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WHAT CANADIAN EDITORS THINK

BOARD OF CONTROL FOR MONTREAL.

(Montreal Standard.)

IF any improvement is to be made in the civic government of Montreal as a result of the revelations of graft and corruption made before the Royal Commission, it is essential that the citizens should thoroughly understand that it will depend upon the interest which they take in the subject as to whether or not any improvement will be made. The Board of Control idea will be placed before the people for their endorsation in September next. It of of supreme importance that the citizens should realise that if they want better civic conditions they should see that nothing interferes with the carrying out of their wishes in this respect. It will be a contest between the citizens and the grafters. There is many a man, many an organisation, determined that this Board of Control idea shall not carry. Why? The reason is not far to seek. Study the evidence contained in the Royal Commission, and it will be clearly seen that a Board of Control would prevent many of the irregularities, if not worse, which have been taking place. There is, therefore, a strong influence, in fact, which will do everything to maintain the old conditions—the old graft conditions. It therefore remains with the citizens themselves whether or not they desire better things. If they do not get out and work, and organise, better conditions will not be obtained.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE GAMBLERS.

(Toronto Globe.)

THE Federal Government cannot any longer evade responsibility race-track gambling in Canada. Parliament must face the question squarely. The statute, as it now stands, according to the interpretation of the courts, is a mockery of justice. Race-track book-making is a crime in one place, but not in another. It is a crime if the book-maker stands on a box, but not if he moves about the race-grounds. The Department of race-grounds. Justice has failed, so far, to frame a statute that will do what Parliament manifestly intended should be done. For this reason Canada to-day stands disgraced as being the resort of racetrack gamblers who have been driven out of every State in the American Republic. What is absolutely illegal in New York State, in Texas, and now even in Kentucky and California, is that the interpretations of Can is, by the interpretations of Canadian courts, legal in Canada. Even Japan has passed a law prohibiting race-track gambling such as Canada allows. That Canada should allow it

is to the shame of Canadians.

The situation in Canada is intolerable. Every great race-track in Canada is an evil and a curse. The questional control of the control of th tion is under discussion, and must be fought to an issue. For these reasons it was a piece of blundering for the Department of State at Ottawa to grant a charter of incorporation to a grant a charter of incorporation to a group of men whose reputation where they are known warrants the apprehension that the evils which have made the Woodbine, Fort Erie, and Windsor centres and agencies for gambling will, under this Federal charter, be multiplied in number and made more vicious in character.

The Department was under no

The Department was under no obligation to grant that charter. A race-track does not belong to the same

category as ordinary industrial lands, it has been identified with gambling, and is a universal instrument in promoting that vice, just as the bar-room, even though legal, is everywhere an agent serving the vice of drunkenness. To regard either a race-track or a bar-room as an enterprise that must be promoted by the Department of State of Canada is to confuse things that differ. These institutions are notoriously a menace to national welfare. Public opinion is aroused against both of them. For the Ontario Government to issue liquor-club licenses as a matter of "departmental routine," even though it might be routine," even though it might be "legal," would be as unjustifiable an exercise of Governmental responsibility as for the Department of State at Ottawa to grant wide racing charters to men whose supreme interest in horse-racing is the betting opportunities it affords.

The defences offered by Mr. Hart-ley Dewart, K.C., may be regarded as professionally proper, but not even he expects that his estimate of his "clients" will be accepted in Toronto. The question is not as to the legality or the propriety of horse-racing. Neither has it to do with existing racing associations. Indeed, the failure of the law-officers of the Crown to suppress gambling and book-making in connection with the Woodbine and connection with the Woodbine and other Ontario tracks should have made the Department of State hesitate before increasing notoriously law-breaking agencies in Canada "as a matter of departmental routine." Neither at Ottawa nor at Toronto has the Department of Justice proved its Neither al Ottawa nor at Toronto has the Department of Justice proved itself equal to the task of framing and administering laws such as will suppress the gambling enterprises of alleged "reputable citizens." The question now goes to the Government—to Parliament—to the people. It is something more than "departmental routine." routine.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

(Kingston Standard.)

IT is not so much that Germany has at present a greater navy or an at present a greater navy or an immediate prospect of having one that has caused the excitement in Britain, as it is that German efficiency is telling against England in every direction; and Englishmen recognise that German efficiency applied to naval construction may in the end win out.

The course for England to adopt is plain. Every energy should be exerted to give the masses of the English people a splendid technical training. This has not been done. In her higher University education the training given in England has always been admirable though even in that some improvement must be made on the technical side. But the British were content to educate the classes—the masses did not matter. It was a fatal blunder. Germany and England are both aristocratic and England are both aristocratic countries, but there is this difference —in England the wealthy classes con-trol all legislation and they have legislated for themselves—for the legislated for themselves—for the rich; in Germany, on the contrary, the Emperor is all-powerful and no more astute or able ruler has sat on a European throne for a century than the present Emperor of Germany. He has seen clearly that the masses must be educated and he has left no stone unturned to make their left no stone unturned to make their education as thorough as human means could make it. The result has shown the wisdom of the course he

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