

A STUDY OF THE MEN EMPLOYED AS TEACHERS IN THE PUBLICLY  
CONTROLLED SCHOOLS OF THE PROVINCE OF  
NOVA SCOTIA SINCE 1908

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for the degree of Master of Arts

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION.....	1
Chapter	
I.    ACROSS THE YEARS.....	4
II.   TABLES 1 - 9.....	10
III.  INTERPRETATION OF THE FACTUAL MATERIAL....	35
IV.  GENERAL CONSOLIDATION AND CONCLUSION.....	45
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	48

## INTRODUCTION

It has been frequently stated that the number of men in the teaching profession in the Province of Nova Scotia is inadequate. From an examination, comparison, and interpretation of statistical tables it is my intention to find out whether this statement is founded on facts. To this end, therefore, I have made statistical tables from information gained from the Annual Reports of the Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia, the Annual Reports of the Department of Education and statistics compiled by the Education Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

It is likewise my intention to make a percentage comparison of the male teachers in the publicly controlled schools of the Province of Nova Scotia with the male teachers in the Maritime Provinces and the male teachers in Canada. This is necessary, I feel, to discover whether Nova Scotia is gaining in the number of male teachers.

What is an adequate proportion of male teachers? The Report of the Survey Committee appointed to ascertain the most urgent needs in the Dominion of Canada recommends:

It would add greatly to the quality of the work done by the schools if a greater percentage of the teachers were university graduates and undoubtedly the proportion of male teachers might well be increased from 28.2% to 40% or more.<sup>1</sup>

It is generally conceded that men are better for certain teaching positions and that 25% for men is by no means too high but no figure has been set for the optimum ratio of men to women.<sup>2</sup>

Is a percentage of male teachers desirable in the Public Schools of Nova Scotia? H. F. Munro, Superintendent of Education, in his Annual Report for year ending July 31, 1933, states:

Without fixing any ideal proportions, it is generally recognized that the presence of male teachers in the schools enhance the standards of the profession. In normal times, at any rate, it implies a higher economic status, while most will admit that the presence of men in the higher grades of a school system gives leadership to that part of school life more directly concerned with character - building and citizenship.

Alexander Laidlaw, M. A., B. Paed., Acting Inspector of Division No. 6 - Antigonish County, in his Annual Report for the school year ending July 31, 1941, stated:

I am convinced, Sir, that we cannot depend upon our rural schools to do much for the ailing

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<sup>1</sup>Report of the Survey Committee, Canada and Newfoundland Education Association, March 30, 1943 p.31

<sup>2</sup>Survey of Elementary and Secondary Education, 1950-1954, Dominion Bureau of Statistics Education Division, p. 20

countryside until our teaching body changes from a group of young women, many of whom have little or no appreciation of rural problems, to a staff predominately male, with special training in agriculture and a plan for the new rural life. Our country youth and rural communities require the leadership of men of vision who will reorientate the rural people towards the abundant life which they must find on their farms.

James Bingay, M. A., in his chapter on

Attendance states:

The discipline of the common school may be a legitimate cause of distaste for school to the average boy of fourteen. He feels himself to be an incipient man, and the atmosphere of the school room, with its female teacher and code of rules suitable to girls and little ones, is childish and vexatious to him. Here we meet the problem of male teachers...<sup>3</sup>

Goggin in 1904 stated:

We used to have men and women in charge of our public schools. Now we have boys and girls - mainly girls...boys from twelve years of age upwards need a man's guidance and control to develop them properly.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>James A. Bingay, M. A., Public Schools in Nova Scotia (Kingston: The Jackson Press, 1919 p. 93

<sup>4</sup>Proceedings, Dominion Educational Association, (47) 1904 p. 39

## CHAPTER 1

### ACROSS THE YEARS

#### The Period from 1864 to 1907

In this chapter it is my intention to show:

- (1) the type of person the average male teacher was in the early days in the Province of Nova Scotia;
- (2) the decline in the percentage of male teachers in the Province;
- (3) the reason for the decline.

In his Annual Report upon the state of Education in the County of Cumberland for the school year 1865

Rev. James Christie, Inspector, states:

Before the passing of the Act for the better Encouragement of Education in 1864, there were a great many inferior teachers employed in the County. Many of these were unfit for the discharge of the duties of their high and responsible office. Many of them were young men too lazy to turn their attention to any other kind of work, whose only object was to put in time, and then draw a few dollars of provincial allowance coming to them. They seldom stayed more than one half year in the same place; in fact, by the end of that time, the people generally found that they had enough of them ...Even in cases where teachers possessed the necessary qualifications, the profession was only made a stepping stone to something more remunerative. The encouragement held out was not sufficient to induce young men of talent to devote themselves heartily and permanent [sic] to this - one of the noblest of all the professions.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Annual Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION for Nova Scotia, July 31, 1865 p. 92

The above quotation has many of the earmarks of T. C. Haliburton's comments:

When a man fails in his trade, or is too lazy to work he resorts to teaching as a livelihood, and the school-house, like the asylum for the poor, receives all those who are, from misfortune or incapacity, unable to provide for themselves.<sup>2</sup>

New Brunswick had a similar problem. In 1853 the Superintendent of Education admitted that if a man could get no other work or was incompetent, he tramped the country in search of a school.

