

Twenty cases of personation, principally at Middle River and South Gut, were instanced in the allegations made against Hayes, Douglas and Muirhead. **McCurdy's hench-men.** That this phase of the trial was not more extensively gone into was due to the fact that more than twenty witnesses were spirited away by the agents of the respondent. Yet the evidence given on the stand clearly showed to what depths the **Conservative machine was willing to sink in order to win.**

Some of the personation were so palpably absurd as to be ludicrous: Men with such names as McGillivray and McKay were used to impersonate Eli Cormier and Jules Des Vaux. How barefaced such effrontery is, on the very surface!

In a wire, signed in code, received by Hugh Dan McLean, the phrase occurs: "Wire Philpot to come and **bring four ringers**; hundred confidentially". On the stand McLean was asked what the word "**ringers**" meant, and after considerable prodding he finally admitted that probably it was similar to race-track slang, and meant "**Voters**" or "**Personators.**".

A bunch of fourteen men were taken from Middle River to South Gut, and the majority used as **personators.** Walter Teclmer, a soldier, of New Waterford, testified that he was given the name of "Sam Porier" to vote, at South Gut, but he was challenged and, very sensibly, declined to take the oath. But several others in his party went to the poll and voted on names supplied to them by Conservative party workers.

### **Promised Job by Cochrane, (Minister of Railways and Canals.)**

Angus R. Campbell, who had been an employe of the I. C. R. from 1902 to 1913, and then dismissed, testified that he had been promised his job back, if he "voted right". He was shown a telegram "fixing" this, **purporting to be signed by Frank Cochrane, Minister of Railways.** On the strength of this telegram he worked for the Conservatives, and also pulled all possible wires to get his friends into action.

Later in the course of the evidence, J. C. Douglas, M.P.P., testified that the above-mentioned telegram had been sent to him; he stated that L. probably had wired to some **Federal member from Nova Scotia to "fix" it, though it was quite possible that he had wired to the Minister of Railways personally.**

The **Fenian Raid Circular** was one of the most important issues of the campaign, and came within an ace of ending Philip MacLeod's future participation in politics. The Conservatives (on their own admission) sent out to about 160 Fenian veterans a circular, in which the following extract was the salient feature: