The Hon. Mr. Reid did represent the Government on this Committee and it is true that he stated several times that the Government wanted the fullest possible investigation. It is also true, however, that this Minister and the Conservative members who took an interest in the investigation asked question after question with no other apparent motive but that of finding an excuse for the appointment of these middlemen. They even went so far as to communicate with Colonel Jones in the trenches in France regarding the statement of Mr. Shaver that he had been informed that a middleman must be appointed before his firm could sell field dressings to the Government.

Colonel Jones replied that he never made any such statement. Colonel Jones' statement must be accepted as also the statement of the Government, **but the action of the Government speaks louder than all the statements that Colonel Jones or any member of the Government can make. The fact remains that the middleman was appointed and that they knew he was appointed and that they permitted him to draw over $6,000 of commissions.** That ought to be sufficient evidence of the Government's desire and intention until the famous transaction was dragged into the light of day by the Liberals.

$72,000 taken out of Public Treasury and no members of Government knew of it.

With regard to Mr. Foster purchasing horses the Premier stated:

> **"Mr. Foster was appointed as purchasing agent without the knowledge or consent or approval of any member of the Government. I knew nothing of it or I should certainly have absolutely prevented his undertaking any such duties. The Minister of Militia knew nothing of it."**

Did the Premier realize what he was stating when he made this remark? What does the electorate think of the Prime Minister of Canada standing up in the House and making a statement that a private individual can come to the Department, take out between $72,000 and $73,000 without the Prime Minister or any member of his Cabinet knowing anything about it?

TWO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT ACCUSED.

Let us see what the Premier said in regard to Mr. Foster. In the unrevised Hansard page 2690, he is reported:

> **"I regret to say that the evidence—Mr. Foster's own evidence—convinces me that he did not have regard to that duty in the way in which I think the Parliament and people of this country might have expected him to perform that duty."**