The above quotations, I submit, will indicate the problem the Province of Nova Scotia faced with its male teachers around the middle of the nineteenth century. They also show the type of person the average male teacher was at that time.

#### The Arrival of the Female Teacher

By the Act of 1838 the Province of Nova Scotia authorized the employment of Female teachers in the public schools. Seven years later by Section XLII of the Act of 1845 the last barrier was removed to the participation of females in the benefits of the law, by admitting them as teachers in academies. In 1875

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<sup>2</sup>Haliburton, T. C.: The Old Judge. London, 1849  
2 vols. Haliburton (94) p. p. 128-129

the distinction between males and females was abolished, a female of the first class, for example, ranking the same as a male of the same class.

### The Effects of Her Arrival

Concerning the arrival of the Female Teacher, Charles E. Phillips states:

"The influx of women into teaching first drove out the worst men and then many of the best."<sup>3</sup>

Some other reasons for the decline of the number of men are given throughout the Reports of the Superintendent of Education for the Province. For instance, in his Annual Report as Inspector for the County of Hants for the year 1865, Rev. D. M. Welton, A.M., states:

Another cause of the scarcity may be found in the salaries which are offered, which, as a general thing, are not sufficiently remunerative to induce young men to qualify themselves for teaching as a life work.<sup>4</sup>

In the County of Kings, James B. Calkin, Inspector, states:

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<sup>3</sup>Charles E. Phillips, THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION IN CANADA (Toronto: W. J. Gage and Co. Ltd. 1957) p. 545

<sup>4</sup>Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION for the year ending 1865, p. 109



With some few exceptions, the best teachers are looking forward to an early adieu to the profession, if that can be called a profession, which is adopted merely as a temporary occupation, entirely subservient to some more desirable pursuit. True, we are often glad to get these men, because of their comparative superiority... We want first class men, who will regard teaching as their profession... Such men can be secured and kept in the service, only by giving a remuneration equal to that which is afforded by other pursuits.<sup>5</sup>

In his report for year ending July 31, 1887 of District No. 9 - Pictou and South Colchester, R. McLellan states:

We may expect this excess of female over male teachers to continue and even increase until the cause is removed, namely, a too low rate of remuneration to induce young men to enter the profession and continue in it.<sup>6</sup>

The Superintendent of Education in his Annual Report for year ending July, 1907, states:

There still continues, unfortunately for Nova Scotia, but fortunately for Canada as a whole, a great demand for our trained teachers in the West. This emigration, as well as the unusual drift especially of male teachers into other professions ...

In his 1868-69 Report, H. C. Upham, Inspector for the County of Colchester, gives the reason for the female interest in the teaching profession when he

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<sup>5</sup>Ibid., p. 114

<sup>6</sup>Annual Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION for Nova Scotia for the year ending 1887, p. 91

<sup>7</sup>Annual Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION of the public Schools of Nova Scotia for the year ending July 31, 1907, Part 1

declares, "There is no employment open to females half as remunerative as teaching."

#### The Rate and Percentage of Decline

When free schools were established, slightly over half the teaching body were men, but, as Table 1 indicates, their number gradually and steadily declined until, after World War 1, male teachers constituted only 5.4% of the whole.

In 1865, the number of male teachers employed was 615 as compared with 498 female teachers. As shown in Table 1, the male teachers had a percentage of 55.3 when compared with the total number of teachers in the Province.

By 1895, the female teachers were already over 75% of the total; and by the final year under review in this chapter, they were over 85% of the total.

Bingay has the following to say concerning the decline in the number of male teachers:

The time appears to be rapidly approaching when the Last Man will lament his loneliness.<sup>8</sup>

This statement has turned out to be a poor prediction. A perusal of Tables 2 and 9 will throw

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<sup>8</sup>James Bingay, M.A., PUBLIC EDUCATION IN NOVA SCOTIA (Kingston: The Jackson Press, 1919) p. 48

some light on the topic. It will be observed that from 1919 to 1958 the percentage of male teachers fluctuated up and down but that there was a total gain over the period. By 1958, the percentage had increased to 17 comparable with 1717 in 1904. Male teachers in the Province are steadily increasing and if the rise in percentage continues in the same proportion as it has since World War 2, we will soon realize one of the objectives mentioned in the Introduction.

