

The Paris Convention commissioned the Board to seek a charter from the Government. The representatives of the Baptists who approached the Government for the Charter were wise enough not to attack at that time the policy of the Government which was sponsor for the federation plan although they found that one of the strongest objections taken to granting a charter was that such legislation would prevent the full working of the federation plan. The spokesmen of the Baptist delegation which waited on the Premier were Dr. Castle, Dr. Rand, Mr. John M. Grant, a citizen of Woodstock, and Dr. Thomson.

Dr. Castle, in addressing the Premier, said: "I am enabled to say that the genius and spirit and proclivity of our body from the beginning has been in the direction of organizing and maintaining,—and organizing and maintaining efficiently—Christian schools for higher learning under religious control. . . . Perhaps in us deeper than in most Christian bodies, the thought of separation between Church and State has taken a deeper hold . . . while bearing all the other taxes which come through the State for education without a word of complaint or murmur . . . yet taxing ourselves to this extent for the maintenance of such institutions. . . . But I may remind you, Sir, that by our principles we are prohibited from asking assistance of the Government. We come asking not one foot of land; we come asking not one dollar out of the Provincial treasury; we come asking only for that protection . . ."

Dr. Rand emphasized the fact that they were not asking for money for the promotion of their educational work. He said they did not come to attack the federation policy of the Government though "possibly upon the last analysis, if they were to examine the matter very clearly, some of us might feel that the principles which have led us to refuse public aid for a denominational purpose when directly given ought to make us slow to receive it when indirectly given. . . . Christian principles, Christian instruction, the illumination of Christian thinking and doing ought to be central and controlling in this matter. You know, Sir, that we are too logical on this question to suppose that the State can properly do such work." Dr. Rand referred to his own connection with State education in the Maritime Provinces and in answer to an anticipated objection by the Premier as to why the Baptists did not federate with Toronto University said, "Well, Sir, an institution is not conditioned to discharge in any high and adequate degree its functions as an educational body unless it is self-competent—an organism having an independent life. Suppose the course of instruction is prescribed by an outside authority. . . . Such extraneous prescription, of necessity, lodges the leverage of the college outside of itself,