

Main Features.

TABULAR STATEMENT CONCERNING BELGIAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—continued.

(4) SPECIAL schools, ¹ including evening schools for primary instruction, and scientific and art schools.	NOTES:—
	(a) These are so varied in character, and the conditions are so diverse, that reference for information should be made to the publications hereunder noted, ¹ and especially to the recent reports of the Royal Commission on Technical Instruction.
	(b) In industrial schools "drawing is the basis of all the instruction, and is regarded as the universal language."
	(c) Women work schools.
	(d) Remark at International Conference: "As to agriculture, Belgium had proved herself to be, in agricultural matters, the most successful country in Europe."
	(e) No Polytechnic schools in Belgium, although one annexed to university at Brussels.
	(f) But generally note special promotion of technical instruction in Belgium, which instruction is largely gratuitous.
	(g) Among special schools the following should be mentioned: At Ghent, the special school of civil engineering, the special school of arts and manufactures, and the school of horticulture; at Liège, the special school of mining engineering, the school of arts and manufactures, and the school of electric engineering; at Mons, the provincial school of industry and mining; at Gembloux, the State school of agriculture; at Louvain, the school of agriculture joined to the university; at Cureghem, the school of veterinary medicine; at Vilvorde, the school of horticulture; at Antwerp, the upper commercial school; 35 industrial schools; the academies of fine arts in Antwerp, Liège, Brussels, and more than 80 academies or drawing schools; at Brussels, Liège, and Ghent, the Royal Conservatoire of Music, and 62 other conservatoires or music schools; and at Brussels, the military school and the war school.

- Universities.
- Teachers.
- (5.) There are two State universities under the immediate care of the Government, and the Roman Catholics support one at Louvain.
- (6.) The following table gives some particulars relative to teachers :—

TABULAR STATEMENT RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN BELGIUM.

Pupil-teachers and Training Colleges.	Qualifications.	Appointments.	Salaries.
No pupil-teachers. The State, the provinces, and the communes can establish normal schools. The organization of the normal schools of the State is regulated by the Government. The provincial and communal normal schools, as well as private normal schools, may receive subsidies if they submit to inspection. Several State normal schools, ² some for training masters and others for mistresses; where tuition gratuitous, and good, and will probably be better. When students' circumstances require it, food supplied. Course three years. Primary schools annexed, where student-teachers practice at least two years, 6½ hours (six lessons) weekly, under guidance of master. Gymnastics part of training. ³ Besides the State schools there are three ⁴ normal schools adopted by the Government.	Those Belgian or naturalized persons are to be taken as commune teachers—(a) who have obtained diplomas as primary teachers on graduating from a public normal school, or one subject to State inspection after having attended the course during at least two years; (b) who have obtained diplomas of secondary teaching (second degree). Such teachers may also be selected from among those who have successfully passed an examination for teachers before a Board organized by the Government. ⁴ No law requiring qualification for other than Government schools.	The Communal Council has the power of appointing, suspending, and removing teachers. But removal of teachers can only be effected after approval by the permanent committee. Both the Council and the teachers have the right to appeal to the King. The same rules apply to any suspension which exceeds one month, to any suspension with stoppage of pay, and to placing on the unattached list. Suspension once decreed by the Communal Council cannot be reviewed by it on the same facts, nor exceed 6 months. The King may, with the favourable advice of the permanent committee, after having heard the teacher and the Communal Council, remove or suspend a commune teacher. He may, under the same conditions, place him on the unattached list. ⁵ In secondary schools teachers appointed by the King to superior positions, and by Minister to others.	Fixed salaries only. Fixed for infant and primary schools by Communal Councils. But there is minimum ⁶ limit of 1,000fr. for assistants, and 1,200fr. for teachers, besides a house. Those in secondary schools generally not more than 5,000fr., and in universities professors not more than 7,000fr. Pensions are given. ⁷

- Scholarships.
7. The following table supplies some information on scholarships :—

¹ (a) R.C., vol. 1, pp. 25, 44, 45, 46, 57-64, 125, 126, 171-173, 245-247, 354-383, 505, 507, 511, 515, 520, 523; vol. 2, Agriculture, pp. 179-189, 293, 295; vol. 3, answers, 1236-1239.

(b) See remarks of M. Couvreur on art education, I.E.C., vol. 14, pp. 259-261; see also vol. 13, pp. 3, 322; and vol. 14, pp. 6, 8, 259, 271.

(c) Teaching of Agriculture, vol. 14, pp. 384-397; and Brit. Leg. Rep., 1 July, 1868, pp. 87-94, and 191-253. Most of the adult schools in Belgium, as in France and Germany, are Sunday schools. The Communal Councils regulate everything relating to the establishment and organization of adult schools, art 2.

² "Training schools are the foundation of primary schools," A. I. Germain, I.E.C., vol. 14, p. 335.

³ For full details see—

(a) "Organisation," par A. I. Germain, 1884;

(b) Programmes, 1885;

(c) Instructions pour les jurys, 1885;

(d) Programme pour la préparation d'institutrices d'écoles gardiennes;

(e) I.E.C., vol. 13, espec. pp. 468, 472, 479-480; vol. 14, pp. 287-333, 334-346; vol. 16, p. 97.

⁴ See loi 20 sept., 1884, art. 8.

"In Holland no teacher is appointed without undergoing a competitive public examination. See Mr. Bailey's paper as above.

⁵ See loi, 1884, art. 7.

⁶ Loi, art. 7.

⁷ Règlements, 1884, p. 54 and seq.