## CHAPTER 2

### Tables 1-9 inclusive

- Table 1 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in the Publicly Controlled Schools of the Province of Nova Scotia With All Teachers in Nova Scotia, School Year Ending 1864-69, Inclusive, 1871, 1881, 1887, 1891, 1893-1907, Inclusive.
- Table 2 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in the Publicly Controlled Schools of the Province of Nova Scotia, School Year Ending 1908-1958, Inclusive.
- Table 3 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in the Publicly Controlled Rural and Village Schools of the Province of Nova Scotia for Period 1923-1958, Inclusive.
- Table 4 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in the Publicly Controlled Urban Schools of the Province of Nova Scotia for Period 1923-1958, Inclusive.
- Table 5 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in Nova Scotia with All Male Teachers in Maritime Provinces, School Year Ending 1939-1958, Inclusive.
- Table 6 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in Nova Scotia with All Teachers in Maritime Provinces, School Year Ending 1939-1958, Inclusive.
- Table 7 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in Nova Scotia with Total Male Teachers in Canada, School Year Ending 1920-1958, Inclusive
- Table 8 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in Nova Scotia with All Teachers in Canada, School Year Ending 1920-1958, Inclusive

Table 9 - Percentage Comparison of Male Teachers in  
Canada with All Teachers in Canada, School  
Year Ending 1920-1958, Inclusive.

TABLE 1

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN THE PUBLICLY  
 CONTROLLED SCHOOLS OF THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA  
 WITH ALL TEACHERS IN NOVA SCOTIA, SCHOOL YEAR  
 ENDING 1864-1869, INCLUSIVE, 1871, 1881,  
 1887, 1891, 1893-1907, INCLUSIVE<sup>1</sup>

Year	Percentage of Males with Total
1864...	55.3
1865...	56.7
1866...	58.2
1867...	54.5
1868...	54.9
1869...	53.1
1871...	46.6
1881...	35.0
1884...	31.4
1885...	30.5
1886...	29.6
1887...	28.2
1891...	25.6
1893...	25.1
1894...	23.0
1895...	22.5

TABLE 1 -Continued

Year	Percentage of Males with Total
1896...	23.9
1897...	23.0
1898...	24.4
1899...	23.8
1900...	24.1
1901...	21.7
1902...	19.5
1903...	17.7
1904...	15.9
1905...	15.0
1906...	14.2
1907...	13.5

<sup>1</sup>Sources of basic data: Annual Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION for Nova Scotia, School Year Ending 1864-1869, Inclusive, 1871, 1881, 1887, 1891, 1893-1907, Inclusive

TABLE 2

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN THE PUBLICLY  
 CONTROLLED SCHOOLS OF THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA  
 SCHOOL YEAR ENDING 1908-1958, INCLUSIVE<sup>2</sup>

Year	Male Teachers	All Teachers	Percentage
1908...	355	2,664	13.1
1909...	352	2,694	13.1
1910...	339	2,723	12.4
1911...	331	2,799	11.8
1912...	293	2,804	10.4
1913...	278	2,861	9.7
1914...	272	2,892	9.4
1915...	256	2,945	8.7
1916...	246	3,019	8.1
1917...	198	3,045	6.5
1918...	185	3,037	6.1
1919...	163	3,012	5.4
1920...	199	3,015	6.6
1921...	203	3,089	6.6
1922...	263	3,208	8.2
1923...	277	3,237	8.6
1924...	285	3,279	8.7
1925...	301	3,331	9.0



TABLE 2-Continued

Year	Male Teachers	All Teachers	Percentage
1926...	276	3,320	8.3
1927...	269	3,305	8.1
1928...	294	3,358	8.8
1929...	296	3,382	8.8
1930...	296	3,448	8.6
1931...	331	3,484	9.5
1932...	338	3,542	9.5
1933...	416	3,597	11.6
1934...	446	3,564	12.5
1935...	518	3,649	14.2
1936...	532	3,659	14.5
1937...	564	3,714	15.2
1938...	585	3,794	15.4
1939...	599	3,829	15.6
1940...	619	3,868	16.0
1941...	578	4,016	14.4
1942...	456	4,062	11.2
1943...	358	4,006	8.9
1944...	343	3,990	8.6
1945...	369	4,012	9.1
1946...	462	4,276	10.8

TABLE 2-Continued

Year	Male Teachers	All Teachers	Percentage
1947...	501	4,414	11.3
1948...	582	4,537	12.8
1949...	635	4,708	13.5
1950...	731	4,913	14.8
1951...	773	5,157	14.9
1952...	883	5,391	16.3
1953...	789	5,025	15.7
1954...	827	5,096	16.2
1955...	876	5,345	16.3
1956...	940	5,586	16.8
1957...	970	5,766	16.8
1958...	1,006	5,913	17.0

<sup>2</sup>Sources of basic data: Annual Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION for Nova Scotia, School Year Ending 1908-1949, Inclusive and the Annual Report of the DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, Province of Nova Scotia, School Year Ending 1950-1958, Inclusive

