

the Roman Catholic Board has 41. In consequence, the Protestants have a school equipment unsurpassed in the Dominion.

What are the grievances of which Protestants may complain? The composition of the Council of Public Instruction is not one, especially as this does not interfere with the complete control by the Protestants of their own schools. It would be as reasonable to complain that the Legislative Assembly is not equally divided between Roman Catholics and Protestants. Is there a grievance in the method of dividing the taxes of commercial corporations according to school attendance and not according to faith of stockholders? Most Protestants say there is, and in Montreal especially the Protestant schools suffer very heavy loss by this method. Yet, taking the whole Province together, there is another side even to 'this subject. There is a grievance and it is most serious, but it does not attach to the system, in the method of changing boundaries of parishes with a result of frequently shutting up a poor, struggling Protestant school. If over-zealous clerics and politicians unite for such an object they can do much harm, even in spite of the system and by ignoring the excellent law of 1890 above referred to. Yet such a grievance as this is accidental. Responsibility, therefore, is not with the system, but with its administration, for, in the case of change of boundaries, time is given to notify the minority, that it may make all needful representations to the government before the Order-in-Council is passed for the change.

The Protestant schools of Quebec are better than strangers generally suppose, and that in spite of most discouraging difficulties. We have, however, a fair system in which to make the most of our opportunities. It is not the fault of the system if the Protestants in many parts are few and scattered. It is not the fault of the system if, in some localities there is a lack of public interest. The same may be said of Ontario and New York. It is not the fault of the system if the Legislative grant for Public School is small and less than in other provinces.

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