

CHAPTER III.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Outlining Central and Local Control as Exercised by The Education Office, The Superintendent of Education, and Local Boards of School Trustees

When one finds so many excellent things in the educational system of an outlying province like British Columbia; when he finds the province so well supplied with schools and a very high grade of teachers; when he notes the public interest everywhere manifest in education he is scarcely prepared for the feeling of keen disappointment that awaits him when he glances over the meagre provisions of Chapter 206 of the Statutes of the Province, entitled: "An Act Relating to the Public Schools," and by short title known as, "The Public Schools Act." The school law of the province is comprised in one hundred and forty-seven sections, covering but thirty pages of the School Manual. The Act is, therefore, characterized by extreme brevity and is remarkable for its omissions. The defects of the Act have in some measure been made good by the administrative capacity of the Superintendent of Education and his assistants at the Education Office, but this has imposed an additional burden on an already over-worked department and brought down upon it the charge