TABLE 3

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN THE PUBLICLY  
 CONTROLLED RURAL & VILLAGE SCHOOLS OF THE PROVINCE  
 OF NOVA SCOTIA FOR PERIOD 1923-1958, INCLUSIVE<sup>3</sup>

Year	Male Teachers	All Teachers	Percentage
1923...	162	2,106	7.7
1924...	166	2,122	7.8
1925...	183	2,153	8.5
1926...	151	2,130	7.1
1927...	144	2,126	6.8
1928...	165	2,146	7.7
1929...	163	2,160	7.5
1930...	169	2,212	7.6
1931...	196	2,214	8.9
1932...	198	2,245	8.8
1933...	257	2,267	11.3
1934...	268	2,219	12.1
1935...	322	2,272	14.1
1936...	327	2,252	14.5
1937...	349	2,291	15.2
1938...	357	2,329	15.3
1939...	365	2,326	15.7

TABLE 3--Continued

Year	Male Teachers	All Teachers	Percentage
1940...	375	2,350	16.0
1941...	337	2,468	13.7
1942...	237	2,468	9.6
1943...	169	2,406	7.0
1944...	159	2,400	6.6
1945...	180	2,402	7.5
1946...	240	2,568	9.3
1947...	261	2,676	9.7
1948...	327	2,738	11.2
1949...	351	2,889	12.1
1950...	417	2,924	14.1
1951...	443	3,106	14.3
1952...	440	3,212	13.6
1953...	344	2,935	11.7
1954...	366	2,890	12.6
1955...	377	2,988	12.6
1956...	415	3,125	13.2
1957...	428	3,225	13.2
1958...	481	3,336	14.4

<sup>3</sup>Sources of basic data: Annual Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION for Nova Scotia, School Year Ending 1923-1958, Inclusive and the Annual Report of the DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, Province of Nova Scotia, School Year Ending 1950-1958, Inclusive

TABLE 4

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN THE PUBLICLY  
 CONTROLLED URBAN SCHOOLS OF THE PROVINCE OF NOVA  
 SCOTIA FOR PERIOD 1923-1958, INCLUSIVE <sup>4</sup>

Year	Male Teachers	All Teachers	Percentage
1923...	115	1,131	10.2
1924...	119	1,157	10.2
1925...	118	1,178	10.0
1926...	125	1,190	10.5
1927...	125	1,179	10.6
1928...	129	1,212	10.6
1929...	133	1,222	10.9
1930...	127	1,236	10.3
1931...	135	1,270	10.6
1932...	140	1,157	12.1
1933...	159	1,330	11.2
1934...	178	1,345	13.2
1935...	196	1,377	14.2
1936...	205	1,407	14.6
1937...	215	1,423	15.1
1938...	228	1,465	15.6
1939...	234	1,503	15.6
1940...	244	1,518	16.1

TABLE 4-Continued

Year	Male Teachers	All Teachers	Percentage
1941...	241	1,548	15.6
1942...	219	1,594	13.1
1943...	189	1,600	11.8
1944...	184	1,590	11.6
1945...	189	1,610	11.8
1946...	222	1,708	12.9
1947...	240	1,738	13.8
1948...	255	1,799	14.1
1949...	284	1,819	15.6
1950...	314	1,964	15.9
1951...	330	2,051	16.0
1952...	393	2,179	18.0
1953...	445	2,090	21.2
1954...	461	2,206	20.8
1955...	499	2,357	21.1
1956...	525	2,461	21.3
1957...	542	2,541	21.3
1958...	525	2,577	20.3

<sup>4</sup>Ibid.

TABLE 5

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN NOVA SCOTIA  
WITH TOTAL MALE TEACHERS IN MARITIME PROVINCES,  
SCHOOL YEAR ENDING 1939-1958, INCLUSIVE<sup>5</sup>

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	Male Maritime Teachers	Percentage
1939...	536	1,207	44.4
1940...	542	1,188	45.6
1941...	482	1,019	47.3
1942...	383	861	44.4
1943...	333	678	49.0
1944...	326	679	48.0
1945...	369	761	48.5
1946...	409	850	48.0
1947...	437	955	45.8
1948...	514	1,082	47.5
1949...	575	1,134	50.7
1950...	725	1,418	51.1
1951...	710	1,447	49.1
1952...	754	1,519	49.6
1953...	789	1,549	50.9
1954...	827	1,604	51.6
1955...	876	1,703	51.4

TABLE 5-Continued

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	Male Maritime Teachers	Percentage
1956...	940	1,910	49.2
1957...	970	1,968	49.3
1958...	993	2,015	49.3

<sup>5</sup>Sources of basic data: Dominion Bureau of Statistics: SALARIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, 1956-57, and 1957-58



