

In this connection it may be mentioned that a book of plans for rural school buildings and school grounds will be ready for distribution shortly. The book will contain thirty-six plans for school buildings, twelve each for a one-teacher school, a two or three-teacher school and a four-teacher school; also a dozen plans for school grounds, four each for half an acre, an acre and two acres. These plans have been prepared by a competent architect and landscape gardener, and it is confidently expected will do much to improve the appearance and suitability of school buildings of the future, whether new or remodelled.

### MORE MONEY FOR URBAN SCHOOLS

Having thus aided in the upbuilding of the rural schools, the Government has turned its attention to the urban schools. As a first step in their improvement the Legislature has increased the grant to urban schools from \$120,000 to \$180,000. The special grant of \$50,000 will be distributed in such a manner that the less wealthy municipalities will receive a greater share, proportionately, than the wealthier cities and towns. The basis proposed is a recognition of the grade of the certificate of the teacher employed (a direct incentive to the securing of better qualified teachers), and the length of his or her successful experience (an encouragement to make teachers choose their vocation as a permanent profession). Moreover, the Act has been amended to recognize the length of successful service in the case of the rural school teacher also.

### MORE MONEY FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

The secondary schools of Ontario have received more attention and have for years been in better condition than the public schools, and in their case the need for immediate action was not so pressing. Yet, even in connection with the High Schools and Collegiate Institutes of the Province, an unwise parsimony had prevailed in the past. The full amounts of the grants earned under the law were not paid to them. The enterprise of school boards in improving the schools, in erecting new buildings, in paying higher salaries to better teachers, did not meet with the financial encouragement which they might fairly have expected. In the following table will be found a comparison of the grants *earned* and the amounts paid by the Province during the years named:

	Earned.	Paid.
1902 . . . . .	\$113,400	\$102,000
1903 . . . . .	117,413	106,314
1904 . . . . .	119,025	106,933