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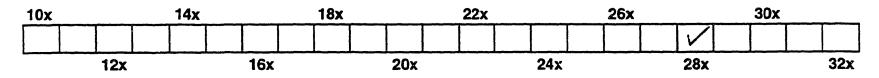
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2nd Session, 5th Parliament, 19 Victoria, 1856.

BILL.

An Act to provide for the establishment of Superior Primary Schools in certain Parishes and Townships in Lower Canada.

Received and read, first time, Tuesday, 4th March, 1856.

Second Reading, Wednesday, 5th March, 1856.

MR. POULIN.

TORONTO: PRINTED BY JOHN LOVELL, NONGE STREET. BILL.

An Act to provide for the establishment of superior Primary Schools in certain Parishes and Townships in Lower Canada.

WHEREAS schools purely elementary do not suffice to afford to Preamble. the people an education adequate to their desires and requirements, on account of the difficulties experienced in the establishment of Model Schools upon the basis laid down by the Act 9 Vict., cap. 5 27: And inasmuch as superior elementary instruction receives but little encouragement in Lower Canada, and the people derive no apparent advantages from their schools, it becomes necessary to make further provisions for the perfecting of a system of public education; Therefore. Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows:

10 I. As soon as possible after the passing of this Act, the School Com- Superior missioners elected by virtue of the Acts 9 Vict. chap., 27, and 12 Vict. School may be chap. 50, shall establish in each School Municipality, not containing each School less than three thousand inhabitants, a superior elementary school in Municipality. the most central part of the Municipality, which shall be under the con-

15 trol of the said School Commissioners, and shall be in the place and stead of a Model School as contemplated by the Acts above cited : Pro- Proviso. vided always, that it shall be lawful for the School Commissioners of any Municipality, the population of which shall be under three thousand, to establish a superior elementary school by virtue of this Act, if they 20 shall think proper so to do.

II. Children of both sexes residing in the School Municipality in What children II. Children of boin sexes residing in the School multicipality in shall be admit-which such school shall be established, shall be admitted thereto upon shall be admit-ted at such payment only of the fees payable at the other schools of the Municipa- Schoola lity, provided that the children admitted to the said school shall be at 15 least able to read, to write from dictation and be acquainted with the

four primary rules of arithmetic both simple and compound.

III. The regular course of instruction in the said School shall extend course of inover a period of at least three years, during which instruction shall be struction. given in grammar and geography in all their branches, history, practical 20 geometry, linear drawing, the use of the globes, book-keeping, composition and the forms of commercial transactions and the principles of Goverument and Agriculture.

IV. The purchase of the land, and the erection and repair of a build- Land and ing for such superior elementary school, shall be provided for in the building for 55 manner prescribed by the Acts 9, cap. 27, and 12 Viet., cap. 50 for the such School. purchase of land and the erection of Model school houses.

All Model and Superior Schools to be conducted ac-Act.

V. Every Model or superior school, and every institution under the control of the Commissioners, serving as a Model or superior school. shall hereafter be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this cording to this Act as superior elementary schools, and shall enjoy the benefit of the education laws of the Country, on the condition of the observance by 5 them of all the clauses and conditions of this Act.

Schools under roughs and Incorporated Villages.

Salary of Teachers.

VI. In every borough or incorporated Village not containing less than this Act in Bo- three thousand inhabitants it shall and may be lawful to establish two superior elementary schools, one for boys and one for girls, to which schools shall be admitted all children sufficiently advanced to attend 10 them, residing in the School Municipality of which the said Borough or Village formed part previous to its incorporation, and the salary allowed to the teacher of the said school for girls shall be at least sixty pounds current money of this Province, and the said salary shall, in the same manner as those of the male teachers of superior elementary schools, be 15 paid out of the grants received from the Government, by the two School Municipalities united for the purposes of this Act, and every Borough or Village incorporated for school purposes, containing less than three thousand persons, and by virtue of this Act reunited to the Municipality where on it formerly formed part, for the purposes of this Act, and each of 20 the said Municipalities, shall contribute to the expenses of the said school in proportion to their respective populations.

