

not accord with what has been accepted as reliable information from other sources. On December 5, I asked:

1. By what authority or under what commission was Mr. Justice Girouard appointed to act as Deputy Governor, or administrator of the government, during the absence of His Excellency the Governor General, last summer and fall?

2. What powers were conferred upon him by any such commission?

3. Did he as such administrator send a telegram or message to Cardinal Vannutelli, the papal legate, on the latter's arrival in Canada? If so, what were the contents of such message or telegram?

4. In sending such message or telegram did he act upon the advice of his constitutional adviser?

The right hon. the Prime Minister replied to Nos. 1 and 2, by letters patent constituting the office, and then he went on to deal with the matter of form, which was quite regular. The right hon. gentleman read the Marconi telegram in French and then translated it into English. The translation, to begin with, is different from all translations I saw of it in any of the literature relating to it. The French version was 'gives hommages,' or 'homage.' But the right hon. the first minister translated:

The administrator of the government of Canada presents his respects to His Excellency and bids him welcome.

I am not so specially concerned with that as with the other part of the answer.

On the face of it, this Marconigram was sent during the month of August. During that month Mr. Justice Girouard did not act in the capacity of Administrator, as, during the whole of August, His Excellency, was in Canada, but, on the 1st of August, His Excellency the Governor General, before leaving for his trip to the Hudson Bay, appointed Mr. Justice Girouard, Deputy Governor. Mr. Justice Girouard did not consult the ministers of the Crown and received no advice from any of them.

If he was appointed on the first of August and the Governor General left on that day surely he must have been acting in that month, and yet the previous part of the answer says he was not acting, as the Governor General was here and was attending to the duties himself. That may be a typographical error, it may be the first of September or any other month, but that is all the answer I received. I submit that it cannot be a correct or reasonable answer. On the same day I asked another question concerning guards of honour. The answer to that was given by the Minister of Militia as follows:

1. Guards of honour are authorized by King's regulations and orders for the Canadian militia, 1910, to be furnished as follows:—

Mr. SPROULE.

(a) To attend upon the King and other royal personages, and upon presidents of those republican states in which the Sovereign is represented by an ambassador.

(b) At state ceremonials.

(c) For governors and lieutenant governors administering the governments of His Majesty's possessions on such occasions as are customary within their governments;

(d) To a lieutenant governor of a province on the opening and prorogation of a provincial legislature.

(e) Special guards of honour may be furnished to the Governor General at any time upon the requisition of the military secretary.

(f) On the arrival and departure of a general officer appointed to command the Canadian forces.

(g) In the absence of the Governor General, the administrator of the government is entitled to receive the same honours as those accorded to the Governor General.

(h) When a foreign general or flag officer lands at a military station within His Majesty's dominion to visit the civil governor or officer in command.

(i) When a naval officer of flag rank commanding in chief lands for the first time at a port within his command.

(j) If deemed expedient to receive distinguished personages other than those mentioned in (a), (b) and (c), and on occasions other than those specified in paragraph 1370 of the regulations, where it is laid down when honours and salutes are to be given by troops on parade.

Guards of honour are to be carried out on all occasions where practicable by the permanent force, but, if a unit of the force is not available then by a corps of the active militia.

2. Guards of honour are furnished by officers commanding commands or independent districts under authority of King's regulations and orders for the Canadian militia, 1910.

If guards of honour are required to be furnished for any occasion other than as specified in (1), then special authority for the same must be obtained from militia headquarters.

3. Quebec—Opening of provincial legislature, March 15, 1910. Authority—para. 1391, King's regulations and orders, 1910.

Arrival of Major General Sir John French, inspector general of the imperial forces, 19th May, 1910. Authority given from militia headquarters, 17th May, 1910.

Departure of Major General Sir John French, 8th July, 1910. Authority issued from militia headquarters, 6th July, 1910.

Three Rivers—None.

That is all it says about Quebec. I want to say that I have in my possession a letter from a gentleman living in Quebec, who so far as I know, is reliable, and he says that he was present when the guard of honour was there to meet Cardinal Vannutelli, and that it escorted him through the city and accompanied him to the boat on his departure. I am not going to say that that information is correct, but it certainly con-