

II

CHANGES IN LAWS AND REGULATIONS

(A)

EDUCATION

Education in Canada is primarily a provincial responsibility. The significant changes in laws and regulations during 1952 and 1953, as reported by the provinces, were:

1. BRITISH COLUMBIA

(a) School Building Grants - Under procedure introduced in 1953 the local authorities borrow the full amount of the cost of capital construction, the debentures to be guaranteed as to principal and interest by the Provincial Government. Provincial grants will cover 50 per cent of the annual cost of amortization of the debt.

(b) Curriculum - The revision of the high school curriculum was completed to the Grade XII level. Students must complete at least one "major" course to graduate from the general programme, and at least three "major" courses to obtain entrance to the university. Majors are taken in addition to the constants or "core" subjects required of all high school students.

(c) Auxiliary or Out-of-School Services - A new Community Programmes Branch was set up to foster and develop local recreational commissions in all parts of the province where the need is felt.

2. ALBERTA

(a) School Law - The School Act was rewritten in 1952. The main effects are an improvement in organization, the clarification of some provisions, and the elimination of a considerable amount of material no longer applicable to school operation in the province.

(b) Alberta Academy Act - This Act, passed in 1952, established an Academy charged with the responsibility of giving honour and recognition to creative achievement in the arts or humanities.

(c) School Building Grants - The School Buildings Assistance Act, also passed in 1952, and amended in 1953, replaced the former School Borrowing Assistance Act. The Act provides for assistance in the erection of schools by way of both grant and loan. The loan limit is 40 per cent of approved cost. The Act is administered by a three-member Board on which the Department of Education has one representative.

(d) Students Assistance Act - Passed in 1953, this Act provides for loans to students pursuing a degree course, to teachers in training, and to student nurses. It is administered by a Board of which the President of the University and the Deputy Minister of Education are members.