

POLITICS PLAY A PART AT SCHOOL FOR BLIND

A Board of Governors Would
Benefit the Institution

STUDENTS FAVOR CHANGES

Ontario Association for the Blind Also
Make Recommendations to Gov-
ernment Following the Recent
Probe by Mr. N. B. Gash, K.C.

Because of the Provincial Govern-
ment's statement regarding its will-
ingness to entertain any suggestions
on the management of public institu-
tions, students at the School for the
Blind, Brantford, have forwarded to
Sir William Hearst a letter containing
their opinion of the report of the
Royal Commission which recently
probed conditions at the school.

The students wish to emphasize the
need of a radical change in the sys-
tem and administration of the Musical
Department. "Whatever qualifica-
tions our present musical director
may have, he is not competent to
teach the blind," they say.

Musical Director Appointment.

They do not disapprove of the re-
commendation of the Commissioner
that they serve the public interest in
the Musical Department, but would
prefer the Musical Director to be a
sighted man.

In closing, the students point out
that they serve the public interest in
advancing any suggestion, since a con-
siderable number of the students have
left the institution and more will
leave without obtaining any advan-
tage of the reforms which are apt to
follow the report of the Royal Com-
missioner.

Favor Board of Governors.

At the request of Dr. R. A. Pyne,
Minister of Education, the Ontario As-
sociation having asked for a written
statement embodying the wishes of
the blind of the Province on reforms
for the Ontario School for the Blind,
the officers of the Association have
submitted the following advice:

The cardinal reform is the estab-
lishment of a Board of Governors to
exercise a general oversight of the
institution.

Among other things, the change
would remove the appointment of a
superintendent from the field of poli-
tics.

Politics at School.

From first to last the superinten-
dent has been appointed for his ser-
vices to his party. The question of
his capabilities has never been con-
sidered seriously, while the desirabil-
ity of securing the services of men
previously acquainted in a small de-
gree with the blind seems never to
have occurred to the Government.

Then we ask that the blind at the
school be given class for class the
same education as is provided by the
Province for sighted children, and
that none but properly qualified in-
structors be employed.

A Change in Music.

Third, it is advised that courses of
instruction in music be graded ac-
cording to an accepted standard, and
that the department be affiliated with
the University of Toronto or some
other recognized institution.

Fourth, that the position of nurse
be filled by none but a qualified hos-
pital graduate.

"We are informed that a girl pupil
lay for sixty hours suffering from
serious burns before she received at-
tention."

Fifth, that a serious effort be made
to secure better results from the
money spent on the school.

DID JOCKEY CLUB CUT FAT MELON?

Ontario Government Makes
Statement in Response to
Queries

Replying in the Legislature yester-
day, to the questions by Mr. Sam. Car-
ter (South Wellington), regarding the
Ontario Jockey Club, Hon. W. D. Mc-
Pherson said that letters patent were
granted to the Ontario Jockey Club
on November 4th, 1910, increasing the
capital stock from \$20,000 to \$200,-
000, dividing the capital stock into
200 shares of \$1,000 each, and declar-
ing the new shares to be allotted to
the then shareholders of the club so
that each shareholder should receive
the same number of shares as were
held by such shareholder before.

Government Claims Ignorance.

The Government was not aware
that the increased capital stock was
distributed among the existing stock-
holders as bonus stock. Supplemen-
tary letters patent were granted to
the club increasing its capital stock
from \$200,000 to \$600,000 by the cre-
ation of 400 shares of new stock of
\$1,000 each. The Government didn't
know that this was distributed among
the stockholders as bonus stock. The
Government has no knowledge or jur-
isdiction over matters connected with
the collection of war tax by the Do-
minion.

No Hamilton Application.

Regarding the Hamilton Jockey
Club, Mr. McPherson said there was
no application pending from the said
club to increase its capital stock so
that each \$400 shareholder would get
a certificate for \$1,000 of new stock.
There is, however, an application for
supplementary letters patent to in-
crease the capital stock from \$100,-
000 to \$500,000 by the creation of
4,000 shares of new stock at \$100
each.

The application is at present under
consideration.

COAL MEN PROTEST CIVIC FUEL YARDS

Deputation Complains of Muni-
cipal Competition in Hand-
ling Necessary Commodity

The Ontario Government's bill al-
lowing municipalities to establish coal
and food depots was criticized yester-
day by a deputation of dealers who
declared such a measure to be an
intrusion of their rights, and unfair
in certain respects. Mr. W. C. Mil-
ler, Secretary of the Retail Merchants'
Association, said that allowing muni-
cipalities to sell to dealers and resi-
dents simply opened the doors for
municipalities to enter into competi-
tion with the retail trade.

Mr. H. A. Harrington, Secretary of
the coal merchants' division of the
association, said that the coal men
paid taxes on millions of dollars'
worth of property, and if this bill
went through it just meant that the
coal men would go out of business
and the taxes be lost. It was an
imposition for the coal dealers to be
put into competition with the city,
and it was absolutely unfair.

Ex-Alderman McBride thought the
city had all it could do to run its own
affairs.

Hon. W. D. McPherson promised
that the complaint the retail men had
made would be considered. Several
municipalities had asked for the same
thing, and it had been thought best
to put it in a general bill.