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THE ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETINGS, 8th JANUARY.

As the time for the annual meetings in the various School Sections and Municipalities is near at hand, we append a summary of the law on the subject, taken from the "School Law Lectures to Normal School Students," by Dr. HODGINS, with a few general remarks.

IN RURAL SCHOOL SECTIONS.

1. *Day.*—The day fixed by Statute for the Annual School Meetings throughout the Province is the Second Wednesday of January, which this year falls on the 8th, and the hour at ten o'clock in the forenoon. The proceedings cannot close before eleven o'clock, nor be kept open after four o'clock, P.M., of that day. They cannot stand over to the following day nor be adjourned, nor fail, should only two electors and two trustees be present. (See next section.)

2.—Public Notice of Meeting must be given by Trustees.

Three public notices, to be posted in as many conspicuous places in the school section, should be issued at least six clear days before the day of meeting, and signed by the secretary (by direction of the trustees), or by a majority of the trustees themselves. The corporate seal need not be attached to them. These notices should state the *time, place* of meeting, and all the business to be brought forward. Should the meeting fail to be held for want of notice or other cause, any two rate-payers, or the inspector, may call a school meeting within twenty days after the 14th of January.

3.—Who are, and who are not School Electors of a Section.

Every school rate-payer of the section, whether resident or

non-resident, female or minor, who has paid a county, township, or section school tax, during the year, and who is not a supporter of a separate school, has a right to be present and vote at a school meeting.

4.—Declaration of School Section Elector's Right to Vote.

In case any one objects to an elector's right to vote, the chairman should require the elector to make a declaration of that right in the following form (on doing so his vote must be received without further question):—

"I do declare and affirm that I have been rated on the assessment roll of this school section as a freeholder (or householder, *as the case may be*), and that I have paid a public school tax due by me in this school section, imposed within the last twelve months, and that I am legally qualified to vote at this meeting."

5.—Appointment of a Chairman and Secretary of the School Meeting.

The first thing to be done, before proceeding to other business, is the appointment of a Chairman and Secretary. The chairman may be an elector or non-elect, at the pleasure of the meeting (if a non-elect he cannot vote). The secretary may be the teacher of the section, or any other competent person.

6.—Duties of the Chairman of a School Meeting.

- (1.) To keep order.
- (2.) To decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the meeting.
- (3.) To give a casting vote (but no other), if an elector.
- (4.) To take the votes on any question before the meeting, in any manner desired by two electors present. (See section 14 of this chapter.)
- (5.) To hear the verbal declaration of office made (in the words of the statute) by the trustee elect.
- (6.) To transmit to the inspector a copy of the proceedings of the meeting, signed by himself and the secretary, under a penalty of five dollars for neglecting to do so.

7.—Duties of the Secretary of a School Meeting.

- (1.) To make a correct minute of the proceedings.
- (2.) To sign the minutes for transmission to the inspector.