

# ITALIANS NEVER COMPLAIN ABOUT STEELTON SCHOOL

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Father Dumesnil Surprised by  
Writ Against Separate  
School Board.

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HAVE ROOM FOR  
ALL THE PUPILS

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French is Not Taught in the  
English-Speaking Classes  
at all.

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Rev. Father Dumesnil, secretary of the Separate School Board of Steelton, under whose jurisdiction the Separate School pupils of the Sault west of Gore street are, when interviewed by the Star today said he knew of no reason why the Italians who were petitioning for the establishment of a school in the Italian quarter should not be satisfied with the accommodation at the St. Ignatius school.

"You have sufficient room to look after them all?" he was asked.

"Well," he replied, "we have not turned any away yet. We have been able to take care of all that come our way. Just why they should issue a writ against the Sault School Board I don't know."

Questioned in regard to the statements that have been made that the Italians thought that they did not have sufficient opportunity to learn English at the school on account of the great number of French pupils that were attending it, Father Dumesnil answered: "Of course the majority of our pupils are French, but the English classes and the French classes are kept entirely separate, and no French is spoken in the English classes. The Italian pupils are placed in the English classes. But they are strangers, and naturally very sensitive."

Father Dumesnil says there are practically two schools in the one building, insofar as language is concerned. Of a total of 422 pupils, 216 are French, 100 English, and 106 Italians and Poles. All pupils of the school receive the same religious instruction, regardless of nationality.

"We are separate schools, and conduct the course to suit ourselves under our own authority," he said.

"This action on the part of the Italians comes as a surprise to me," he continued. "They have never made any complaint to me at all that conditions did not suit them."

The teachers in the St. Ignatius school are Miss D. McNamara, Miss C. Thompson, Miss Murray, Miss Colgan, Miss R. Demers, Miss B. Demers and Mrs. Tremblay.