

THE HUMAN ELEMENT.

Now, in connection with governments, the first consideration is from the viewpoints of the human element which enters into government. In the days when we had a single man operating an enterprise, we could count on the result of his art, because we could practically size up his powers and his limitations; but, today there is a combination of human elements in any great organization, and it is the one factor we have to take cognizance of. On this ground I first meet the hon. member for Colchester in connection with the human element which enters into the personnel of this Government. I am not speaking of the Ministers, but of the subordinate officers. I have been, on more than one occasion, unusually impressed with the fact that the Government had been able to gather about itself so unusual a quota of young men for dealing with the problems they have to deal with, and I have wondered how it was that the administration should have selected men who so commended themselves to the business men of this community and of the Province.

Take the group of men in the Department of Education—the Superintendent of Education, Dr. MacKay; the Secretary for Agriculture, Prof. Cumming; the Administrator of the Technical College, Prof. Sexton; take that group, and it is hard to find their equals in ordinary business pursuits where no party politics enter.

Take the other Departments, Finance, Roads, Industries, there is a group of three young, energetic men, who can always be depended on to do their duty and accept responsibility in doing so. And so on through the various departments, in my judgment, the Government is to be complimented on having been able to secure the services of such men, and I think the reason is that the Premier has not allowed politics to influence his judgment in their selection.

The hon. member for Colchester, in dealing with this phase of the question, made a statement which was the most remarkable for a reasonable business man that I have ever heard made in this House. That gentleman gave us a list of 272 employees of the Government with salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 or \$6,000 each, arranged in groups. Now, I challenge that hon. gentleman to produce one-half that number. I myself and the auditor have checked the names, and discovered that there are only 105 employees covering the whole range in the departments of the Government with salaries of over \$1,000 per year. I thought when that statement was made that it was most improbable, and I took a good deal of trouble to discover whether there was any truth in it or not.

MR. DOUGLAS: Is it not possible that some of these officials are getting salaries from different departments, and in that way come into the classes referred to by the hon. member for Colchester?

MR. TORY: I have gathered them together, even including those partially paid by the Dominion Government, and the number is not to be found. I can only explain the discrepancy by assuming that my hon. friend employed some irresponsible person to gather the information.