TABLE 6

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN NOVA SCOTIA  
WITH ALL TEACHERS IN MARITIME PROVINCES, SCHOOL  
YEAR ENDING 1920-1958, INCLUSIVE<sup>6</sup>

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	All Maritime Teachers	Percentage
1920...	199	5,567	3.6
1921...	203	5,814	3.5
1922...	263	6,065	4.3
1923...	277	6,148	4.5
1924...	285	6,288	4.5
1925...	301	6,431	4.7
1926...	276	6,461	4.3
1927...	269	6,453	4.2
1928...	294	6,554	4.5
1929...	296	6,636	4.5
1930...	296	6,726	4.4
1931...	331	6,575	5.0
1932...	338	6,745	5.0
1933...	416	6,757	6.2
1934...	446	6,825	6.5
1935...	518	6,923	7.5
1936...	532	7,041	7.6

TABLE 6-Continued

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	All Maritime Teachers	Percentage
1937...	564	7,099	7.9
1938...	526	6,864	7.7
1939...	536	6,843	7.8
1940...	542	6,876	7.9
1941...	482	6,759	7.1
1942...	383	6,964	5.5
1943...	333	6,883	4.8
1944...	326	6,994	4.7
1945...	369	7,154	5.2
1946...	409	7,275	5.6
1947...	437	7,515	5.8
1948...	514	7,791	6.6
1949...	575	7,960	7.2
1950...	725	8,467	8.6
1951...	710	9,062	7.8
1952...	754	9,464	8.0
1953...	789	9,769	8.1
1954...	827	10,009	8.3
1955...	876	10,508	8.3
1956...	940	11,044	8.5

TABLE 6-Continued

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	All Maritime Teachers	Percentage
1957...	970	11,044	8.5
1958...	993	11,742	8.5

<sup>6</sup>Sources of basic data: Dominion Bureau of Statistics: SURVEY OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, 1950-54, 1954-56 and SALARIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS IN PUBLIC AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, 1956-57, 1957-58

TABLE 7

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN NOVA SCOTIA  
WITH TOTAL MALE TEACHERS IN CANADA, SCHOOL  
YEAR ENDING 1920-1958, INCLUSIVE<sup>7</sup>

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	Male Teachers Canada	Percentage
1920...	141	8,927	1.6
1921...	203	10,084	2.0
1922...	263	10,928	2.4
1923...	277	11,502	2.4
1924...	285	11,696	2.4
1925...	301	12,039	2.5
1926...	276	12,553	2.2
1927...	269	12,940	2.1
1928...	294	13,434	2.2
1929...	296	13,792	2.2
1930...	296	14,057	2.1
1931...	331	15,010	2.2
1932...	338	15,726	2.1
1933...	416	16,213	2.6
1934...	446	17,034	2.6
1935...	518	18,053	2.0
1936...	532	18,616	2.9

TABLE 7-Continued

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	Male Teachers Canada	Percentage
1937...	564	19,149	2.9
1938...	526	19,178	2.7
1939...	536	19,747	2.7
1940...	542	20,017	2.8
1941...	482	19,461	2.5
1942...	383	17,892	2.1
1943...	333	15,517	2.1
1944...	326	15,077	2.1
1945...	369	15,439	2.3
1946...	409	17,415	2.3
1947...	437	18,907	2.3
1948...	514	19,993	2.5
1949...	575	21,867	2.5
1950...	725	23,200	3.1
1951...	710	24,548	2.8
1952...	754	25,607	2.9
1953...	789	26,797	2.9
1954...	827	28,010	2.9
1955...	876	31,849	2.7
1956...	940	34,648	2.7

TABLE 7-Continued

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	Male Teachers Canada	Percentage
1957...	970	36,599	2.7
1958...	993	35,460	2.8

<sup>7</sup> Sources of basic data: Dominion Bureau of Statistics: SURVEY OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, 1950-54, 1956-57, and 1957-58.

TABLE 8

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN NOVA SCOTIA  
WITH ALL TEACHERS IN CANADA, SCHOOL YEAR  
ENDING 1920-1958, INCLUSIVE<sup>8</sup>

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	All Teachers Canada	Percentage
1920...	141	55,672	.25
1921...	203	57,461	.35
1922...	263	59,895	.44
1923...	277	61,672	.45
1924...	285	62,867	.45
1925...	301	63,452	.47
1926...	276	64,836	.43
1927...	269	66,319	.41
1928...	294	68,480	.43
1929...	296	69,392	.43
1930...	296	70,278	.42
1931...	331	71,696	.46
1932...	338	73,429	.46
1933...	416	73,174	.57
1934...	446	73,209	.61
1935...	518	74,174	.70
1936...	532	73,854	.72

