

words, these thirteen men, now in the public service, have cost the Dominion \$76,283 each for the education given them. But I must eliminate also from the list two of these thirteen, who never acquired the education that the Act contemplated, who did attend the college, but left, either because they failed to pass the examinations, or because, for other reasons, did not choose to pursue their studies. Therefore, the sum total of the whole transaction is this, that since the college was established for the purpose of imparting military education in connection with the Canadian militia, there have been appointed, according to the spirit of the Act, eleven men and no more. So that the actual result of the college has been that **Eleven graduates have been appointed to military positions in Canada at a cost per capita of \$116,600**, and deducting from that the amount realized by the college in fees, namely, the sum of \$25,427, we have this net result,

THAT IT HAS COST \$90,153 FOR EACH ONE OF THE  
ELEVEN GRADUATES

now filling any position, as contemplated by the Act, in connection with the militia of Canada. And that is not due to the fact that there have not been vacancies in the Militia Department. But during the period I have referred to, the department has systematically ignored the graduates, and made the appointments solely for political reasons. The Government have utilized largely the college in order to furnish them with extra political patronage, ignoring the interests of the militia and the object of Parliament. I will read a paragraph from a letter sent me, and the hon. Minister will know how far it is correct. I know nothing of the facts myself, but speaking of the policy of the Government, the writer says :

The practice is to appoint gentlemen with political influence, without any qualifications, and then allow them to take a course of only three months in their own schools and a further course of three months attending lectures at the Royal Military College at Kingston. If that is considered sufficient education for the officers of the permanent corps, it is difficult to see the utility of maintaining the Royal Military College and having cadets spending years acquiring that knowledge which the Government does not utilize after they have graduated. I need not point out to you that the amount of military knowledge obtained in this three months' course at Kingston is necessarily very elementary. The previous course at their own schools consists but of drill, etc., and of course none of the higher branches of the profession. The regulations restricting commissions in the permanent corps, is apparently held out as an inducement to young men to go to the college, under the belief that the Government will give them the preference for commissions in the permanent corps, and it is unfair that they should be ignored. At the present moment—

I call the attention of the Minister of Militia to the statement, made in March last, the date of the letter, I do not know whether it is correct or not :