

The Superintendent of Education, John Seath, M.A., LL.D., has for over forty years been a foremost figure in the Public School and High School work of Ontario. He attended both Glasgow University and Queen's College, Belfast, and is a B.A. of the Queen's University, Ireland; an honorary M.A. of the Royal University, Ireland; an LL.D. of the University of Toronto and also of Queen's University. During his college course he obtained many prizes in different subjects, and on graduation, at the early age of seventeen, he stood first in Natural Science, winning the gold medal and exhibition. He was head master of the Brampton High School for seven years, being for two years in charge of the Public Schools as well; was Principal of the Oshawa High and Public Schools until 1871; Principal of the Dundas High and Public Schools until 1871; Principal of the St. Catharines Collegiate Institute until 1881, when he was offered the position of Inspector of High Schools by Hon. G. W. Ross. During his connection with the Public Schools he had full charge of both the teaching and organization in them. He was a member of the Central Committee of Education established by Hon. A. Crooks, and continued for some years by the Hon. G. W. Ross, and shared in the organization of all parts of the system. He was a member of the examination board controlling the Departmental and University examinations, and under the Hon. R. Harecourt he had charge of the preparation of the Regulations of 1901, which modernized the courses of study for both the High and Public Schools. He was for nine years a member of the University Senate, and has taken a leading part in the reorganization of both primary and secondary education. He is the author of several important reports on education, including one on technical education.

THE SCHOOLS IN NEW ONTARIO

The present Minister of Education has from the first exhibited special interest in the schools of the northern districts, and has taken vigorous measures to strengthen and develop them. In this policy he has had the constant assistance and advice of the Hon. Frank Cochrane, the Minister of Lands and Mines, whose intimate knowledge of the north country and whose deep concern in its welfare have been invaluable.

At the outset the Government decided, in dealing with New Ontario, to regard the educational problem there as different in some of its essential features from the same problem in the older and more thickly settled portions of the Province. Exceptional measures, therefore, were deemed advisable, both in respect to the amount of money to be given and the method of distributing it. The Minister has twice summoned the Inspectors from the districts to a conference in Toronto,