

minority of Hawkesbury and avert such a shameful calamity.

The most important secondary school in the Counties of Prescott and Russell is the Collegiate Institute of Vankleek Hill. This school is conducted with the greatest efficiency, and would bear comparison with any secondary institution of its size in Ontario. It is educating about 65 town pupils and 80 scholars from different localities in the county. No tuition fees are charged to county pupils, or those from adjacent counties; a fee of two dollars a month is charged to pupils living outside the Province of Ontario. The High School tax falls heavily upon the ratepayers of Vankleek Hill, the largest of whom are Protestants, the rate being nearly six mills on the dollar while the same persons pay over six mills on the dollar to support the Public School. These ratepayers find it more and more difficult every year to support the Collegiate Institute, and yet, in spite of increasing taxes, the County Council, with its intolerant French majority, is cutting down the annual grant. The Collegiate Institute obtains an annual Government grant of \$1,200. The County Council is required to duplicate this and to add to it the full cost of the county's share of maintenance. So that the full amount coming from the Government and county would be \$2,400 plus \$700, equals \$3,100. The county is legally entitled to pay this amount of \$700. In June, 1909, however, the Council decided to pay the full amount less the Government grant, which meant that the Collegiate Institute would fall short in its cheque from the County Treasurer at least \$1,100. This resolution was railroaded through the Council by the French majority, and was so ambiguously worded that the Collegiate Institute Board was taken by surprise. When they learned, however, what the resolution meant, and in what a mean and underhand manner the deed had been done, they were very indignant. At the next session of the Council the Board waited upon the truculent Frenchmen and talked straight business to them. They pointed out that the ratepayers of