

so as to bring the different teachers up to the required standard.

With regard to the further requirements it is not necessary to continue the Brandon school after the present classes have completed their course. There are now coming up through the regular course in the high schools enough Ruthenian and Polish boys and girls to meet the necessities of the case.

### **Overcrowded Schools**

In the organizing work in the field special attention has been directed to providing adequate school accommodation in the districts settled by Ruthenian and other peoples who have come to us from continental Europe.

At last session of the Legislature I called the attention of the House to a serious condition of overcrowding in many of these schools in certain portions of the province, principally to the east and north of Winnipeg. On enquiry it was found that there were about one hundred (100) school districts with one-roomed schools in which the enrolment exceeded fifty (50) and upwards. The enrolment in such cases represented only a portion of the children of school age in these districts. The school census ranged all the way from sixty (60) to as high as one hundred and sixty-nine (169).

The districts in which this condition occurs are of the average size ranging from about nine sections to eighteen sections of land, the large population being due to the fact that whereas in the ordinary prairie settlement the average holding is from one hundred and sixty (160) acres upwards, the average holding in these districts is from eighty (80) acres downwards. In many cases families are settled on allotments as small as five acres in extent.

Our attention has been first directed to the cases where the need for action was greatest, and it is our purpose to deal with these one after the other until adequate accommodation has been provided in all these districts.

As an indication of how acute the problem is I may give some examples:—One school district, Melrose, consisting of only nine (9) sections of land had seventy-three (73) children at school at the time of the Inspector's visit, with an enrolment of one hundred and twenty (120) and an actual school population of one hundred and fifty-five (155) to be provided for. There were thirteen families settled on one section of land in this district.

In the school district of Ladywood, the area of which is eighteen (18) sections of land, the enrolment was one hundred and forty-one (141) with a school population of one hundred and fifty-six (156). At the time of the Inspector's visit there were one hundred and five (105) children present, and on a subsequent