

over the country to bring the voters in, and it happened in some cases that the voters could not afford to lose their time, and so their good wives or their sweethearts availed themselves of the opportunity and travelled upon the passes that were intended for the voters.

**Mr. HAGGART.** A few words in reply to the hon. gentlemen who have spoken. When the papers come down, they will disclose no such state of facts as hon. gentlemen have spoken of. There were no unusual orders given on the Intercolonial Railway, and I do not think that any course was pursued on that railway different from that pursued on other occasions.

Some hon. MEMBERS. It was always the same.

**Mr. HAGGART.** I am sure of one thing, and that is, that no orders were given by me, and no orders came from headquarters here, in reference to anything of the kind. The course that was pursued down there would be the course which was usually pursued by the authorities of the railway on such an occasion. These statements made by the hon. gentleman (Mr. Fraser) are entirely new to me. It is the first time that I ever heard of them, and I am sure, when the papers come down, and an inquiry is made, no such state of facts will be shown as has been represented here.

**Mr. McMULLEN.** In view of the statement made by the late Minister of Railways, I earnestly hope that a thorough and exhaustive investigation will be held into this matter, so that those men who have assumed the responsibility of carrying voters to the poll at the expense of the country, may have meted out to them the just punishment that they deserve. The conduct of officials of the Government taking a prominent part in the interests of a political party has been exhaustively discussed in this House, and I hope that the question with regard to these railway employees will be carefully noted by the Minister of Railways. Those officials who have so abused a railway that has been constructed at the cost of the people, and has never paid one cent of interest upon the money invested in it, to carry voters to the poll on free passes, shall receive that measure of punishment which they justly deserve. I hope the matter will not drop here. If the papers do not disclose the facts stated to this House, and if there is sufficient evidence to substantiate these statements, I trust that these officials who have been guilty of such misconduct, will be rebuked and punished.

**Mr. ELLIS.** Notwithstanding the denial of the ex-Minister of Railways—and perhaps the facts are not within his knowledge—it is an undoubted and a notorious fact, known to a great many people in the province of New Brunswick and around Moncton, that the chief train-despatcher of the Intercolonial Railway was directed to send

out of Moncton, on the day of the election, certain men who were presumed to be favourable to, and would vote for, the Liberal party in that contest.

**Mr. CHOQUETTE.** I wish to add my testimony, Mr. Speaker, to the statement made by hon. gentlemen on this side of the House, as to the shameful use of the Intercolonial Railway in the interests of the Conservative party during the late elections. Let me give you one instance of this. Shortly before the polling day, a joint meeting was to be held in the county of Temiscouata, at which my good friend the present member for that county (Mr. Pouliot) was to appear. Both candidates were to be there, and I was to speak for my hon. friend (Mr. Pouliot). On the morning of the meeting I sent word to Mr. MacDonald, superintendent of the Intercolonial Railway, asking him if a special train was going down in order that I might travel by it, and the answer I received was, that there was no special train. My friends and myself had to take a train at a very early hour in the morning, but about eleven o'clock the Intercolonial Railway shops at Rivière du Loup were closed down, and the men were ordered to go on a special train to St. Eloi to prevent the Liberal speakers being heard. These are facts which have come within my own knowledge, and the hon. member for Temiscouata (Mr. Pouliot) knows them, too. In the evening, I spoke to Mr. MacDonald, the superintendent, about the matter, and he told me that that was his order. He declared that he and his friends had heard in the morning that the Tory candidate would be prevented from speaking, and he said he had received orders—I do not know, if it was from the Minister of Railways, or from whom—but that he had received orders from headquarters to make up a special train and to ask the men from the shops to leave their work and help the Tory candidate in St. Eloi. This, Sir, is a fact, and it is not the only occurrence of the kind which took place during the last election.

Motion agreed to.

#### FAST ATLANTIC STEAMSHIP LINE.

**Mr. LANGELIER** moved for :

Copies of all Orders in Council, tenders, correspondence and papers in relation to the establishment of a line of fast steamers between Canada and the United Kingdom.

**The MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE** (Sir Richard Cartwright). There is no objection, of course, to this motion passing; but I would remark to my hon. friend that there is some correspondence still going on between the Government here and the Imperial authorities, which we may not be able to bring down. But all that we can bring down will be laid on the Table.

Motion agreed to.