

The same affidavit set forth that Oscar Campbell, lighthouse keeper at Port Mouton, also acted as Mr. Fielding's agent at the polls, and was actively engaged in the campaign.

It was stated also that a customs officer was active in this contest; that James McKay, postmaster at Clyde River, acted as agent for Mr. Fielding; that Captain Greenwood, a postmaster, was an active worker; that Mr. Nickerson, an official, was a campaigner in Mr. Fielding's by-election and a delegate to the convention which nominated him. Several other names were mentioned of federal officials who in this constituency represented a Minister, threw themselves vigorously into the campaign with the knowledge and evident approval of a member of the Government pledged to prevent them.

A MOTION OF DISAPPROVAL.

Mr. Borden, having read the Parliamentary resolution and the Government pledge, moved the following:

"This House regrets that the Government has sanctioned and condoned the deliberate violation of this resolution by officials who, notwithstanding such deliberate violation, have been continued in positions of public trust and responsibility, and in the enjoyment of salaries paid from the public exchequer."

MR. FIELDING'S EXCUSE.

Mr. Fielding could not contradict any of the statements made. The Minister of Finance pleaded that though he signed the appointment of several Government officials as his agents, he had signed them in blank, and was not personally responsible. He pleaded also that the rule of Parliament should not be applied to officers receiving trivial salaries, though he went on to say that an officer who so interfered should share the fate of his party. In other words, the Government would support interference in its own behalf by officials, but would punish such action on behalf of the other party. This means that the small officials are a kind of retained canvassers for the Government, and that interference itself is not an offence so long as it is on the Government side.

NOT ALTOGETHER TRIVIAL.

It might be stated here that some of the officers mentioned receive the following salaries:

Oscar Campbell	\$ 300 00
J. M. Bain, salary and expenses	764 85
J. E. Payzant	100 00
James McKay, postmaster	150 00

When it is considered that the Laurier Government engaged Commissioners at a cost of some \$25 a day to investigate charges of partisanship