

Contents

Preface	xi
Abbreviations	xii
1 The prologue	1
<i>Causes for concern</i>	1
<i>Pressures for educational reform</i>	2
<i>Collectivism</i>	3
<i>The employment of children and raising the school-leaving age</i>	6
<i>Concern for the very young children and the youthful school-leaver</i>	7
<i>Local government</i>	8
<i>Finance</i>	9
<i>An Education Bill</i>	10
2 The Education Bill, 1917	11
<i>The effect of the First World War</i>	11
<i>The new President—H. A. L. Fisher</i>	16
<i>Educational reform</i>	19
<i>The Education Bill, 1917</i>	22
<i>Further reactions to the Bill</i>	25
<i>Action by the Board of Education</i>	28
<i>Fisher's tour of the North and West</i>	29
<i>The withdrawal of the 1917 Education Bill</i>	32
3 New lamps for old—the Education Act, 1918	35
<i>The Education Bill, 1918</i>	35
<i>Reactions to the Bill</i>	41
<i>The cost of educational reform</i>	44
<i>Secondary education</i>	45
<i>Continuation schools</i>	47

Contents

<i>The campaign against the provision of continuation schools</i>	52
<i>Other reactions to the Fisher amendments</i>	54
<i>The Education Act, 1918</i>	55
<i>The lights come on again</i>	59
4 The aftermath	61
<i>The new era</i>	61
<i>Schemes for the progressive development of education</i>	63
<i>The Burnham Committees</i>	64
<i>Secondary education for all</i>	67
<i>The effect of the economic crisis on educational development</i>	69
<i>Continuation schools</i>	72
<i>End of an era</i>	75
5 An assessment of the Education Act, 1918	77
Appendices	90
Suggestions for further reading	97
Bibliography	99