

of nationalism or of the Church. \ In open violation of the law of Ontario the County Council of Prescott and Russell votes \$300 every year to the maintenance of the continuation class in the Separate School of the town of Hawkesbury. And the peculiar aspect of the situation is that the Protestants dare not protest against this illegal grant! To understand the situation it will be necessary to pass in brief review the history of the Hawkesbury High School.

This institution of learning was established some forty years ago, when the English-speaking inhabitants were numerous and the French were few. The site for the school was given by an English-speaking Canadian, and Protestant money built the institution. For thirty-five years it pursued its beneficent work, but five years ago it was destroyed by fire. It was insured for the sum of \$16,500, and the English-speaking citizens proposed to re-build it. The French were averse to this proposition. Although the French had now become numerous and in the majority in the town, few of their children cared to attend High School, and fewer still were encouraged to do so. It was looked upon by priests and French people as an institution which existed for the benefit of Protestants. So with these sentiments the French of Hawkesbury began to speculate how they could rid themselves of the burden of High School taxes. They discovered in the statutes of Ontario that there was only one way out of the difficulty, and that was to abolish the High School altogether. They also discovered the *modus operandi* to accomplish this unselfish purpose. A largely-signed petition was presented to the Town Council asking for the abolishment of the High School. As a result of this petition the Council passed a resolution favoring their petitioners' prayer that the High School should be abolished, and recommended the County Council of Prescott and Russell to take the necessary action. As there was only one Protestant on the Hawkesbury Council it was not a difficult matter to manage the affair. The County Council was also largely French, so the