

2. It makes permanent, during good behaviour, all certificates granted by County Boards according to the terms, giving no power to such Boards, or to any other Board or Council or individual whatever, to cancel such certificates, except for misconduct, until they expire according to the terms of them.

3. It provides for the examination of candidates for Teachers' certificates of qualification by Boards of Examiners consisting of none but those who have had experience in teaching.

4. It authorizes regulations by which none but holders of first-class Provincial certificates of the highest grade, or University diplomas, with testimonials of experience in teaching equivalent to the higher grade of first-class Provincial certificates of teachers, shall be Inspectors of Public Schools.

5. It repeals the clause of the Consolidated School Act which prevented the employment of teachers, except under certain circumstances, for an ensuing year between the first of October and the second Wednesday in January.

6. While the provisions of the Consolidated School Act relative to the prompt payment of teachers' salaries remain unchanged, the new Act provides a more certain and expeditious mode of settling pecuniary disputes between Trustees and Teachers, by the decision of a Court, than by the old method of arbitration.

7. The highest class County Board certificates hereafter to be awarded (equal to second-class Provincial certificates) will be for life, or during good behaviour, and valid in every county of the Province, instead of being liable, as heretofore, to be cancelled at the pleasure of the County Board granting them, and limited to one county.

8. The regulations and programmes of studies for the discipline of the schools and the classification of pupils, will as much improve the position of teachers and facilitate the performance of their duties, as the provisions of the Act above referred to.

9. But while provision is thus made to improve the position and protect the interests of the teachers—provisions such as do not exist in any other country or State in America—equal care must be taken to maintain and elevate the standard of the teacher's qualifications; so that while, on the one hand, the teacher is secured in what belongs to the dignity and efficiency of his profession, the public shall be guaranteed against unqualified and incompetent teachers. If the position of the teacher is improved, the standard of his qualifications should be proportionably advanced; and this will tend still further to improve his position and interests, and, at the same time, increase the efficiency and value of his teaching—thus effecting a saving in the time of pupils, and promoting the development of their faculties and their acquisition of knowledge.

10. It is with this view that the new School Act has provided for the more uniform and effective examination of candidates for the teaching profession, and their classification according to qualifications and merit. The *Ontario Association of Teachers* have themselves requested that the Council of Public Instruc-

tion should prepare papers for the examination and classification of teachers throughout the Province, and direct the manner of such examination. This is provided for by the new Act. There have heretofore been four classes of Teachers' certificates, namely, Provincial certificates to graduates of the Normal School, and three classes of certificates by County Boards. There will hereafter be but three classes of certificates, namely, Provincial certificates by the Council of Public Instruction, and two classes of certificates by County Boards. The third class certificates heretofore given by County Boards will hereafter cease to be given. The examination papers for the three classes of certificates to be given, will all be prepared under the direction of the Council of Public Instruction, as also the estimated value of each question, and will thus be the same in every County of the Province.

11. Each class of examination papers thus prepared will be sent to the County Inspectors under seal, not to be broken except on the day and place of examination of candidates, and in their presence. The examination will take place on the same day and at the same hour, at the place of Municipal Council meetings in all the Counties and Cities of the Province, and the same time allowed, and the same mode adopted in the examinations by every County and City Board of Examiners. The questions and answers by candidates for first-class Provincial certificates will be forthwith sealed up in the presence of the candidates, and transmitted to the Education Department at Toronto; the value of the answers to the questions for the other two classes of certificates will be decided upon by the County Boards of Examiners, who will grant the certificates accordingly—of which the blanks will be prepared and furnished by the Education Department.

12. The lowest class certificates issued by the County Board will be valid for three years, but not renewable, unless under very special circumstances, which will be provided for. Teachers of ordinary capacity and diligence, who obtain the lowest class County Board certificates, can in three years qualify themselves to obtain the highest class County Board certificates. If they do not possess such capacity, or will not employ such diligence for improvement in their profession, they ought to leave it, and their places will be more than filled by new candidates; and the profession will thus be gradually purged of non-improving and incompetent teachers, and parents and pupils will be relieved of their incumbency.

13. To be eligible for examination for the highest class County Board certificate, (or second-class Provincial certificate), the candidate must have successfully taught three years; and the certificate obtained by him or her will be valid during life, or good behaviour, and will be available in all the Municipalities of the Province.

14. To be eligible for examination for a first-class Provincial certificate, the candidate must have successfully taught five years, (as suggested by the *Ontario Teachers' Association*); or two years, if during that period he has held a second-class certificate granted under the new regulations, and his certificate will not only be valid during life, or during good behaviour,