

EDUCATION

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

V. Z. MANNING - 4927 - 12th Avenue, Delta, B. C.

INTERVIEWED: February 21, 1975

NO TAPE

Term: Richmond 1935 - 1949

Requirements: A superintendent was chosen by the department on his previous record.

Career

- Mr. Manning graduated from King Edward School in Vancouver in 1907. Miss Kathryn McNeilly, a pioneer teacher of Richmond was a class-mate.
- Attended university courses provided by McGill University at King Edward School, and graduated from McGill in 1910. (University of B. C. was not in existence at the time).
- Prior to his appointment as superintendent, Mr. Manning was Principal at Grandview School in Vancouver.
- In 1921 became superintendent of East Kootney - 14 yrs. there.
- 1935 - 1949 Superintendent of Richmond - this area was not separate at that time, nor were the districts numbered. This school district then included Delta and most of the west coast of Vancouver Island -
 - until 1938 or 1939 when Mr. Lord became superintendent - Mr. Manning also had Nanaimo
 - Alert Bay 1930, closed school there, direct result of his witnessing a pot-latching ceremony.
 - area included logging camps such as "De Mars" and a pulp mill at Port Alice.
- Area boundaries changed during his term, but to cover same took him away from his home from Monday to Friday.
- 1949 retired (now 85 years of age - born in 1890)

Some Duties of Superintendent

- Official Trustee in some areas like Kent
- Attend all school board meetings

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Duties of Superintendent - continued...

- Total responsibility for education, visited each school at least once a year, and if required, visited several times.
- Could move teachers in the district, but seldom did.
- Judge the skill of teachers - if a dismissal was recommended, the teachers had the right to appeal to Victoria.

Schools

- No adults in the school program.
- If population warranted, grades 1 - 6 in separate school from high school.
- In rural areas, school also used for church - i.e., Zeballos, Vancouver Island.
- Plumbing indoors in most areas.
- Richmond & Delta schools were on par, well organized and supervised.
- Special events optional with the school involved.
- Very little counselling done in high schools; courses mainly academic.
- When the Japanese left (1942), only affected Richmond area.

Transportation

- Used the steamship "Active" - took his car on boat.
- Roads generally good except in places such as De Mars Logging Camp.
- Also used Anglican Church launch on the coast.

A. L. Dyball