

Civil Service Act

Mr. Graftey:—the statements—and I only made the general remark that he had a lot to do with advising the governor on his course of action. That is a very different thing.

Mr. Tardif: Where did you hear that?

The Chairman: On the point which was raised by the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate, I must indicate that hon. members are bound to accept the statement made by an hon. member concerning matters which are within the personal knowledge of that hon. member. That is the first point. On the second point, may I say that even if what the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi was saying was relevant to the debate, he should not revive a debate which has been concluded.

Mr. Graftey: I should like to thank the Chair for directing me in such an able fashion. I am using these specific examples to give to the House of Commons my personal ideas on how important it is, in this day and age, that the voice of the people be heard in this house.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Graftey: I simply say that I have used specific instances to point up the general idea that the administration I support understands what is meant by the voice of the people.

Mr. Denis: Prove it.

Mr. Graftey: It may be that I am going far afield from the subject of this debate, but I believe my remarks are germane. When I talk about the rights of parliament I am not making an irresponsible attack on these fine civil servants. When I talk about the rights of parliament as opposed to administrative control, I believe I am talking about a real principle involved in the discussion this afternoon.

I noticed the hon. member for Essex East applaud but, as I said before, he is a House of Commons man. However, other hon. members opposite, time and time again, have said that the backbenchers on this side do not get up and express their point of view very often. I say they do. Just look at the *Hansard* index and you will see that it is the same old four horsemen who speak for the opposition, with the occasional interjection from the rear.

In concluding my remarks I should like to bring before this committee the fact that this administration is determined to preserve the rights of parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Graftey: It is determined that the voice of the people will be heard.

Mr. Habel: When did you get prompted?

Miss LaMarsh: Let us go to the people, and we will see.

Mr. Graftey: I am sure that in their hearts not too many hon. members opposite are happy to see an appointed official giving testimony before a non-elected body.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Will the hon. member permit a question? In view of what he has just said, will he explain why he supported a government that denied us in this House of Commons the right to have a House of Commons committee deal with the governor of the Bank of Canada?

Mr. Graftey: I expressed my views on that matter.

Some hon. Members: Answer.

Mr. Graftey: We are now in the realm of a past debate, and I expressed my views during that debate last week. This is the answer.

Some hon. Members: Answer.

Mr. Graftey: Not once did hon. members opposite express one question that they would ask in such a committee that they did not ask on the floor of the House of Commons. I think that answers the question. Again, I would simply say that this administration is drawing the line, between parliamentary rights and administrative control, a line that must be drawn if parliamentary democracy is to function in the proper way. This line was glazed over by the past administration, and legislators became administrators and then in turn became legislators again. One day a man would be loyal to the administration and the next day he would plunge into the arena of partisan politics.

An hon. Member: You should have stayed in your crib.

Mr. Graftey: I hear an hon. member say that I should have stayed in my crib. I suppose that is another reference to my youth.

An hon. Member: Not at all.

Mr. Pickersgill: Is the hon. member young?

Mr. Graftey: As I look at hon. members opposite I understand their chagrin over the fact that the young people of the nation are not following their leadership.

Miss LaMarsh: In making his last few remarks it appeared, at least, that the hon. member looked in my general direction. I should like to say on a matter of privilege that when it comes to youth I will not take a back seat to the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi.