

**EVERYBODY'S GUIDE TO THE
EDUCATION ACT, 1902, BEING
THE TEXT OF THE ACT, TOGETHER
WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND
EXPLANATORY NOTES**

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Everybody's guide to the Education act, 1902, being the text of the act, together with an introduction and explanatory notes by Hartley B. N. Mothersole

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HARTLEY B. N. MOTHERSOLE

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XXI-6

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TO
THE EDUCATION ACT, 1902,

BY

HARTLEY B. N. MOTHERSOLE, M.A., LL.M.,
Of Trinity College, Cambridge, and the Inner Temple and S.E. Circuit,
Barrister at-Law.

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Of Trinity College, Cambridge, and the Inner Temple and S.E. Circuit,
Barrister-at-Law. Author of the "Parish Councils Guide."
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PREFACE.

An Act which changes the administration of the whole of the national system of education—primary, secondary, and technical—in England and Wales must, I think, be of interest to many persons.

LIBRARY SETS

There is really only one way in which to make sure of the terms of an Act, and that is by seeing it for one's self. The Act itself, however, refers to so many other Acts, and assumes so much knowledge on the part of its readers of the existing law and practice, that to the ordinary layman it would prove an incomplete and somewhat perplexing source of information.

The Act is reproduced *in extenso*, and under each section I have given such explanation or additional information as seemed necessary to make it intelligible to an ordinary reader.

DEC 10 1903

In the Introduction there will be found a brief summary of the existing system of education, followed by a digest of the provisions of the Act, the various items relating to specific subjects being collected together and supplemented by matter from other sources where necessary.

I have endeavoured to compile a very full Index to the Act, which I hope will be of service to my readers for purposes of reference.

HARDING

Some important circulars issued by the Board of Education have been inserted in the Appendix.

In preparing this work I deemed it wise to follow the plan of my "Parish Councils Guide," which, by the favour of the Public and the Press, reached its fifth edition within two years of its publication.

HARTLEY B. N. MOTHERSOLE.

4, Pump Court, Temple, E.C.

January, 1903.

113 47 S

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION :—	PAGE
The System of Education before the “appointed day”—	
Elementary Education before the “appointed day” ...	9-11
Secondary Education before the “appointed day” ...	11-12
The System of Education after the “appointed day”—	
The Local Education Authority	13
Arrangements between Councils	13-14
The Education Committees	14-17
Higher Education	17-19
Elementary Education	19-22
Transitory Provisions... ..	22-25
Position of Existing Officers	25-27
Management of Schools	27-32
Maintenance of Schools	32-37
Provision of New Schools	38
Necessity of Schools	38
Schools Attached to Institutions	39
Endowments	39
Aid Grant..	40-42
Expenses	42-45
Borrowing... ..	45
Disqualifications	45-46
THE EDUCATION ACT, 1902 (2 Edw. 7 c. 42).	
Local Education Authority	49
Higher Education	51
Elementary Education	58
General	104
Schedule I. :	
Provisions as to Education Committees and Managers	133
Schedule II. :	
Provisions as to Transfer of Property and Officers and Adjustment	135
Schedule III. :	
Modification of Acts, &c.	143
Schedule IV. :	
Enactments repealed	148
APPENDICES :—	
Memorandum of Board of Education, 20th December, 1902	159
Regulations for Evening Schools (from 1st August, 1902, to 31st July, 1903)	166
Rules to be observed in Planning and Fitting up Public Elementary Schools	175
Memorandum of Board of Education Issued to County Councils, 13th January, 1903	194
Memorandum of Board of Education Issued to Councils of County Boroughs, 17th January, 1903	198
Memorandum of Board of Education Issued to Councils of certain Non-county Boroughs and Urban Districts, 17th January, 1903	202

INTRODUCTION.

The system of Education before the appointed day — The Education Act, 1902.

[The sections quoted refer to the Education Act, 1902, except where otherwise stated.]

Elementary Education Before the Appointed Day.

Before 1870 the general education of children in elementary schools was a matter for voluntary effort only. The Church of England and some of the Nonconformist bodies did as much as they could in particular districts for the elementary education of the children of the locality.

In 1870 the Elementary Education Act was passed to supplement the existing schools, not to supplant them. Under this Act, where local voluntary effort had failed to provide the necessary school accommodation, the State stepped in, and by means of a "board school" filled up the gap.

In that year there were about 8,000 voluntary schools; now in 1902 there are over 14,000, so that during the last thirty-two years voluntary effort has still continued to cover the country with schools in which elementary education has been given to all comers: at the same time there are in existence nearly 6,000 board schools created under the Act of 1870.

At the present moment there are over three million children educated in voluntary schools and about 2½ millions of children educated in board schools.

It is important to remember these figures when we consider the scheme of the Act of 1902, for it, like the Act of 1870, has taken into account the existing conditions, and has attempted