

Mr. TAYLOR. I would like to call attention to the fact that the item under discussion is not included in that part of the Auditor General's Report which has been brought down. It is in the volume that is missing.

Mr. FIELDING. The portion relating to the Department of the Secretary of State is down and I thought this item was included in that. Apparently it is not, and if it is desired that it should be held over, I have no objection.

Mr. TAYLOR. We want to find the name of the gentleman who is running for municipal honours in the city of Ottawa.

Mr. FIELDING. My official tells me he is an officer in the Printing Bureau.

Mr. BENNETT. I think he is rather an important officer and he has had a pretty rapid promotion. He is very active in labour circles, too, and comes to the assistance of the government when necessary. What is his salary?

Mr. FIELDING. I could not state his salary off-hand, but I shall be happy to get the information later on.

Mr. CROCKET. Has the minister the number of hands in the Printing Bureau at present?

Mr. FIELDING. No. If hon. gentlemen want any information of that kind of which I have not a personal knowledge I would suggest that they mention it now and I shall be very happy to get it.

Mr. HENDERSON. With reference to an employee of the Printing Bureau becoming a candidate for municipal honours, I think it is important that we should understand that if he is elected a municipal officer and is called upon to give a certain amount of his time to the city of Ottawa, we should not pay him for that portion of his time which he gives to municipal affairs, but which belongs really to this country. I think a man who gets a good salary, as this gentleman does, should devote all his time to the service of the country and not divide it between the city and the country. It strikes me that there is a principle here which the government should take notice of. I would be entirely opposed to any man having anything to do with the municipal government of Ottawa so long as he remains in the civil service. If he wants to go into municipal politics he should throw up his position in the service.

Mr. FIELDING. While I am rather inclined myself to favour the view of my hon. friend, it may be difficult to lay down a general rule. Mr. Draper, I am informed, is not in the strict sense of the word a civil servant, though he is a salaried employee of the Printing Bureau. It is a debatable question whether an official of that kind might not become a member of the municipal council, which is a body without pay.

Mr. TAYLOR. He is a candidate for the Board of Control, the members of which are to receive pay.

Mr. FIELDING. I understand that that is a salaried office, and I have no hesitation in saying that if Mr. Draper should be elected he would probably have to resign his position in the Bureau, but I do not know enough of the duties of the board of control to speak positively. On general principles an officer who receives pay as a public servant should devote his whole time to his office and should not receive pay as a municipal officer at the same time. Whether a public official should be an alderman or not is a larger question, and while I would prefer that he should not be, at the same time I would not like to lay down any general rule.

Mr. FOSTER. That brings up another question—how far are employees of the Dominion government to be allowed to engage in Dominion elections and provincial elections? I think they stand on a quite different plane, and, if I am not wrong, the Prime Minister himself has on more than one occasion in this House given decided expression to his opinion as to the participation actively in Dominion or provincial elections of persons who are in the employ of the government. There was, in fact, a resolution passed, and passed unanimously by the House on that subject, while, if my memory is not at fault—if it is, my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works may be able to give me the information—an employee of the government on the Intercolonial Railway recently not only took a part in matters connected with Dominion politics, but was very actively engaged in trying to get for himself the nomination for the Dominion parliament at the recent party convention in the county of York. I think my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works was present at that convention. I have heard that there were very lively times there. It is stated that when the ballots were all counted the number that came out of the hat was about 400, but that when the delegates were counted the number was only about 150. That brings up also the question of methods in party elections, and I am quite sure that my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works, with the extreme sensitiveness that characterizes him with regard to contributions to election funds, must very decidedly have frowned down any attempt on the part of a Dominion employee to change the position of affairs, in a party sense, in the county of York. Probably he did not understand that that was a rule of this House or that his leader the Prime Minister not only gave his adhesion to that rule by voting for it, but also strongly expressed himself in favour of it. I think we ought to have an explanation as to whether this is all talk which hon. gentle-