

Schools

The support of education ranks second to no interest either in importance or cost. About one-third of the provincial revenues of each province is thus spent. This represents in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick less than a third of the cost of public schools, the balance being met by the locality (section, district or town). The province controls the training and licensing of the teacher and contributes to his salary.

In 1904 the percentages of the contributions were as follows:¹

	By Province.	By District.
Nova Scotia.....	27.30	72.70
New Brunswick	29.09	70.91
Prince Edward Island	72.11	27.89
Manitoba ...	9.89	90.13
British Columbia	75.83	24.17

The supplement paid by the district in Prince Edward Island appears to have been originally an equivalent for the board of the teacher. Its inauguration marks the disappearance of the old practice of "boarding around."

In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick there is a third source of support—the municipal or county fund. The rich sections are required to assist the weak, as the rich man pays for the schooling of the poor man's children. This fund is distributed among the schools in such a way as to encourage open schools and regular attendance. Each ratepayer in the county contributes, but only those districts with open schools receive, and the amounts are proportioned to average attendance. The education of the blind and deaf is borne, one-half by the county school fund, one-half by the province.

The similarity between the systems of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick is due to Theodore H. Rand, afterwards head of McMaster University, who was intrusted by Sir Charles Tupper with the organization of the public school system in Nova Scotia in 1864, and who was afterwards called to New Brunswick in 1871 to perform a similar service.

The first public Act on behalf of education in the province of

¹ Statistical Year Book of Canada, 1904.