

but patience and perseverance overcome these difficulties. In many cases the trustees are away during the winter working in the logging camps, or sometimes in the summer they are hired out on the harvest fields, with the consequence that nobody in the district is looking after school affairs. In most cases it was necessary to put the school in the hands of the Official Trustee because it was difficult to secure men qualified to act in that capacity. We have succeeded during the year in erecting schools in fourteen (14) districts which had previously been organized and had been going for a number of years without any school accommodation whatever.

New School Districts

Another phase of this problem is the creation of new districts where none have hitherto been organized. We found it best in the case of newly organized districts to place them at once under the care of the Official Trustee so as to secure the prompt erection of the building and get the school in operation with as little delay as possible. One case will show the need for such an action. School District No. 1813 was organized November 13th, 1915. The Organizer visited the trustees about February, 1916, and they agreed to have a school built during the summer. They submitted a By-law for the issue of debentures, which was approved by the ratepayers. The debentures were actually sold and the money has been lying in the bank during the whole year with interest accruing on the debentures and no steps taken to erect a building. The children in that district have missed a whole year of schooling which can never be made up to them. Other similar cases might be cited, and with this experience we thought it best to have the Official Trustee take charge in new districts in these settlements, so that the school might be built without undue delay and the business of the district properly organized.

Since the Special Organizer undertook his duties on the first day of October, 1915, up to November, 1916, his work has been instrumental in erecting and putting in operation eighteen (18) additional rooms in schools where the accommodation was inadequate, fourteen (14) in school districts which had been organized for some years and twelve (12) in new districts, making a total of forty-four (44) rooms. Allowing about fifty (50) pupils to each room this means additional accommodation for over two thousand (2,000) children in these non-English settlements.

Some Illustrations

A better idea of just what is being done will be given by reference to one or two districts:—East and north of Winnipeg on