

The new superintendent of the Chicago schools, though appointed by politicians, has determined to have none of the politicians' methods interfering with his plans for a higher school efficiency. He has already taken a stand against "the pull," or what we call in Canada "the pre-arranging process." The Committee of School Management, it seems, ordered the transfer of a teacher without his approval or initiative, and Dr. Andrews has declared against such action, and this is what *The Intelligence*, of that city, says about the matter: "That is the stand which every superintendent ought to take. The evidence is becoming more clear as the weeks pass that the present Board, packed as it was supposed to have been in the interest of reform and improvement, is governed by lower ideals and is more swayed by questionable motives than any Chicago Board for a good many years. This is a pretty severe thing to say, but the truth seems manifest. It is to be feared that one or more good men have got to be sacrificed before the Chicago Board of Education will put its superintendent actually at the head of the department and let expert knowledge run the instruction part of the school system. We hope that Dr. Andrews will not have to be laid upon the altar, but it looks very much as if the men who were so determined to get him to Chicago will soon be as anxious to get him out. We sincerely hope they will not succeed so long as Dr. Andrews stands by his present position. An important principle is involved, and it might better be fought to a finish now than later. If the Board decides to sacrifice Dr. Andrews, the next superintendent will have a strong vantage ground on which to stand. There is no question but that the people of Chicago believe in letting the superintendent run the schools and in stopping all favoritism

and personal control by men of the Board."

We are afraid *The Intelligence* is making a position for somebody which no superintendent would care to occupy. We in Canada have no experience of the absolutism of the White House in our public offices, and perhaps this is the reason why we cannot understand how any man should openly demand so much power as Dr. Andrews' friends would seemingly like him to have. The pull is a very bad thing, but absolutism is hardly an improvement on it.

The Tasmanian Education Department has, we are pleased to notice, initiated a forward movement in agricultural education. One feature is the construction of a table of elementary agricultural work for use in the State school, the teachers of which are to be encouraged to qualify themselves to impart such theoretical and practical instruction; the agricultural experts to co-operate with the Department of Education in this matter and thus provide elementary practical education for the boys who are attending the Public Schools and intend to become agriculturists. For youths who are just leaving school, or, having left, have already begun their work on the land, it is proposed that to any locality which organizes a class of students in the science of agriculture, of a minimum number to be fixed, and provides the necessary material for the work of such a class, together with a teacher capable of imparting the instruction prescribed by the Department's experts, should be offered the services of the experts to inaugurate the class, provide it with a plan of work, supervise the work of the class as much as possible and conduct examinations. The Technical Schools in the cities are also to be utilized for the benefit of town boys and youths intending to become agriculturists. Again, as to