

pupils, and the value of committing the gems of thought studied in connection with the reading exercises to memory. Mr. Mulloy and Mr. Sutherland favored the Association with readings, which were well rendered and received. Association adjourned.

GEO. KIRK, *Secretary*

WM. MACKINTOSH, *President*.

Official Department.

AN ACT RESPECTING CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT.

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:—

1. The fourteenth section of the Revised Statute respecting Public Schools is hereby amended, by adding thereto the following:—"But in the case of Public Schools in rural School Sections, or of townships, the trustees thereof may open the schools therein on the third day of August in any year after the present year, so that the term may begin in such school or schools on that day instead of the eighteenth day of August, and end on the twenty-third day of December following, but such additional period during which the school may be open shall not be considered in any appropriation of the legislative or municipal grants."

2. The fourth sub-section of section one hundred and sixty of the Public Schools Act is hereby re-enacted, and the following shall be added thereto and form part of the same:—"Provided the school rate paid by such person upon the said property is at least equal to the average school rate paid by the residents of such section or division; and the fees to be imposed upon other non-resident pupils whose parents or guardians do not pay an average school rate in the section or division shall not exceed the sum of fifty cents for each pupil for every calendar month."

3. In the case of every union school section or school division comprised of the whole or parts of two or more municipalities, the union school section or school division, as the case may be, shall be held for the purpose of inspection, the borrowing of money and the issuing of debentures, and for all school purposes, except as hereinafter mentioned, as within the township, town, or village municipality in which the school house is situated, and if there are two or more school houses, then in the municipality with the largest amount of assessed property; and the school rates of such union or school division shall henceforth be collected by the respective collectors of the township, town, or village municipality in which each part of the union or school division is respectively situate, and the taxes shall be so levied and collected in each part of such union or school division for its proportionate amount of the trustees' yearly requisition made to the clerk of the municipality in which the union or school division is deemed to be situate, upon an equalized basis of assessment, and if such equalized basis is not mutually agreed upon on or before the first day of August between the councils of the respective municipalities, this shall be determined by reference to the inspector or inspectors having jurisdiction in the respective municipalities concerned, and other competent persons, one to be chosen by the council of each municipality, and not being a member of such council, and the determination by such referees, or the majority of them, shall be final and conclusive in the premises, and in cases where the number so appointed would be even, then the senior county judge shall be added thereto, and in case of default by any council in appointing a referee on its behalf, on or before the first day of August, a majority of the other referees shall be competent to make such determination. The referees shall be paid the like remuneration as township councillors, as also their travelling expenses, by the trustees of the union or school division, out of the school monies thereof.

(2) Every such equalization shall continue in force for the period of five years, unless any council should before the first day of August in any year require another reference to be held for this purpose; and the clerk of the municipality in which the union or school division is deemed to be situate, shall forthwith certify to the clerks of the several municipalities concerned, the respective amounts which each of them, according to this equalization, are required to place upon the collector's roll of his municipality; and the amounts payable by the several ratepayers in each part of the union shall be such as with an equal rate levied upon all parts of the union shall be sufficient to meet the yearly requisition of the trustees upon the municipalities in which the union or school division is deemed to be situate; and such amounts as and when collected shall be paid by the respective collectors to the treasurer of the municipality in which the union or school division is deemed to be situate.

4. It shall be the duty of every township council to cause the assessor of the township in preparing the annual assessment roll of the township to set down therein, in a separate column, the number of children between the ages of five and sixteen years, opposite the name of each person on the assessment roll who are resident within, and the clerk of the

township shall, on or before the first day of July in each year, furnish the Secretary-Treasurer of each school section in the township with a statement of the total number of such children within that section, and shall also furnish the Public School Inspector with a statement of the total number in the township, and any expenses attending the assessment, collection, or payment of school rates by the municipal council or any of its officers for the trustees entitled thereto, shall be payable by the municipality, and the said rates, as and when collected, shall within a reasonable time thereafter, and not later than the twentieth day of December in each year, be paid over to the trustees, without any deduction whatever; and the clerk of each township council shall also, upon request and free of any charge, furnish the Public School Inspector with a true copy of the assessed value of each school section as shown in the revised assessment roll for that year, and also of the several requisitions of the trustees for school monies. The township clerk shall be entitled to reasonable payment from the township council for the above mentioned services. The provisions of this section shall also apply to cities, towns, and villages, and the municipal councils and officers thereof, so far as consistent with any other provisions affecting the same, and shall also apply to Separate School Boards or trustees who may exercise their option of having their school rates collected by the municipal councils and the officers thereof.

5. The trustees of every rural school section and the Public School Board of every town, village or township, shall keep, or cause to be kept, books of account of all school monies of their section, town, village or township (as the case may be), according to such form as may be prescribed by the Minister of Education.

6. It is hereby declared that the provisions contained in section twenty-nine of the Act forty-two Victoria, chapter thirty-four, shall be construed not to apply to school furniture or appliances, ordinary repairs, fencing, sheds, offices, or the like objects.

7. In cases of school divisions within section eighty-three of the Public Schools Act, it shall be competent for the council of the township in which any part of such school division is situate, to withdraw the same or any portion thereof from such school division and to annex the same to another school section in the same township, or to form a new section thereof by by-law to be passed before the first day of October in any year, and to take effect on the first day of January next following; and in case of any disagreement as to the terms of such withdrawal, the same shall be determined in the manner provided by law with respect to the alteration or dissolution of union school sections.

8. In all cases of the formation, alteration or dissolution of school sections within the same township, or of township boards, or of union school sections comprised of the whole or parts of two or more townships, or of school divisions comprised of a town or village, and the whole or parts of one or more townships and by-laws to be passed for any of such purposes shall become absolutely legal and valid, and the jurisdiction of any court to question the same shall be deemed to be ousted when such by-law has been submitted to and confirmed by the Minister of Education, who shall require notice to be given of such application by the parties applying by advertisement or otherwise as he may direct, and the certificate of the Minister of Education endorsed on a certified copy of such by-law shall be conclusive evidence of such confirmation, and the provisions of this section may be taken advantage of for the confirmation of any by-law for any of such purposes heretofore passed and not quashed or otherwise declared invalid, and this section shall be deemed to apply to any such by-law.

9. The one hundred and fortieth section of the Public Schools Act, shall hereafter be construed not to authorize such alteration by the council of either municipality as would add any further portions of the municipality to such union school section; and provisions of section one hundred and fifty of the Public Schools Act shall apply to any case of a dissolution of a union section for any cause whatever.

10. The one hundred and forty-second section of the Public Schools Act is hereby amended so that it shall be necessary that any portion of the township forming a union, or being part of a school division with another municipality or portion thereof, shall be considered as a section in respect of the said requisite number of two-thirds of the school sections of the township.

11. The provisions of any other act or of any special act relating to union school sections or divisions inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

12. In any matter or inquiry which the Minister is by law authorized to institute, make or direct, he may, upon application (without notice) to any of the superior courts, or a judge thereof, obtain an order for the issue of a writ or writs of subpoena *ad testificandum*, and also *duces tecum*, to be directed to such person or persons for him or them to attend and give evidence under oath, at such times and places, and before such person or persons as the Minister shall appoint, and any default of any such person in obeying any such subpoena shall be punishable as in the like case in any action or cause in any of the said courts.

13. This act may be cited as "The Public Schools Amendments Act, 1880."