

education. Music has of late years been brought in, not as a compulsory, but as an optional subject in the cities and towns. A great and most praiseworthy work of the teachers in general is to make their school buildings as attractive and home-like as possible for the pupils, by beautifying them with pictures, flowers, &c.

The government has been asked to help the teacher in his work, by enacting a law that at least ten dollars be expended yearly by the trustees of each school district, to purchase reference libraries. This idea if acted upon, will have most beneficial results. Religious exercises are entirely at the option of the trustees, and should they decide to have these, the repetition of the Lords Prayer and the reading of a short portion of the Scripture is all that the law will allow.

The time at which the vacations are taken is also practically at the option of the trustees. Although the regular time is in the summer, yet in many country school districts on the open prairie where, on account of storms and blizzards it would be dangerous for the children to go to school, the holidays are taken in winter, and school is continued all summer. An idea of the importance of this privilege may be gained from facts like the following: in some schools where vacations are taken in summer and school is kept open all winter, the teacher at times has had to remain with a few pupils in school over night rather than allow them to set out for home in the terrible storm that prevailed.

The Intermediate schools are much the same as the Ontario High schools. They prepare young men and young women for the life of teachers, giving them non-professional certificates after which their Normal training makes them duly qualified teachers. They also prepare students to enter the University by qualifying them for the Preliminary examination. The teaching done in these schools is of high grade, and the work in map-drawing, composition, drawing, etc., reflects great credit on both teachers and pupils. Collections of this work are made and exhibited at conventions of teachers throughout the province; some have been sent to the N. E. A. meeting in St. Paul, and there received much praise. These

schools are in nearly all the small towns of the province; the principal ones being in Morden, Manitou, Minnedosa, Neepawa, Carberry, Pilot Mound, and Deloraine, and are next in order higher than the Public Schools.

The Collegiate Institutes have been recommended the following aid from the government: The fixed grant for a Collegiate Institute to be \$500; the regular grant per department, \$150; and other grants amounting to \$800 obtained on certain conditions; Collegiate departments to receive a fixed grant of \$250, and other grants also, amounting to \$600 on the same conditions. The Collegiate departments of the province are in the city of Winnipeg, in Brandon and in Portage la Prairie.

The University of Manitoba established by the Act of the Local Legislature in 1877 is, with the exception of Degrees in Divinity, the only Degree-conferring body in the Province of Manitoba. The Statutes and Regulations of the University have been framed upon the most liberal principles, in order that all classes of students may have the greatest possible advantages for attaining a higher education without prejudice to any religious views which they may hold. The work is carried on in the following affiliated colleges:—In arts, St. Boniface, (Catholic), St. John's (Anglican), Manitoba, (Presbyterian), Wesley, (Methodist), and in medicine, the Manitoba Medical College. These colleges have entire control of their internal affairs, studies, religious teaching, and worship. The Council or Governing Body, is composed of seven representatives from each of the above-mentioned colleges in arts, from the members of Convocation, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba. Convocation consists of the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the members of the Council, all graduates in Manitoba registered in 1877, all graduates of the University and graduates in Theology from any of the colleges affiliated with the University. Each college is an integral factor of the University, which is, primarily, a republic of colleges and an examining body. Originally the University of Manitoba was merely an examining body, and is chiefly that even now; but it is also empowered to have a corps of pro