TABLE 8-Continued

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	All Teachers Canada	Percentage
1937...	564	74,705	.75
1938...	526	74,448	.71
1939...	536	75,446	.71
1940...	542	76,079	.71
1941...	482	75,723	.63
1942...	383	76,069	.53
1943...	333	75,321	.44
1944...	326	75,440	.43
1945...	369	75,892	.48
1946...	409	77,479	.52
1947...	437	78,789	.55
1948...	514	80,953	.63
1949...	575	85,335	.67
1950...	725	88,289	.82
1951...	710	92,368	.76
1952...	754	96,112	.78
1953...	789	100,418	.78
1954...	827	105,736	.78
1955...	876	114,816	.76
1956...	940	123,248	.76



TABLE 8-Continued

Year	Male N. S. Teachers	All Teachers Canada	Percentage
1957...	970	130,568	.74
1958...	993	132,803	.74

<sup>8</sup>Ibid.

TABLE 9

PERCENTAGE COMPARISON OF MALE TEACHERS IN CANADA WITH  
ALL TEACHERS IN CANADA, SCHOOL YEAR ENDING  
1920-1958, INCLUSIVE<sup>9</sup>

Year	Male Teachers Canada	All Teachers Canada	Percentage
1920...	8,929	55,672	16.0
1921...	10,084	57,461	17.5
1922...	10,928	59,895	18.3
1923...	11,502	61,672	18.7
1924...	11,696	62,867	18.6
1925...	12,039	63,452	20.0
1926...	12,553	64,836	19.4
1927...	12,940	66,319	19.5
1928...	13,434	68,480	19.6
1929...	13,792	69,392	19.9
1930...	14,057	70,278	20.0
1931...	15,010	71,696	20.9
1932...	15,726	73,429	21.4
1933...	16,213	73,174	22.2
1934...	17,034	73,209	23.2
1935...	18,053	74,174	24.3
1936...	18,616	73,854	25.2

TABLE 9-Continued

Year	Male Teachers Canada	All Teachers Canada	Percentage
1937...	19,149	74,705	25.5
1938...	19,178	74,448	25.8
1939...	19,747	75,446	26.2
1940...	20,017	76,079	26.3
1941...	19,461	75,723	25.7
1942...	17,892	76,069	23.5
1943...	15,517	75,321	20.6
1944...	15,077	75,440	20.0
1945...	15,439	75,892	20.3
1946...	17,415	77,479	22.5
1947...	18,907	78,789	24.0
1948...	19,993	80,953	24.7
1949...	21,867	85,335	25.6
1950...	23,200	88,289	26.3
1951...	24,548	92,368	26.6
1952...	25,607	96,212	26.6
1953...	26,797	100,418	26.7
1954...	28,010	105,736	26.5
1955...	31,839	114,816	27.7
1956...	34,648	123,248	28.1

TABLE 9-Continued

Year	Male Teachers Canada	All Teachers Canada	Percentage
1957...	36,599	130,568	28.1
1958...	35,460	132,803	26.7

<sup>9</sup>Ibid.

## CHAPTER 3

### INTERPRETATION OF THE FACTUAL MATERIAL

#### The Period from 1908 to 1958

School year ending July 31, 1908.--Female teachers increased by 37 during the year and male teachers by only one, giving the ratio of 2,309 women to 355 men. 45% of the males held the First Class B License or better; whereas only 19.9% of the women were similarly qualified.

School year ending July 31, 1909.--Male teachers numbered 352, forming slightly over 13% of the profession. 42.8% of the males held the First Class B License or better; whereas only 19.1% of the women were similarly qualified.

School year ending July 31, 1910.--The number of men engaged in teaching in the public schools was 339, a decrease of 13 over the year before; whereas the number of female teachers increased from 2,342 to 2,384. The male percentage dropped from 13.1% to 12.4%.

School year ending July 31, 1911.--The male percentage continued to drop. In 1911 it was 11.8%.

Female teachers increased by 84 during the year and male teachers decreased by 8, giving a ratio of 2,468 women to 331 men.

School year ending July 31, 1912.--Male teachers diminished from 331 to 293 while female teachers increased from 2,468 to 2,511, making a ratio now less than 1 to 8. David Soloman, B.A., LL.D., Principal of the Normal College, states in his Annual Report the following:

In the older and more highly civilized states of Europe, female teachers form a minority. With us the male teacher has become the rate exception.<sup>1</sup>

School year ending July 31, 1913.--Female teachers increased by 72 during the year; and the male teachers decreased by 15. The number of men engaged in the teaching in the public schools was 278; whereas the number of female teachers was 2,883. The male percentage dropped to 9.7%

School year ending July 31, 1914.--During this school year the number of males decreased by 6, while female teachers increased by 37. Male teachers numbered 272, forming 9.4% of the profession.

School year ending July 31, 1915.--The number of males continued to decrease. Male teachers diminished from 272 to 256, while female teachers increased by 69.

