

efficient. All the public schools must be so conducted as not to violate this leading provision of the law.

(6.) *The appointment of Trustees.*—Provision is made in the law (sec. 13 [6], and sec. 30) for the appointment by each Board of Commissioners of School Trustees (or a Trustee) in case of failure on the part of the people to elect the same. The first appointment in a section in any school year is to be made upon the requisition of seven or more rate-payers; but in the event of any person appointed as a Trustee by the Board refusing or neglecting, for twenty days, to act in that capacity, the board shall, with or without a requisition from the rate-payers, make such further appointments as may be found necessary.

In cases where trustees (or a trustee) have been duly elected by the people, but refuse to act, or neglect the performance of duty for twenty days after such election, the board shall, with or without a requisition from the rate-payers, appoint suitable persons as trustees.

In order to obviate the necessity of convening special meetings of the Commissioners to appoint trustees, each board is empowered by law (sec. 13, 7) to appoint a committee of not less than three of its number to make all such appointments that may be needed between the regular semi-annual meetings. Each board is strongly urged to provide such a committee. Its members should reside very near each other, so that cases needing attention might be dealt with without delay. A careful record of every appointment should be made by the Committee, and preserved.

(7.) *The providing of special aid to poor sections.*—No provision of the school law is more noble and humane than that which directs each Board of Commissioners at its semi-annual meeting in May of each year, "to determine what sections under its supervision are entitled to special aid as poor sections during the following school year," i. e. the "school year" beginning on the November ensuing. The May meeting is the only time at which the boards are empowered by law to take such action; and the report of the Inspector, together with local knowledge possessed by each Commissioner, should enable each board to determine wisely what sections shall receive this aid. An entry must be made of the name of each section, and a notice forwarded to the trustees, stating that if the inhabitants of the section sustain a public school in accordance with the requirements of the law, they will receive one-third more per pupil from the county fund than the allowance to other sections; and that the Superintendent of Education will increase the Provincial allowance by one-third to any legally qualified teacher whom they may engage,—provided the school is conducted in a satisfactory manner. Every section thus notified will be in a position to adopt such measures at its annual meeting as will secure a school. Some sections will not require special aid for more than one year, while others may need assistance for several years. Each Board of Commissioners, while it seeks to establish and foster a school in every poor section, should have a zealous care to the putting forth, on the part of the people, of suitable local effort. If judiciously administered, this provision of the school law will remove every reasonable obstacle to the establishment of a public school in every section throughout Nova Scotia. *The list of sections entitled to special aid must be revised by the Commissioners at each succeeding May meeting.*

(8.) *The fixing of a day on or before which Trustees' Returns must be lodged with the Inspector.*—Each Board is required to fix a day, which must be at least two days prior to its semi-annual meeting, on or before which the