

FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE IMMEDIATE FACTS.

Having dealt with the matter briefly from the viewpoint of the human element, I wish for a moment to consider the subject from the viewpoint of the immediate facts. When one desires to form a judgment of a great institution, the second usual consideration is that of the annual statement of that institution, from which can generally be gathered a considerable insight into its business methods. In connection with governments, the immediate facts are brought under review in a somewhat different manner from that employed when dealing with ordinary business institutions.

In the first place, when the estimates are brought down, the details of the financial transactions proposed to be carried out are brought up before the representatives of the people, in order that they may be properly understood and approved. In addition to this, when the year's business is concluded, the financial reports are laid before the House, in order that they may be examined, and understood to conform to the directions originally given. With these details all the hon. gentlemen present are generally familiar.

There is one phase of the matter, however, to which I particularly wish to refer, and that is that there appears, from the discussion that has taken place, to have been some confusion as to the actual amount of departmental expenditure in the various departments of the Government, and very often we deal with the gross figures in determining the cost of certain departments, instead of dealing with the net figures. I propose to view the immediate facts from this standpoint for a few moments, and incidentally, to make reference to some points raised in the discussion.

The first item is that of ordinary education. During the fiscal year just closed, the gross amount spent in that branch of the Department was \$369,004.70, while we received in fees and from the School Book Bureau \$12,555.61, making a total net expenditure for Ordinary Education of \$356,449.09. Of course, the net sum expended here was not sufficient to deal with that branch as it should be dealt with, but it was large when considered in relation to the total net revenue of the Province. It would of course be better, if we had more money, to deal with the question of education on broader and more effective lines, but it would appear that we are aiding education as liberally as might be reasonably expected under the circumstances.

Coming now to Technical Education, the figures we have heard quoted as the expenditure in this branch of the Department were \$52,000, while as a matter of fact, the total net expenditure was only \$49,087.84, and was divided as follows:

Technical College	\$28,281.70
Technical Schools	15,400.50
Coal Mining Schools	9,863.95
Miscellaneous (Spare, Supplies, etc.).....	8,960.40
Total.....	\$62,406.55