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<sup>1</sup>Annual Report of the Superintendent of Education for the year ending July 31, 1912, p. 95

School year ending July 31, 1916.--Male teachers decreased by 10, while female teachers increased by 84. This is better than it looks; for the decrease in the former contained 17 "permissive" licenses of the 3rd class, while the Academic, Superior First and First Class male teachers actually increased in number.

School year ending July 31, 1917.--Male teachers declined during the year from 246 to 198, while female teachers advanced from 2,773 to 2,847. Males are now fewer than 200 out of a total of 3,045 - only one among fifteen.

School year ending July 31, 1918.--The number of men engaged in teaching in the public schools was 185, a decrease of 13 over the year before; whereas the number of female teachers increased from 2,847 to 2,852. The male situation is worse than the above figures indicate because during this year the Class D "permissive" males increased from 3 to 15.

School year ending July 31, 1919.--The male percentage continued to drop. It reached an all time low of 5.4%. The number of male teachers diminished from 185 to 163.

School year ending July 31, 1920.--This is the first time since 1866 that the number of male teachers increased. The male teachers numbered 199, an increase

over the previous year of 36. Male teachers now form 6.6% of the profession.

School year ending July 31, 1921.--During the school year the number of male teachers increased by 4. The percentage, however, remained the same as last year.

School year ending July 31, 1922.--The number of men employed in teaching was 263, an increase of 60 over the year before. The male percentage continues to rise. Male teachers now form 8.2% of the profession.

School year ending July 31, 1923.--The male teachers are increasing and again taking the place they held previous to the outbreak of World War 1. The total increase in the profession was 29. It is encouraging to note that this number was divided equally between male and female teachers. The number of men employed was 277, an increase of 14 over the previous year.

School year ending July 31, 1924.--The percentage of males continue to increase. Male teachers numbered 285, forming 8.7% of the profession. In this year, the male teachers of Classes A, B, and C increased by 17, while the Class D, decreased by 5.

School year ending July 31, 1925.--The number of men engaged in teaching in the public schools was



301, an increase of 16 over the year before. The male percentage increased from 8.7% to 9%.

School year ending July 31, 1926.--Male teachers decreased from 301 to 276. There is, therefore, a drop in the percentage of males. The Superintendent, H. F. Munro, states that this is regrettable and declares that the chief reason is surely economic - a matter of salary.<sup>2</sup>

School year ending July 31, 1927.--The male teachers numbered 269 as compared with 276 of the previous year. The percentage of males decreased to 8.1%.

School year ending July 31, 1928.--Male teachers numbered 294, forming 8.8% of the profession. This is an increase of 25 over the previous year.

School year ending July 31, 1929.--The male percentage remained the same this year. Female teachers increased by 22 during the year and male teachers by only 2, giving a ratio of 3,086 women to 296 men.

School year ending July 31, 1930.--Although the total number of men for the year was the same as the year before, the percentage of males dropped

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<sup>2</sup>Province of Nova Scotia: Annual Report of the SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION for the year ending July 31, 1926, part 1

slightly. This was due to the fact that the number of females increased from 3,086 to 3,152.

School year ending July 31, 1931.--During this school year, the number of males increased by 35, while female teachers increased by one. Male teachers numbered 331, forming 9.5% of the profession.

School year ending July 31, 1932.--Only a slight increase is recorded in the number of male teachers. Female teachers increased by 51; whereas the number of males only increased by 7.

School year ending July 31, 1933.--The number of men engaged in teaching was 416, an increase of over 23% in a single year. The cause of this influx is due to the economic conditions. Many former male teachers again sought positions in the schools.

School year ending July 31, 1934.--The number of men engaged in teaching in the public schools was 446, an increase of 30 over the year before. Male teachers formed 12.5% of the profession.

School year ending July 31, 1935.--The percentage of men in the teaching profession of the Province continues to rise slowly. Male teachers numbered 518, forming 14.2% of the profession. During this year, the number of males increased by 72.

School year ending July 31, 1936.--The number

of male teachers in the profession slowly increases, being now one in seven of the whole profession. The number of males increased by 14.

School year ending July 31, 1937.--Male teachers numbered 564, forming slightly over 15% of the profession.

School year ending July 31, 1938.--The percentage of men in the teaching profession continues to rise slowly. Male teachers numbered 585, forming 15.4% of the profession.

School year ending July 31, 1939.--Male teachers increased from 585 to 599. The male teachers formed 15.6% of the profession.

School year ending July 31, 1940.--Male teachers numbered 619 as compared with 599 of the previous year. Male teachers formed 16% of the profession. This is the highest percentage since 1866.

School year ending July 31, 1941.--During this year, the male teachers decreased from 619 to 578. We are now seeing the decline of the male teacher caused by enlistment in increasing numbers in the armed forces. The percentage dropped, and now the male teachers only form 14% of the profession.

