

at the signal corps, Barriefield, under the Department of National Defence." That merely indicates one thing, that Mr. A. E. Stansbury, whoever he may be, is responsible for the appointments being made at this signal corps. One of the men is a carpenter, another is something else, a third is something else.

Now I took the case of B. Curran, and I pointed out that the answer there was that the recommendation was by the district officer commanding. There was a further question as to how long he had been there, and the answer was that he had been appointed on the first day of October. I pointed out that on the fourth he had been arrested for impersonation at the provincial election and taken to the police court, and that he was released. I put the facts as they are on the record as to why he was released. I believe that those who have anything to do with and any regard for the administration of law and order will be amazed when they see the ground on which the charge was dismissed. It was on the ground that the magistrate, Mr. Shea—and I believe the minister will acknowledge that Mr. Shea is very actively connected with the Frontenac Construction Company, which came into being since this government assumed office—

Mr. ROGERS: What connection has that with this?

Mr. BENNETT: I say that he sat as a magistrate in this case.

Mr. ROGERS: Well, what connection has it with this?

Mr. BENNETT: It had a great deal to do with this case. When he sees the grounds on which, in the magistrate's police court in the city of Kingston, this man was dismissed, and when he hears the evidence, I believe the minister will say that it is time something was done. Here are Mr. Shea's words of wisdom.

Mr. GRAY: Surely that is a matter for the crown attorney.

Mr. BENNETT: Well, the crown attorney was there, but apparently, as it was a matter affecting the provincial election, his activities were not very great.

An hon. MEMBER: That is not fair.

Mr. BENNETT: Here is what Mr. Rigney says, at page 9 of the record:

There is no jurisdiction for you here, that's my submission, in reference to which I have already drawn your attention.

His Worship: Cases of this kind are ordinarily triable by an election court. I agree that this case does not come under the Controverted Elections Act and I have no jurisdiction to try it.

The charge was dismissed on the—

Mr. SLAGHT: Does the right hon. gentleman charge Mr. Rigney with breach of duty?

Mr. BENNETT: I only say Mr. Rigney appeared there and participated in that case.

Mr. SLAGHT: In accordance with his duty, surely?

Mr. BENNETT: That may be his duty, but why was it not his duty to proceed under the criminal code, as the charge was laid? That is what a crown attorney in my country would do, or in any other country I know anything about. When you have an offender before the court and the magistrate says it does not come under the elections act, Mr. Rigney—

Mr. SLAGHT: The right hon. gentleman may remember that Mr. Rigney, who is also a friend of mine, was the appointee of the Conservative party during his own regime, though not while he was prime minister.

Mr. BENNETT: He was not appointed by the federal government at all, therefore the last observation has no relevancy. May I draw attention to the second point? Mr. Rigney says:

I think it is necessary for the record to have evidence but it is apparent that the information purports to have been signed by Doctor Sands, but I don't know who the returning officer was.

His Worship: What evidence have we got about the information and also about the swearing?

Mr. T. J. Rigney, K.C. represented the crown; Mr. W. H. Herrington, K.C., the accused; Magistrate J. Ambrose Shea, presiding. I point out that, as a result, this man was not in any sense punished for impersonation on that day.

The declaration made by Robert McKee, of the city of Kingston, contractor, was as follows:

On Monday, October 4, I was present as outside agent for Thomas Ashmore Kidd, a candidate for election to the legislative assembly of the province of Ontario for the riding of Kingston, at the advance poll for the city of Kingston situate in the city council chambers in the said city.

In the afternoon about 3 o'clock I saw a man approaching the said advance poll from the northerly side of Brook street whose coat collar was turned up and who was wearing sun glasses.

I thought this man looked like one Bernard Curran who was known to me but did not question him.

After this man had entered the poll I opened the door and asked Stewart Jenkins, inside agent for the said Thomas Ashmore Kidd, what name this man had given and was advised that he had given the name of Gerald Morrison of 172 Wellington street, Kingston, Ontario, and after signing the usual declaration, handed to