

APPOINTMENT OF DR. J. POMMINVILLE
TO THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
PENITENTIARY—*Con.*

Doherty, Hon. C. J. (Minister of Justice)—945.

If memory served him well, it was not in connection with any political partisanship on the part of Allaire that the change was effected. With regard to Dr. Pomminville, would not consider that the fact that a gentleman occupying no position as a government employee had concerned himself with politics, would be a reason why he should not be appointed to office. The hon. member shall have the papers, 945.

Wilson, C. A. (Laval)—944.

Brought matter to the attention of the House to acquit himself of a duty. Dr. Allaire was appointed in the month of February, 1902. For ten years he discharged his duties to the satisfaction of the department. He never took part in elections. Unexpectedly, without a quarter of an hour's notice, while the Minister of Justice was absent, he was dismissed, to make way for Dr. Pomminville, 944. Pomminville was formerly Conservative candidate in Laval, and has always taken an active part in elections. Would like to know why Allaire has been deprived of his position, 945.

Motion agreed to, 945.

APPOINTMENT OF ANDREW LANDRY.

Motion:

That all the words after 'that' be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

Andrew Landry, of Descouse, in the county of Richmond, Nova Scotia, was on the 8th day of December, 1911, recommended to the Hon. J. D. Hazen, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, by J. A. Gillies, defeated Conservative candidate in the county of Richmond, in the last general election, for the position of 'fishery officer' in the place of Dugald R. Boyle, dismissed for alleged political partisanship.

That on the 18th day of December, 1911, the Hon. J. D. Hazen was notified in writing that the said Andrew Landry was not a fit and proper person to appoint to any public office.

That on the 23rd day of December, 1911, the Hon. J. D. Hazen appointed the said Andrew Landry, wharfinger of the government wharf at Descouse, Nova Scotia, in place of Léon Poirier, dismissed for alleged offensive political partisanship.

That on the 1st day of February, 1912, the said Andrew Landry was brought before a stipendiary magistrate on a complaint charging him with forging the signature of one Paul LeBlanc to a promissory note and uttering the same.

That on the 4th day of June, 1912, the said Andrew Landry was tried in the Supreme Court at Arichat before Mr. Justice Graham and a jury on an indictment for forgery as above set forth, and

APPOINTMENT OF ANDREW LANDRY—*Con.*

he was on the 5th day of June found guilty and sentenced by the court to serve twelve months in the county jail at Arichat for the said offence.

That on the 7th day of June, 1912, the said Andrew Landry was by the said Hon. J. D. Hazen given the contract for the buoy service in Lennox Passage without tender at \$240 per year in the place of Captain Frederick Poirier.

That the said Andrew Landry was on the 3rd day of August, 1912, when but two months of his sentence had expired, released from jail by the Department of Justice and resumed his office as a wharfinger.

That in appointing the said Andrew Landry to public office while under commitment and sentence for the commission of a serious crime and in releasing him from jail after his conviction for the said crime, the government under all the circumstances is deserving of the severest censure.—Mr. Kyte, 6559-60.

Carvell, F. B. (Carleton, N.B.)—6583.

Will deal briefly with statements made by minister. Minister of Marine and Fisheries made best of a bad case in defending a shady transaction, 6583. Landry said to be buoy contractor, not true, no contract was ever signed by him, 6584. Letter sent to Mr. Gillies on, 6585. Case shows that in this department policy they adopt is that the end justifies the means, 6586. Minister of Justice is always under impression that an imputation has been made against his honour, 6588. Minister should defend department in straightforward manner, 6589. No crime mentioned in Criminal Code is punishable with so severe penalty as forgery, 6590. If there is any question of indignation surely we on this side of House should be indignant that minister makes statements, giving part of evidence and withholding the rest. Ought to be some well-settled rules regarding people let out on ticket-of-leave, 6591. Minister took no pains to find out whether this man was really a medical doctor 6592. Case is bristling with suggestions of improper methods, 6593. After crooked transactions brought to light Mr. Gillies still dismissing men from positions, 6594.

Doherty, Hon. C. J. (Minister of Justice)—6571.

Rose to make answer to motion. Calls attention to terms of motion, there are two allegations bearing upon it,—man was a convict and he was released, 6571. No adequate reason to justify House pronouncing censure upon government, 6572. Point out that action of Department of Justice is in no sense action of government. Man released under Ticket-of-Leave Act; Act confers no power to Governor in Council, 6573. No statement to effect that case demonstrated these alleged facts, 6574. He has to weigh representations made to him and to decide, 6577. Department does not determine innocence or guilt, court does