

six hundred or seven hundred put on in the other. In the one case the voters' lists were made by the people, without the interference of Government, in the other case by men who were appointed at huge cost to us—a cost of many hundreds of thousands of dollars—for the purpose of producing a list which, rightly or wrongly, by fair means or foul, might enable those gentlemen to continue their career of misgovernment. Sir, there is another reason, and a very grave reason, why it is highly derogatory to Parliament and to the interests of the people that a longer time should be given in the case of making out the return for the one side or for the other. There is no doubt that the Government, when they appoint men who, as my hon. friend has said, have been in some instances officers of Liberal-Conservative Associations, are exposed to very great temptation to approach, or to cause to be approached, these men to induce them to do injustice to Liberal candidates when there is a doubt about the extent of the majority; and, Sir, unless I am greatly misinformed, nothing saved my hon. friend from Chateauguay (Mr. Holton), although he had a majority of 354, from being most unjustly deprived of his seat, except the fortunate circumstance that among the supporters of the Government there were one or two hon. gentlemen who warned the Government that they would withdraw their support if that iniquity were perpetrated. Now, Sir, is it by accident that fifty men are returned in two or three weeks for the Government side and nine for this side? Is it also by accident that the Government cannot point to one single mishap which has befallen any one of their supporters by reason of the action of a returning officer? I think, Sir, the country will know how to judge both of the way in which these *Gazette* returns were made, and the reasons why they were made. They were delayed for the double purpose, as I judge, first, of giving an unfair advantage in the promotion of election petitions, and next, in the case of many parties, of giving time to manipulate the returns, which, according to the statements made to us, there is only too much reason to believe has been done in other cases than those referred to by my hon. friend. You might as well tell us that it was by pure accident, after we had been told on the floor of this House last Session that it was impossible for the Government to have an election for Haldimand because they had to see that it was held under the new voters' list, that within ten days, I believe, after the seat for Chambly was vacated by the then member, we found that same Government—which kept the Haldimand election back for six months or more, in order that the revising officer might do his work there, and include the Indians of that county in the list—hurrying on the election for Chambly without waiting for the revising officer there to complete his list at all. These are the reasons why we say gross injustice, if not deliberate fraud, has been attempted to be perpetrated by some parties in the Government interest; and these are the reasons which have, most justly, in my opinion, caused my hon. friend from Bothwell to bring this matter to the attention of the House, and demand that reasonable investigation should be had. Of course there can be no objection to the suggestion of the First Minister that this matter should be delayed until to-morrow; that will not interfere with the object of my hon. friend.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the chair.

After Recess.

Mr. Fiset. (Translation.) Mr. Speaker, I was under the impression that the hon. member who had the floor before recess would take part in the discussion which was raised by the hon. member sitting behind me. I think the hon. member for Richmond and Wolfe (Mr. Ives) has been rather unfortunate in the comparison which he has made between the Ontario members and the hon. members from

the Province of Quebec, on the manner in which their names have been inserted in the *Official Gazette*. The hon. member for Berthier (Mr. Beausoleil) furnished him with documentary evidence to the effect that if the Ontario members had been unfairly treated the members from the Province of Quebec were still more unfairly treated. With your kind permission, Mr. Speaker, I will give the names of the hon. members which were published at various times in the *Official Gazette*. To begin with, in the Province of Quebec, six members were elected by acclamation, and it is easy to understand why their names were the first published in the *Official Gazette*. I may be allowed to give their names, they are Messrs. Coursol, Dupont, Lagernne, Seriver, Béchard and Girault. Now, here are the names published on the 12th of March, we will see to which category they belong. They are Messrs. Buin, Hall, the Hon. Sir Hector Langevin, Messrs. Bryson, McGreevey, McMillan, Ouimet, Wright, Desaulniers, Guilbault, Audet, Daoust, Desjardins—here, Mr. Speaker, I may be in error, and I hope the hon. member for Hochelaga (Mr. Desjardins) will pardon me if I place him among the out-and-out supporters of the Administration; he is said to be a Nationalist—Montplaisir, Riopel, Pope, Girouard and the Hon. Sir Adolphe Caron. I may remark here, with regard to my hon. friend the member for Bonaventure (Mr. Riopel) that this hon. member represents a county which is further down than the county of Rimouski, and that consequently the report of the returning officer had to travel a longer distance from there to Ottawa, than the report of the returning officer of the county of Rimouski. Well, on the 12th of March, eighteen Conservatives, with the exception of the hon. member for Hochelaga—whom, although he is a Conservative, I would not dare to class among the Ministerialists, for he might be vexed at me if I should class him as belonging to that denomination—were published in the *Official Gazette*. In all, four Liberals, eighteen Ministerialists, and say one Nationalist. How many Liberals, or rather, how many members of the Opposition? Four; the Hon. Mr. Langelier, Mr. Holton, the Hon. Mr. Laurier, and Mr. Ste. Marie. Now, on the 19th of March, the names of Ministerialists published in the *Official Gazette* were the following: My hon. friend the member for Témiscouata, (Mr. Grandbois) will not be vexed with me for we have been friends for a long time. The county of Témiscouata is bordering upon the county of Rimouski, and we live at a short distance from one another, and I will explain in a few minutes how it comes that the name of my hon. friend from Témiscouata was published in the *Official Gazette* before the name of the member for Rimouski. Messrs. Grandbois, Labelle, Ives, Chapleau, Colby, Wilson, Curran, Smith and Vanasse. How many members of the Opposition here? I say members of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker, but, although the Government will be very glad to-day to have the support of the Nationalists, when their names were to be published in the *Official Gazette* they were classed with the Liberals, and, accordingly, gazetted as late as we were. They are Messrs. Bergeron, Amyot, and Gaudet. In all nine Ministerialists and three Oppositionists. Who are those who were gazetted on the 26th of March? Here the Liberals are in greater number. Here are the names: Messrs. Préfontaine, Choquette, Langelier, Bernier, Turcotte, Des-saint, Doyon, Beausoleil, Clayes, Gauthier, Geoffrion, Fiset, De St. Georges, Bourassa. In all, fourteen Liberals and two Ministerialists—Messrs. Thérien and Coulombe. On the 2nd of April, here are the names of the Oppositionists who were published in the *Official Gazette*: Messrs. Fisher, Rinfret, Cimon, Guay, Duchesnay, Godbout, Couture, Cas-grain, or eight Oppositionists. As to my hon. friend, the member for Gaspé (Mr. Joncas), who is a Conservative, I have no doubt, was the last whose name was published, and this is owing to the fact that his election took place a month after the others. Now, Mr. Speaker, allow me to call your attention to a particular fact, which will enable