

would be a better feeling between pupils and instructors if the latter did not live, and live in luxury, in the building, and there would be plenty of room for all the school's needs if the present space was utilized for school purposes. There are three substantial handsome residences on the grounds. By employing only needed officers and insisting that they board and house themselves out of the salary paid them, the cottage system should be introduced at once.

It is a shame that the cheapest, plainest food, served in the most unartistic fashion, should be considered good enough for the Blind. The teachers do not eat with their charge but in a well-appointed dining-room. Gross upon gross of such canned goods as sardines, salmon, peas, corn and tomatoes were bought last year, but the pupils did not taste them. Prunes, dried apples, white bean etc., were served to them. Is this in accordance with the will of the people who pay for it? Just here it may be said that the supplies for the Institution are bought in the dearest possible way. A little of this retail dealer, and a little of that one. Why is the year's stock not ordered and received at once thus effecting a saving of time and money? This Institution buys each year many pairs of boots for pupils. Why are they not purchased from the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Belleville, where they are made?

According to the official statement of the Provincial Treasurer for 1899 just 8540 pounds of sugar was used at the Institution. Four and a quarter tons is a large amount of sugar for one year. The principal of this institution costs the province any sum ranging from \$3500,00 to \$4500,00 a year. He is not a clever man either. The principal of the public schools of Brantford receives only \$1100,00 a year and the principal of Brantford collegiate Institute receives \$1800,00 a

year. Both are practical teachers and university men. Is there any reason for so great a difference? These gentlemen do not leave the work they are paid to do and spend their time at church conferences. This Principal Dymond is in the habit of doing. For example he absented himself from the Institution and betook himself to Chatham for several days immediately preceding the opening of the investigation. Still Doctor Chamberlain blandly informs the Toronto World that the commissioners found everything in a satisfactory condition at the Institution.

Mr. Dymond was sick in 1899, but he was not missed, according to the annual report of that year. A second physician was called to his bedside and the province paid the bill. If sickness incapacitates a public school teacher he is allowed four weeks off duty. After that he must find a substitute or lose his position. No such treatment is accorded Principal Dymond. He did not enter his office for many weeks, nor did he find any one to take his place. Mr. Wickens, senior teacher, became acting principal and the province paid him one hundred dollars for extra services. This is not hearsay: I quote from the public accounts.

Ratepayers, do you think everything is satisfactory at the Institution for the blind?

The highest salary paid to a kindergarten teacher in the city of Brantford last year was \$150,00. Mrs. Murray, who held the position of kindergarten teacher of the Institution for the first eight months of 1899 received Five Hundred dollars in cash (yearly salary) and board, lodging, laundry and everything else but her clothes. Is this too, satisfactory?

Here are a few points that from a plain citizen's standpoint are not satisfactory.