

The powers and duties imposed upon the trustees are discharged by the appointed commissioners in incorporated towns.

The city of Halifax forms one school section in charge of twelve commissioners, of whom six are appointed by the governor. These trustees or commissioners have immediate charge of the schools in their respective sections. They employ teachers, who must, however, be licensed, except that where necessary an unlicensed candidate may be appointed as assistant teacher.

Mode of support.—The fixed sum of \$182,500 for each school year is paid semiannually, or as the council of public instruction may prescribe, to legally qualified teachers employed in the common schools in accordance with law, to be divided between such teachers in conjoined proportion to the number of days the respective schools are taught and the scale of the respective grades.

This distribution is made semiannually through the inspectors, or otherwise as the council may direct. In every county (except that in which the city of Halifax is situate) the clerk of the municipality is required to add to the sum annually voted for general municipal purposes at the regular meeting of the council a sum sufficient, after deducting costs of collection and probable loss, to yield an amount equal to 30 cents for every inhabitant of the municipality, and the sum so added shall form, or be a portion of, the municipal rates. Any sum further needed is determined by those who pay a property tax (ratepayers). Ordained ministers, widows, and unmarried women are exempt from sectional assessment on property to the amount of \$500.

THE SCHOOL SYSTEM OF MANITOBA.

Historical survey.—Prior to the passage of the law of 1890 Manitoba maintained separate schools for Roman Catholic and for Protestant children.

The law of 1890 established a uniform system of nonsectarian schools and prohibited the use of public funds for denominational schools. The bitter contest to which this law gave rise, the appeal to the Dominion government, and subsequently to the English privy council, the remedial order issued by the Dominion government and the refusal of the Manitoba people to submit to this dictation are set forth in the Commissioner's Report for 1894-95 (Vol. 1, Chap. VII).

The answer of the provincial legislature to the Dominion government refusing to enact a remedial law was approved December 26, 1895, and the legislature at once dissolved, that an appeal might be made directly to the people. The election held on January 15 resulted in an overwhelming triumph for the premier, Mr. Greenway, and his policy of nonsectarian schools.

The Dominion parliament assembled January 2, on which day Lord Aberdeen, as governor-general, presented his address to the lawmakers and strongly urged the necessity of compelling Manitoba to submit.