School years, 1942-1945.--During this period

the percentage of males in the teaching profession decreased, with some fluctuation, from 11.2% to 9.1%.

School years, 1946-1958.--A notable feature of the school year 1946-1947 was that the downward trend in the supply of male teachers, first noted early in the war years, definitely came to an end. The percentage of males in the teaching profession increased from 9.1% in 1945 to 10.8% in 1946. Since that year, with the exception of 1953, there has been a constant increase in the proportion of men in the profession.

Table 3.--This table shows that between the years 1923 and 1940, there has been an encouraging increase in the percentage of men taking teaching positions in the Rural and Village schools of the Province of Nova Scotia.

During the years 1941-1947, there was a dropping off. This was the result of the war - the men involved either enlisting or taking a more remunerative position in industry.

The rise however, since 1948, although fluctuating slightly has been generally constant.

Table 4.--This table indicates that between the years 1923 and 1940, there has been a general increase in the percentage of men taking teaching

positions in the Urban Schools of the Province. In 1923, the male teachers numbered 115 and formed 10.2% of all the teachers employed in the Urban Schools. In 1940, the male teachers numbered 244 and formed the same percentage as in the Rural and Village areas, namely 16% of the total.

During the years 1941-1948, the percentage dropped. Commencing with 1949, there has been an encouraging increase; and in the year 1958, the percentage stood at 20%. If this trend continues, the percentage will soon reach the desired 25%.

Table 5.--This table speaks for itself. It indicates that we, in Nova Scotia, have a high percentage of the males teaching in the Maritime Provinces. From 1939 until 1958, there has generally been a constant increase. Across these years, there has been an increase of approximately 5%.

Table 6.--Since 1920, the total of male teachers in Nova Scotia, when compared with the total of all teachers in the Maritime Provinces, indicates a healthy and favourable trend. In 1920, the percentage was 3.6. In 1958, the percentage was 8.5.

Table 7.--Since 1920, the total of male teachers in Nova Scotia when compared with the total of all male teachers in Canada, shows a favourable

increase. In 1920, the percentage was 1.6. From that year until 1958, there has generally been a constant increase. In 1958, the percentage was 2.8.

Table 8.--This table shows the rise in the percentage of male teachers in Nova Scotia when compared with the total of all teachers in Canada. The percentage increase is indeed favourable - going from .25% in 1920 to .74% in 1958.

Table 9.--This table shows the rise in the percentage of male teachers in Canada when compared with the total of all teachers in Canada. The percentage in 1920 was 16. Since that time, there has been a somewhat constant and encouraging increase. In 1958, the percentage of males was 26.7.

## CHAPTER 4

### GENERAL CONSOLIDATION AND CONCLUSION

The percentage of men in the teaching profession continues to rise slowly. At the time free schools were established slightly over half the total number of teachers were men; but their number uniformly declined until at the close of the First Great War it had dwindled to about 5% of the total number engaged in teaching.

The student of economic and social tendencies will be able to assign reasons for this change. For instance, in the decade between 1900 and 1910, increasing industrial opportunities at home and emigration to the Western Provinces of Canada might have been responsible for the decrease of 12%. In the next decade came the War, as a result of which the lowest point was reached in the year 1919 with only 5.4% of the teaching profession represented by men. From 1920 to the year 1958, excluding the year of World War II, there has been an encouraging rise in the male percentage. In 1958, male teachers formed 17% of the profession. Although this 8% less than that recommended in the Survey of

Elementary and Secondary Education,<sup>1</sup> it does represent the hope that if the trend continues; and there is no reason to suspect it will not, we will, within a few years, reach the goal and possibly surpass the 25% mark. The Urban Areas will soon reach this mark. In 1958, the male teachers were 20.3% of the total teachers in the Urban Areas. The picture in the Village and Rural areas is not as favourable. Although the male percentage has doubled since 1923, their numbers are still far below the desired total. Male teachers in Village and Rural areas only form 14.4% of the total number of teachers in that allocation.

Is the number of men in the teaching profession in the Province of Nova Scotia inadequate? Considering all the facts, as presented above, the answer must be in the affirmative. We are, however, in a more fortunate position than the other Provinces which help form "The Maritimes." About 50% of the males who are in the Profession in the Maritimes are holding teaching positions in the Province of Nova Scotia. All the Tables presented herein, forecast an encouraging future for the male teacher. This study, therefore, will not close with the pessimistic outlook presented

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<sup>1</sup>SURVEY OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, 1950-54, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Education Division, p. 20



by James A. Bingay in 1919;<sup>2</sup> but on the other hand, closes with this statement that the time appears to be rapidly approaching when men will hold their rightful position in the Profession.

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<sup>2</sup>James A. Bingay, M.A., PUBLIC EDUCATION IN NOVA SCOTIA (Kingston: The Jackson Press, 1919) p. 48

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