

dent, that officer is required to make his statement to the county court monthly instead of quarterly.

Teachers' certificates are to be based on "ability," as well as experience, and university normals receive a first instead of a third grade certificate.

Except in cities of the first and second classes, which constitute single school districts, trustees are made elective on the second Monday in July instead of on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, one election on the latter date evidently having been sufficient to cause the legislators to change this part of the procedure inaugurated two years ago. The first election of trustees under the new law will be in January, 1896, when three trustees will be elected, one each for one, two and three years respectively. In July, 1897, and annually thereafter, a trustee is to be elected for a three years term. Trustees are to organize within twenty days of the election.

The district board may close schools when the attendance for twenty consecutive days is less than eight pupils. It must also send its annual report to the county superintendent between the first and second Mondays of July, and must report to the voters on the second Monday in July of the present year, 1894, and annually thereafter. The county superintendent may close a school when the average attendance for twenty weeks is below eight pupils, except in certain cases. Provision is also made for suing the county treasurer when he refuses to pay a school warrant. In case of an election on bonding any county school district, twenty days' notice, instead of ten, is to be given of the meeting. The school boards are required to inquire into any case of misdemeanor under the act, in the district, and report the same to the city or county attorney, who is to take up the prosecution thereof.

Provision is made for the punishment of incorrigible children of school age in the following section: "All child, dren in the district between the ages of eight and sixteen years who, in defiance of earnest and persistent efforts on the part of their parents or teachers, are habitual truants from school, or while in attendance at school are vicious, immoral, or ungovernable in conduct, shall be deemed incorrigible; and it is the duty of the president of the board of education or the chairman of the board of trustees of each school district to inquire into all such cases within his district and report them to the county attorney, acting for such district, whose duty it shall be to prosecute such cases as incorrigibles and fit candidates for the Territorial reform school."

These are all the provisions applying to the county districts, as such, and to cities of the third class and towns. The remainder of the act relates wholly to cities of the first and second classes. This division of the statute opens with a provision which affects school districts outside of incorporated cities. It provides that, with the consent of the county court, the board of education in cities of the second class may attach portions of territory contiguous to any municipal ward, and the territory thus attached becomes subject to the levy of tax and issuance of bonds the same as that territory to

which it is attached; parts of such cities may be detached also.

The board of education in cities of the first and second classes is authorized to pay for services of its members not to exceed \$25 per month each, except in cases of special services, when additional compensation may be made. Back salaries may be given also to members serving since March 13, 1890, to the limit stated. The clerk of the board is required to make annual financial and statistical reports to the commissioner of schools and to make his financial statement to the board of education for the year ending June 30, instead of December 31.

In certificates of teachers there are to be three grades, primary, grammar and high school. Instead of being good for one, two and three years, they are good to June 30 after issuance only, though a release may be made without the teacher submitting to a re-examination. Instead of third grade certificates being given to normal graduates of the University of Utah, those holding normal diplomas receive a high school certificate for three years.

The board of education is authorized to submit to the electors the question of levying a special tax, for one or more years, to buy sites, construct buildings, and improve school property. In advertising for proposals for the construction of buildings, if this be done twice in the case of schoolhouses to cost more than \$5,000, and the bids on both occasions are unsatisfactory, the board of education may proceed to erect the building under its own direction; and if the structure is to cost less than \$5,000, one advertising alone is sufficient.

Outside of the amendments herein noted, the entire amending statute is a re-enactment of the law previously in force.

#### THE CONDITION AND ITS CURE.

What causes the depression among the laboring classes of the most advanced nations of the earth? The question is one of overwhelming interest at present. But among those who have given the subject a critical examination, much difference of opinion is maintained. This fact partly accounts for the slow progress made towards a desirable solution. It is a case of the patient lingering while the doctors quarrel on the origin and symptoms of the disease.

On the one hand, it is held that the labor-saving machinery applied to almost every branch of industry has thrown the laboring multitudes out of employment, and forced them into other fields of activity, thus overcrowding the several industries. It is admitted that the application of mechanical devices for production is beneficent up to a certain point, but those who are willing to go this far argue that when that is passed, grave disturbances are the natural consequences, since the power of consumption cannot be increased on an equal scale with the power of production through the means of mechanical inventions; hence, to save labor by machinery, is really to force one portion of the laborers to remain idle and consequently destitute.

It cannot be denied that there is

much to be said in favor of this view. To give only one illustration. If a man owns a hundred acres of land and will cultivate it all, he will employ a certain number of laborers, all of whom with their families are supported by the production. But when the owner is supplied with labor-saving implements, and applies them to the work, he is in a position to produce the same amount or more with the assistance of only a portion of the hands formerly employed. The rest are forced to idleness, unless there are other means open to them whereby to obtain a living. Nor is this all. The owner of the land finds himself in possession of more produce than he can consume himself, and as a large portion of the laborers in his vicinity are idle and unable to exchange their labor for his produce, this has become practically worthless, until a new channel can be found in which to turn it and convert it into other commodities of life. A moment's reflection is sufficient to show that the multiplication of mechanical contrivances for which our age is distinguished is one of the greatest blessings to mankind, as long as there are new resources within the reach of the laboring men crowded out by those inventions, and as long as new markets can be found for the products not needed by the producer. But when all such avenues for various reasons become closed, then depression is the result. This, it is said, is the condition at present. The industrial world is suffering from an excess of all forms of productive power. The laborers have been driven out of employment. The application of machinery to labor has caused a condition of destitution and all the evils resulting therefrom.

On the other hand, it is maintained that it is absurd to say that the production of the necessities of life in an abundance never before known to the world has increased the poverty of anybody. If the world, taken as a whole, is made wealthier, no one class of it can thereby have been made poorer. Those who take this view argue that the real evil is to seek in the mode of distribution of the wealth. It is pointed out that although labor is a principal factor in the production of wealth, less and less of it falls to the share of the laborers, while the employers constantly accumulate. The problem then would be to find a way whereby to equalize the distribution and thus to relieve the situation.

It seems that the current of public opinion is drifting in this direction. The socialists of the various schools are at hand proposing to solve the problem by the state taking possession of all the resources of the people and superintending both the production and the distribution. That is, they propose to transfer the struggle for existence from the individual to the state. With the supporters of the existing conditions the question is how to find a remedy for the evil consistent with the present system of individualism, which so many have already been led to consider inadequate to the needs of mankind.

In this connection it is well to remember that no scheme devised by man will ever be a sufficient remedy for the evils under which mankind suffers. There is, however, a