

royal commission to investigate charges of "boodling" by aldermen. What did she get? Naught but a commission that was powerless to carry out the public will.

There are a number of instances in which especial privileges have been given by the Mercier Government to fishing and hunting clubs of exclusive fishing and hunting rights over certain territories. Is this what is asked by the people of the province? Do they desire that their material interests in this direction should be overlooked?

#### PAYING THE COMMERCIAL TAX TO MR. BEAUSOLEIL.

In Montreal there are Government officers, as also in Quebec, who alone are authorized to collect Provincial revenues, nevertheless, instead of the Commercial tax being paid to them, the same Mr. Beausoleil, friend, partner, and political associate of Mr. Mercier, is deputed by the "National" Premier to receive the proceeds of this tax for the Government. WHAT ARE OUR PUBLIC OFFICIALS FOR? Let us dispense with Mr. Beausoleil or them. Indirectly, taxation is high enough, goodness knows, without burdening us with such unnecessary expenditures as compelling us to pay large sums of money to friends of Ministers, merely for the privilege of allowing them to be the RECEIVERS AND TEMPORARY CUSTODIANS OF PUBLIC MONEYS.

#### TAXING LEGISLATION.

It is a fact that no ordinary legislation can pass through the house, at any rate, when conducted by a member of the opposition, without the exaction of what bears a strong resemblance to brokerage dues to a party standing high in favor with Ministers.

It is a fact that before he assumed the reins of office, Premier Mercier was continually objecting to even the slightest expenditure contracted by the Government in power, asserting that were he in their shoes, in order to save the poor people of the Province, he would ride in second-class cars and smoke French-Canadian tobacco. Do our Nationalist friends practise what Mr. Mercier preached? No! for Mr. Mercier has surpassed all his predecessors in lavish expenditure at the expense of the Pro-