

This provision applies to the Protestant Separate Schools of Quebec as well as to the Roman Catholic Separate Schools of Ontario.

THE QUEBEC SCHOOL SYSTEM

is not quite the same as that of Ontario. In Quebec distinctive religious teaching, Roman Catholic or Protestant, appears to be contemplated for both the Public Schools and High Schools; and for, in fact, all public institutions of learning. Where the majority of the people is Protestant, as in the eastern townships and other Protestant sections, the religious teaching in Public Schools may, by law, be distinctively Protestant; and where the majority are Roman Catholic, as it is in most localities, the teaching is distinctively Roman Catholic. The consequence is that in Roman Catholic localities the Protestants establish Separate Schools, and in Protestant localities the Roman Catholics establish Separate Schools. Public money given by the Legislature, whether for primary or superior education, is divided between Protestant and Roman Catholic institutions. In the case of Primary Schools the division seems to be according to the school population of the locality. In the case of High Schools and other institutions for Superior education, the division seems to be according to the population of the Protestants and Roman Catholics respectively in the Province as a whole. The practical working of the Quebec law is such, I understand, that the Protestant Schools are practically non-sectarian, in consequence, I suppose, of the diversities among Protestants; while the Roman Catholic Public Schools are distinctively Roman Catholic.

OUR UPPER CANADA SYSTEM

had always been different. Here there had been, and still is, an endeavor to avoid occasion for Separate Schools, or other educational institutions of a denominational kind, by so arranging for and conducting the religious teaching and exercises in all the Public Schools and Colleges which receive Provincial aid, that all our youth, Roman Catholic or Protestant, may attend them without offence to their consciences. No Provincial aid is given to denominational High Schools, Universities or Colleges; but public aid was given to primary Separate Schools for many years before Confederation. The consequence of the policy pursued in Ontario has been, that we have probably fewer Separate Schools than we should have if we had adopted the Quebec system; and that we have also fewer denominational High Schools either