

absence and irregular attendance of pupils is thereby inflicted upon the Teacher, while the pecuniary rewards consequent upon a large and regular attendance of pupils at school are diverted from the people to the Teacher. These results clearly tend to prevent the growth and development of a sentiment of responsibility and interest among all the inhabitants of each Section, and thus measurably defeat the object of the whole system—the education of every child in the Province.

REG. 1. All contracts and agreements between Trustees and Teachers must be in writing. The rate of pay to be received by the Teacher from the Trustees must be a fixed and definite sum or stipend, and must be distinctly named in the agreement. The amount which the Trustees may become entitled to receive from the fund raised by County assessment being necessarily uncertain and unknown at the date of such agreement, it shall not be lawful for the Teacher to agree to receive such unknown and uncertain sum as a portion, or the whole, of his or her remuneration from the Trustees.

REG. 2. The grant payable to the Teacher from the Provincial Treasury shall be independent of, and in addition to, the sum or rate specified in the agreement with the Trustees.

REG. 3. FORM OF AGREEMENT :

Memorandum of Agreement made and entered into the..... day of..... A. D., 18 , between (name of teacher) a duly licensed teacher of the.....class of the one part, and (names of trustees) Trustees of School Section No.....in the district of..... of the second part.

The said (name of teacher) on his (or her) part, in consideration of the below mentioned agreements by the parties of the second part, hereby covenants and agrees with the said (names of trustees) Trustees as aforesaid and their successors in office, diligently and faithfully to teach a public school in the said section under the authority of the said Trustees and their successors in office, during the School Year (or Term) ending on the 31st day of October next, (or the thirtieth day of April, as the case may be.)

And the said Trustees and their successors in office on their part covenant and agree with the said (name of teacher) Teacher as aforesaid, to pay the said (name of teacher) out of the School Funds under their control, at the rate of.....dollars for the School Year (or Term.)

And it is further mutually agreed that both parties to this agreement shall be in all respects subject to the provisions of the School Law and the Regulations made under its authority by the Council of Public Instruction.

In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have hereto subscribed their names on the day and year first above written.

Witness, [Name of Witness.] [Name of Teacher.] [Names of Trustees.]

REG. 4. Each Inspector, at his inspection of every school, shall examine the agreement between the Trustees and Teacher, or a true copy thereof, and shall faithfully report all cases of illegal agreement.

COMMENT.

The law makes provision for the employment of Assistant Teachers. These, of course, will not expect so much remuneration as Teachers upon whom is devolved the management of schools in departments. Trustees are empowered to employ any qualified person as an assistant, but those only who hold licenses received after due examination on the prescribed syllabus, and who teach at least four hours daily, in a class-room separate from the Teacher's school-room, can receive provincial aid from the Superintendent. It may frequently occur that some advanced pupil in the section would render valuable aid in the capacity of an assistant during a portion of the day, and Trustees are empowered by the Law to employ such if they desire, even though he or she may not have a license. Such assistant, however, cannot receive provincial aid.

REG. 5. The grants payable to Teachers from the Provincial Treasury shall be paid by the Superintendent of Education, through the Inspectors of Schools.

REG. 6. A full list of the payments so made shall be published each half-year in the *Journal of Education*.

SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

COMMENTS :

In reference to the site of a school-house, care should be taken to see that it is in a situation of readiest accessibility to the majority of the population of the section ; that it is located from 15 to 50 yards from the public highway ; that it is removed from poisonous influences of stagnant pools and low-lying swampy grounds ; from the clatter of the mill or factory, and the noise of a railroad station or tavern ; that it has a dry airy position, (with a gentle slope and southern exposure, if possible) and commands

as attractive and extensive a prospect as natural facilities will permit.

The amount of land set apart for school purposes should not, in the country, be less than half an acre ;\* in thickly peopled localities, not less than a quarter; and in towns, not less than one-eighth of an acre. The form of school grounds should be rectangular, the length (extending north and south if possible) bearing the ratio to the breadth 4 to 2. If an acre can be obtained, it should be about 8 rods wide by 20 rods long ; but if suitable land can be procured, the length should be increased, in order to furnish longer play-grounds. Six or seven rods [according to the size of the house] will generally be found wide enough.

Plans of school-houses have been issued by the Council, and the requirements of the law are so explicit as to be a sufficient guide to each Board of Trustees in deciding on the character of the house or houses required for their Section.

As to the size and commodiousness of school-houses, provision should be made for one-quarter of the population of the section ; and whatever that number may be, the school-house should be of such capacity as to furnish to each scholar at least 150 cubic feet of pure atmospheric air, or seven square feet of floor, with the ceiling from 13 to 16 feet high.

If there is any house in the district more pleasantly located, more comfortably situated, better warmed, more inviting in its general appearance, and more elevating in its influence than another, that house should be the school-house."—Cousin. With these sentiments the Council of Public Instruction fully sympathises. That every facility may be had by the people for the realization of those views, the law provides that the school meeting may vote any sum necessary for school lands and buildings, and that such sum shall be levied by an equal rate upon the rate-payers resident in the section. The sum required may be spread over several years, not exceeding five, and collected in equal yearly instalments, with any interest accruing.

The best arrangement for seating is that of single or double desks in parallel rows with sufficient width between. By this plan the teacher is enabled to have his eye upon every pupil, and every pupil, without changing his position, to give direct attention to the teacher. According to this method, and allowing for the length either 6 or 8 feet for entrance hall, 4 to 5 feet for teacher's platform, 4 to 5 feet between the platform and the desks, and 2 feet 6 or 9 inches (according to the size of pupils) for each desk and seat together ; and allowing 2 feet for the aisles, from 3 feet to 4 feet in graded schools for each desk, and at least 2 feet for divisions between rows of desks, the following dimensions will furnish accommodation for the number of scholars prefixed :

Plans	24 Pupils,	26 x 21 clear,	6 feet hall,	3 rows of desks.
No. 1.	30	29 x 21	" "	" "
No. 2.	36	32 x 21	" "	" "
No. 3.	46	35 x 26	8 feet hall,	with single desks at sides, and rows of graded desks in centre.
No. 3.	56	40 x 27	clear,	with class room.

Add 2 feet 9 inches to the length for every additional row of desks. Where the number of scholars amounts to upwards of fifty, there must be a class-room attached.

The patent desk has the seats separate from each other and from the desk, while both seats and desk are supported by light iron castings screwed to the floor. This desk is now manufactured in the Province, at a price within the ability of a large number of our schools. It is hoped that every section possessing the means will ere long have its school supplied with these desks. Benches do not afford the necessary support to the body and are not adapted to an efficient organization of the school.

The desks and seats in every school should be graded, and no desk should seat more than two pupils.

Sections furnishing their schools with patent desks (double) will find the following table of service in adapting the size of desks to the pupils, &c. :

Age of Pupils.	Height of Chairs.	DESKS.			Space between desks for Chairs.
		Height of side next to Pupil.	Length.	Width.	
5 to 6 years	11 inches	21 inches	36 inches	12 inches	14 inches
6 to 8 "	12 "	22 "	39 "	13 "	15 "
8 to 10 "	13 "	23 "	42 "	13½ "	15½ "
10 to 12 "	14 "	24½ "	44 "	14 "	16 "
12 to 14 "	15 "	26 "	46 "	14½ "	16½ "
14 to 17 "	16 "	27½ "	48 "	15 "	17 "
17 years	17 "	29 "	48 "	16 "	17 "

\*The Council strongly recommends large areas, so that there may be ample room for play-grounds.