be appointed for that purpose, and paid by them, the names, ages and residences of all the children of school age in their school section, division or municipality, as the case may be—distinguishing those children between the ages of seven and twelve years inclusive—who have not attended any school (or who have not been otherwise educated) for four months of the year, as required by law ;

“(2.) To notify personally, or by letter or otherwise, the parents or guardians of such children of the neglect or violation on their part of the provisions of the law ;

“(3.) To impose a rate-bill on such parents or guardians as continue to neglect or violate the provisions of the said law, not exceeding one dollar per month for each of their children not attending school, or to make complaint of such neglect or violation to a magistrate having jurisdiction in such cases, as provided by law, and to deliver to said magistrate a statement of the names and residence of the parents or guardians of such children.”

Non-resident Pupils.—An alteration has been made in the pro-