

could use the general expression 'commercial college,' and treat every holder of a certificate of a so-called commercial college as being equal to the graduate of a university. I do not think the hon. gentleman would wish to push his argument so far as that. There are commercial colleges and commercial colleges.

Mr. MONTAGUE. That does not apply to Ontario.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. But, this is a law for the whole Dominion. The commercial colleges are doing good work, but I do not think there is a standard of commercial college education that would justify us in treating their certificates in the same way as a university degree.

Mr. MONTAGUE. There is in Ontario.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. My hon. friend (Mr. Montague) knows that the existing Civil Service Act discriminates between a university course and other forms of education, because the holder of a commercial college certificate must pass the civil service examination the same as anybody else. We simply follow the rule in this case, except that we provide that on passing in two subjects of a commercial college course, the candidate can get an additional \$100.

Mr. MONTAGUE. I would point out further, that some of the best men for the civil service in Canada are school teachers. Why should we allow the university men to get in without an examination, while compelling the school teachers to submit to it?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. That is the present law, and I only have not proposed to depart from it.

Mr. MONTAGUE. But, I think it should be departed from. A man may be a teacher of a school in a large town, a man of the highest qualifications—

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. Is he not usually a university man?

Mr. MONTAGUE. No.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. But, if he is principal of a school?

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS (Mr. Blair). Yes.

Mr. MONTAGUE. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Blair) knows nothing about it.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. It is so with us.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. With us, the principal of a large school is usually a university graduate.

Mr. MONTAGUE. I am afraid the universities in the east do not maintain such a high standard as do ours in Ontario. It is much easier to get a degree there, I am afraid—

Mr. FIELDING.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES (Sir Louis Davies). No.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. No.

Mr. MONTAGUE. Well, these hon. gentlemen can discuss the matter with their colleague the Postmaster General (Mr. Mullock).

Mr. CAMPBELL. Question.

Mr. MONTAGUE. If the hon. member for Kent (Mr. Campbell) would keep quiet—he knows nothing about this part of the matter. The principals of our public schools are not, in one case in a hundred, university men.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES. Oh, dear!

Mr. MONTAGUE. I appeal to my hon. friends from Ontario on both sides of the House. There is not a gentleman in the House who will say I am wrong if I say not one in two hundred, but they are thoroughly educated men, men of the very highest qualifications. Principals of our high schools are all graduates, but the principals of our public schools have very few graduates among them. I venture to say that there are not two men at the head of big public schools in Toronto who are graduates of universities. Why not admit the holders of these positions to the civil service without compelling them to undergo an examination?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. The same standard does not apply throughout the Dominion.

Mr. MONTAGUE. That is unfortunate.

Mr. D. C. FRASER (Guysborough). Speaking for my own province, I do not know a principal of a school who is not a graduate of a university.

Mr. POWELL. High school?

Mr. FRASER (Guysborough). All our high schools and public academies. We would not think of having it otherwise. That is the reason why our education is of a much higher character than that in Ontario. The argument the hon. gentleman (Mr. Montague) uses itself shows the wisdom of this. He says that teachers would be good men for the civil service. With us, almost every graduate is a teacher. He has to teach between times—that is the way the majority of them get their education. And I can tell the hon. gentleman that these graduates know as much about general business and matters relating to book-keeping and so on, as most of the young men I have seen who have passed through the commercial colleges. They have to teach all branches of mathematics and they are perfectly competent to do it. Let me tell the hon. gentlemen that I have known men