

schools and industrial schools. The work of the day schools is unsatisfactory, because, as a rule, the attendance of the children is most irregular, owing to the indifference of the parents, few of whom realize the importance of education.

The instruction given in the schools consists of general knowledge: writing, arithmetic, geography, ethics, reading, recitation, history, vocal music, calisthenics and religious instruction; the standards being from I. to VI. English is generally taught in the schools, and is quickly learned by the children, who are almost all quick and bright. In the boarding schools and industrial schools the girls are taught, in addition, all departments of household work and knowledge. Some of these boarding schools are supported in part by various religious bodies, and others, which are wholly supported by the Government, are put under the auspices of the different Churches. The number of girls on the roll of the Indian day schools is 3,118, which is less than half the total attendance. The girls in the boarding schools number 591, and in the industrial schools 860, making a total of 4,569. The number of day schools on the Reserves is 219; boarding schools 32; and industrial schools 22, making a total of 273 schools. There are also a few schools conducted by the Missionaries in the North and far North-West outside the Treaty line which are not included in the above figures.

Religion.

According to the census, there are 100,093 Treaty Indians. Of that number 16,443 are members of the Church of England; 1,054 are Presbyterians; 8,855 are Methodists; 42,530 are Roman Catholics; 1,581 are put down under "other Christian beliefs"; and 15,615 are reported as Pagans; while the religion of 14,010 is said to be "unknown." The absolute accuracy of these figures is, however, not guaranteed. It is safe to say that half of them represent women and girls.

Active missionary work is carried on among the Indians and Esquimaux throughout Canada, even within the Arctic Circle, and many of the converts have themselves become missionaries to their own people. The heathen Indians in the west, who have been the latest to come in contact with civilization, still keep up their religious dances, but these are discouraged by the Government and the custom will probably soon die out.

EMILY CUMMINGS.