Duty of School inspectors as to Schools under this Act.

VII. It shall hereafter be the duty of the School Inspectors to superintend the establishment and the operation of the said superior elementary schools in their respective districts; and in order thereto, they shall be 25 and are hereby invested with all the authority conferred by the Acts relative to education before cited in order to their due execution, without prejudice to the rights of the rate payers as conferred upon them by the same laws.

Qualification of Teachers.

Term of engagement: Proviso.

Salary and how paid.

VIII. The instruction in the said superior elementary school, shall 30 be entrusted to a teacher who shall have received his diploma as a Model School teacher from one of the Board of Examiners established by the Act 9 Vict, cap. 27, and the said teacher shall be engaged by the School Commissioners for a period not less than three years, according to the duration of the course of instruction adopted in the said school, 35 the said teacher, however, being at all times liable to be dismissed from his said office for the causes mentioned in the 21st section of the Act 9 Vict., cap. 27, upon proof made to the satisfaction of the visitor of the school for the District, or of the Superintendent of Education; and the annual salary of the said teacher shall not be less than £75 currency 40 in Municipalities containing three thousand inhabitants, nor less than £100 like currency in Municipalities having 4,000 inhabitants, which sum of £75 or £100 shall be paid by the Secretary-Treasurer out of the grant received from the Government for the School Municipality.

Part of money to which the District is entitled may be appropriated to the salary of the Teachers of Schools under this Act.

IX. And whereas the District in which such superior elementary 45 school shall have been established, will derive more immediate benefit than the other Districts of the same School Municipality; Be it enacted that before making any appropriation out of the grant made by Government, the Secretary-Treasurer shall, if the School Commissioners for the Municipality shall think it just and expedient, appropriate a sum not 50 exceeding one-third of the money belonging to the District in which the

A subscription

said superior elementary school shall have been established, towards the payment of the salary of the teacher of the said school.

X. The said superior elementary school in each Municipality shall Inspection of be open to the examination of all the Officers appointed under the Acts 9, Schools under 5 12 and 15 Vict., and the Inspector for the District in which such schools shall be established shall moreover make regular visits thereto every three months, shall fix the duration of the course of studies, determine the subjects of instruction for each year in a uniform manner in each school, preside at the public examinations, and make a special 10 report to the Superintendent of Education.

XI. Any School Commissioner or body of Commissioners elected by Penalty on virtue of the 9 and 12 Vict., chapters 27 and 50, who shall refuse to School Commssioners not conform to the provisions of this Act or neglect to put them into execution, shall, each Commissioner severally, be liable to the penalty estabwith this Act. 15 lished in such case by the Education Laws hereinbefore cited, which

said penalty shall be recovered in the manner provided by the said Acts or by the School Inspector, who is hereby bound to see to the execution of this Act.

XII. Nothing contained in this Act shall extend to the Cities of Que- Not to apply 20 bec or Montreal.

XIII. The said superior elementary schools shall open upon the first Period during Tuesday of September in each year, and shall close upon the third which such Thursday of July following, and during the above mentioned period of Schools shall study the said school shall be in actual operation for at least two hun-25 dred days.

XIV. Pupils shall only be admitted to the said superior elementary Period for adschools within the fifteen days following the opening of the said schools, mission of puand not afterwards.

XV. Any child who shall be absent without urgent cause, to the evi- Dismissal of 30 dent detriment of his studies, and so as to retard the progress of the classes, pupils not atwho shall not, upon warning to that effect, attend more regularly, larly. may, upon complaint made by the teacher to the School Commissioners, be, by the order of the said Commissioners, sent back to the District schools; it shall be lawful, however, the following year, to admit the 35 said pupil to the superior elementary school.

XVI. The clauses and parts of clauses of the Acts relating to educa-Application of tion hereinbefore cited, which relate to the establishment, support and certain clauses management of Model Schools and schools for girls, shall cease to have force and effect for the purposes above mentioned, but the said clauses
40 and parts of clauses herein referred to, shall continue by virtue of this Act to have force and effect in relation to the establishment, mainten-ance and government of superior elementary schools.