

Concessions as regards the teaching of French have since been made both in the Public and Separate Schools, the regulations being identical for each. If the French desire greater concessions, there are constitutional means of obtaining them. But we do not intend to let the French ruin our Separate Schools, while they use militant tactics to obtain more French teaching.

#### ATTACK ON CLERGY.

Not merely have the Bilingualists attempted to make the English Separate Schools a buffer between them and the government; they have actually attempted to make the Catholic church a similar buffer. They have attempted to justify their illegal defiance of the English-speaking inspector on religious grounds. They have denounced as bad Catholics those bishops, priests or laymen who refuse to support their illegal campaign.

#### ALSO ON GOVERNMENT.

We deny that the French-Canadian Educational Association or French priests have a right to declare, in the name of the Catholic church, religious war on the Ontario government. No lower ecclesiastical authority than the bishop of the diocese has a right to declare a given civil law unjust and make it a matter of conscience to oppose it. The Archbishop of Ottawa has not denounced any law of the Ontario government or regulation of the Ontario department of education. No lower ecclesiastical authority than the united hierarchy of this province has a right to declare a province-wide religious agitation against a law or regulation of the Ontario government.

#### ACCEPT SEPARATE ACT.

The united hierarchy of this province has not, and never has, done so. Rather the hierarchy of the Catholic Church in Ontario accepted in 1863 the Separate Schools Act, which gave the government the right to send Protestant inspectors into our schools. The hierarchy still accepts that Act, hence that principle. For many years practically the only inspectors were Protestant inspectors, and they were never refused admission into a Separate School, because they never interfered in religious matters. When on one historic occasion a Catholic teacher refused a school register to a Protestant inspector he was rebuked by his bishop for doing so. The continuation classes in the Separate Schools have today, as they always have had, only Protestant inspectors, and no objection has ever been raised against them. The religious war declared in this city by the French-Canadian Educational Association and the Bilingual trustees is as much an insult to the authority of the Catholic Church as it is an affront to the Ontario government.

#### WHY THE OBJECTIONS.

The real objection to the Protestant inspectors is that they are English and not French. When a few years ago it was found necessary, in order to safeguard the rights of English-speaking children in the Bilingual Schools and to promote a greater efficiency in the teaching of English, to appoint English-speaking inspectors in addition to the Bilingual inspectors, the French could have obtained English-speaking Catholic inspectors from the government. These they did not want. So the government gave them English-speaking Protestant inspectors, safe-guarding their religious rights by giving the Protestant inspectors no authority to interfere in religious matters.

#### RELIGION ONLY A CLOAK.

The French, however, availed themselves of the chance thus offered to make religion a cloak for their nationalism, and defied the inspectors on religious grounds. We will have nothing to do with this religious hypocrisy. If the chief inspector, who is a Protestant, should care to visit the English Separate Schools of Ottawa, he will be very welcome. We know that he has authority to inspect our schools, and we know that he would not interfere in the slightest with our religious rights. There are none of our schools that we are afraid to have inspected.