

A FATAL POLICY.

This has intensified racial feeling tenfold and has driven a number of English supporters to the public schools. A policy which drives English Separate School supporters to the public schools is a fatal one. We now reiterate our claim, a claim which we have proved with great wealth of argument in our previous public statements to the press, that natural equity, business efficiency and civic peace require that the English Separate Schools and the Bilingual Separate schools of this city should be under two mutually, functionally and financially independent boards or committees.

THE GOVERNMENT'S STAND.

We fail to see that the Ontario government has any reason to object to the formation in Ottawa of these mutually independent school boards or committees. We are not asking the government to create a new system of schools. We demand merely a new type of school board. It is unreasonable and impracticable to forcibly unite under joint management two fully developed sets of schools, different in language of instruction, different in curriculum, different in teachers' qualifications, different in inspectors. We have no objection to the French having their schools, but we do hold that they should pay for them. We object to a large part of our revenue going to their support, especially since we have great need of it ourselves.

OBJECT TO SYSTEM.

We object to the present system, which permits the French voters of this city, who have a set of schools more different from our English Separate Schools than are the Public Schools from the Separate Schools, to elect our trustees, to control our schools, and to spend our money. We maintain that, while temporary makeshifts may be found, the only satisfactory and permanent solution of the Ottawa Separate School difficulty is complete separation of the English Separate Schools and the Bilingual Separate Schools. The French of this city have rejected this perfectly fair proposition with scorn and insults. Perhaps some day they may realize that it is also their only salvation.

"FRENZIED FINANCE."

Meanwhile as long as we are forced to remain in partnership with the Bilingual trustees, we are bound to see that our partners do not ruin us. Unfortunately our partners have attempted and are attempting to ruin us, by their insurrectionist plan of campaign and frenzied finance.

NO PART IN QUARREL.

Let it be clearly understood that we have no direct part in this quarrel between the Ontario government and the French-Canadian Educational Association. As long as our schools and our children are not thereby affected either directly or indirectly, the French may teach five hours a day of French in their schools for all we care. That is their business, not ours.

Unfortunately, the French have dragged us into this quarrel with the government, by seeking to make us, the neutral third party, the buffer between them and the government. It is the fate of buffers to be crushed, and we are determined to no longer act as buffer.

INVOLVED WHOLE BOARD.

The Bilingual trustees by illegally defying a government regulation have involved the whole board in rebellion and have lost the government grant for 1913 as a first consequence. It is impossible to maintain a government system of schools in defiance of the government. The Separate Schools of Ontario form an integral part of the government schools of Ontario. They were established not to teach French, but to teach English to Catholics.