

after having been abandoned a year and a half previously.

The town raised by levy in 1908, for school purposes \$5,000; from government grants \$550 was received, and \$170 from the attached portion of the Township of Blanshard. \$471.25 was spent for fuel, \$333.34 for rent and \$592.00 for repairs, supplies and miscellaneous expenditures. There was no change in the membership of the trustee board for 1909, and Dr. J. R. Stanley was appointed chairman.

On June 28th 1909 the ratepayers were asked to vote on a by-law to raise \$40,000 to construct a new school. The by-law was defeated and in order to relieve the overcrowding the board with considerable difficulty secured a room in the rear of the Willard block on Wellington street and it was converted into a schoolroom. In spite of its unfavorable situation and lack of playgrounds the board find it necessary to continue its use. This room was opened Nov. 28th, 1909, with Miss L. Ingersoll in charge.

In 1909, after repeated recommendations by the inspector, a course of art and construction work was introduced into the schools with very favorable results. The auditors' report for 1909 showed receipts of \$5,500 from the school levy, \$494.75, including \$45.00 for inspection, from legislative grants, and \$155.80 from the attached portion. The disbursements included \$447.36 for fuel, \$100 for rent, \$531.25 for repairs and miscellaneous expenditure, and \$200 spent in re-seating the principal's room. It will be noted that since 1906 owing to a change in the law no legislative grant has been received for the attached portion of the Township of Blanshard. The total enrollment in the various rooms in March 1909 was 442, with an average attendance of 370, and for April the figures were 445 and 380.

CHAPTER XII.

Present Conditions.

The following is the teaching staff for the current school year of 1909-10, Mr. D. G. Anderson, principal at a salary of \$900; Misses F. Webster, and L. F. Ingersoll at \$475; Miss E. G. Mitchell and Mrs. Atkinson at \$450; Misses B. J. Hamilton, M. Gordon, C. Waring and B. Irvine at \$425 and Miss M. McCamus at \$400. On Jan. 1st, 1910 Mr. H. E. Illingworth, A.R.C.O. began the teaching of vocal music in the schools, thus carrying out a recommendation that successive inspectors had been urging for over 20 years. Mr. Illingworth's salary is \$250 a year, and each room receives one lesson per week.

The present board of public school trustees is composed of Dr. J. R. Stanley, chairman; and Messrs. W. H. May, J. Ready, T. B. Bennett, W. W. Haines, T. Gordon, W. H. Tovell and R. J. Teskey. Mr. A. Carman is secretary, and Miss M. E. Long, treasurer. Messrs. B. F. Lancaster and R. S. Graham are auditors. Mrs. Smith is caretaker in the West Ward schools and Mr. D. Ross has all the others under his charge. Mr. William Irwin, B.A., is inspector and is also one of the inspectors for the County of Perth.

Of the various school buildings a little might be said. The Central is a substantial stone, two-storey building, without a basement excepting a little excavation done with difficulty in order to make room for two hot air furnaces. The school is badly laid out the rooms being of very inconvenient shapes. The light is supplied by windows for the most part on three sides of the rooms, and con-