

Free Schools in Nova Scotia

gether with the greatest harmony, each entering on the duties assigned him with a single aim for the betterment of the educational interests of the country. And on the death of Dr. Forrester, which occurred some five years later, it was found that one of the two friends to whom, by his will, he had entrusted the settlement of his business was Theodore H. Rand.

The school law provided that the public schools should be free to all children over five years of age, and that they should be maintained by taxes levied on the rate-payers of the section, supplemented by Government grants varying in amount according to the class of license held by the teacher. It was soon found, however, that this plan imposed heavy burdens on the poorer sections. Accordingly, at the next meeting of the Legislature an act was passed providing for a county tax, to be used in such a way as to give special aid to these sections.

The machinery by which the school law was carried out consisted of a Council of Public Instruction composed of the Executive Council, a Superintendent of Education who was ex-officio Secretary of the