THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE CITY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

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The Legal Status of the City School Superintendent by John Cayce Morrison

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JOHN CAYCE MORRISON

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By

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J. C. M.



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CHAPTER I THE PROBLEM

The 1918 census report of Financial Statistics of Cities stated that the 227 cities above 30,000 population contained 34,000,000 people or 32.9 per cent. of the estimated population of the country. The same report also stated that 31.4 per cent. of the entire expenditure of this group of cities was for schools. That this was a considerable increase over the preceding decade is indicated in the following figures:

1907 1911 1915 1918

Per cent. of total city expense

devoted to schools..... 27.7 28.6 30.2 31.4 Cost of Schools per capita...\$4.42 \$5.04 \$5.58 \$6.28

If in addition to the 227 cities mentioned above, the expenditure for schools made by the 1,200 odd cities with population of from 5,000 to 30,000 is taken into consideration, the immensity of the problem of city school administration, merely from the business standpoint, becomes apparent. The widespread demand for better qualified teachers, for better school buildings and equipment, and for better exercise by the school authorities of nearly all functions that have been delegated to the schools promise that the cost of schools will not diminish, but will of necessity considerably increase during the next several years.

Under the stress of changing economic and social conditions the American people are exceedingly interested not only in the expenditure of money for schools but