

**PERJURY CHARGE UNFOUNDED,
SAYS JUDGE McLENNAN.**
(Star)

OTTAWA, Oct. 11.—Complete exoneration of the charge of perjury made by Jos. Archambault, M.P., in the House of Commons against certain military officers at the barracks of the Engineering Training Depot in St. Johns is the finding in the judgment of Judge MacLennan, the Commissioner appointed by the Minister of Justice to investigate.

"The officers who were examined before me," says the judgment, "gave their evidence in a straightforward manner, and their conduct and demeanor while under examination, and the reasons which they gave for their answers, established their good faith, and that they honestly believed they had a right to answer questions, 6, 7 and 8 as they did.

"The envelopes show that Col. Melville, Lieut. Trow, Lieut. Adney and Lieut. Armor did not answer question No. 8. That disposes of the charge of perjury against the officers. In my opinion these charges are unfounded.

"It was proved to my satisfaction that Col. Melville was not sworn by the deputy presiding officer when he polled his vote. None of the voters who voted before the deputy presiding officer, Lieut. McCulloch, was sworn as required by law. Captain Knight, who was a deputy presiding officer, was not sworn for his own vote. In view of the answers given to questions 6, 7 and 8, the officers had the right to apply their vote to Chambly and Vercheres."

The question to which reference is made by the Judge form part of the declaration on the envelope sworn to by voters. Mr. Archambault alleged that the officer had been induced to commit perjury by falsely representing themselves upon oath to be unable to specify or state in what place or places or electoral districts in Canada they had resided at any time preceding their appointment in the army.

DOMICILE QUESTION DIFFICULT.

In the judgment it is stated that the place of residence or where he resides is not always easy to determine. Laymen, lawyers and even judges are liable to confound these with "domicile," and "domicile" may be two distinct things. Some of the officers swore they did not know the meaning of "residence" or what was meant in these questions by the place where they resided.

There was, says the judgment, a widespread conviction among not only military voter but civilians that every military voter had a right to apply his vote where he saw fit and all the officers who were examined swore that they believed they answered truthfully to the best of their knowledge and believed that they had the right to specify Chambly and Vercheres as the electoral district where they wished to have their votes applied. As it had not been proven that false evidence had been given wilfully, the testimony of the officers cannot be regarded as wilful or corrupt perjury.

NOTHING IMPROPER.

The judgment continues: "Mr. Rainville, the Government candidate in that electoral district was known to some of the officers, but not to all of them, from having taken one meal, the date of which is not proved, at the officer's mess. There were no speeches and no votes asked for on that occasion and the suggestion that something improper occurred between the officers and Mr. Rainville is absolutely unfounded.

"The officers and soldiers at St. Johns were strong supporters of the Union Government. From patriotic

motives, they wished to see the Government returned. Mr. Rainville's public record as a supporter of the Government and his stand in favor of conscription and of adequate reinforcements for the Canadian Army strongly appealed to the military voters and a considerable number of them, but, not all, who answered, 'I cannot say,' to questions 6, 7 and 8 desired to have their votes applied to Chambly and Vercheres, as they honestly believed they had a right to do.

NO CANVASSING PROVED.

"The officers were also accused of subordination of perjury by having induced certain military voters, being non-commissioned officers and men of the engineers training depot, to commit perjury by falsely representing themselves upon oath to be unable to specify or to state in what place or places or electoral districts in Canada they had resided at any time preceding their appointment, enlistment or enrolment or calling out on active service for the purpose of having their votes applied to the electoral district of Chambly and Vercheres. The evidence clearly establishes that there was no canvassing for votes on the part of any officers.

"The charge of perjury and subordination by the officers of their men fails," the judgment adds. "There were no improper inducements, representations, suggestions or other misconduct by the officers or any of them to influence any non-commissioned officer or men to commit perjury by giving false answers to questions on the envelope and the non-commissioned officers and men who appeared and were examined did not, in my opinion, commit perjury in connection with their answers. The charges of perjury and subordination of perjury are unfounded."

Referring to "Knots and Lashings," a weekly newspaper published by the Depot, the judgment says that the evidence does not show that the voters were influenced by any thing which appeared in this publication.

"They gave," says the judgment, "what appeared to me to be good, valid and sufficient reason for the answers which they gave to the questions and of their choice of Chambly and Vercheres."

The lawyers acting in the enquiry were E. Fabre Surveyer, K.C., and John MacNaughton, Montreal, who were appointed to protect the interests of the soldiers involved in the charges, and Aime Geoffrion, who represented Mr. Archambault's side of the investigation.

PICKUPS FROM THE TOP FLOOR OF THE COLLEGE BARRACKS.

Sapper J—— must have met some new friends up town last Saturday night. He came in feeling pretty jolly and wanted to run things his own way.

Everybody seems to sleep fine now that most of the London bunch are put down to the floor below us. Bow, wow, wow, lay down, major, lay down.

The sidewalk don't seem to be straight for Corporal C—— these last few days.

Why is an M. P. like a custard pie?

Because he is yellow all through and has not got crust enough to go over the top.

Canada's Leading Hotel

The Windsor

Dominion Square, Montreal, Canada

EUROPEAN PLAN EXCLUSIVELY.

Centrally located in the heart of the shopping and theatrical district.

Service Unsurpassed.

Special rates for Military and Naval Officers.

John Davidson, Manager.

**W. L. HOGG,
GRAIN. HAY
MONTREAL.**

**LAKE OF THE WOODS
MILLING CO. LIMITED,**

Makers of

"Five Roses Flour"

CANADA

"Flour is Ammunition—Don't Waste It."

**The Canadian Bank of
Commerce**

Paid-up Capital, \$15,000,000
Reserve Fund \$13,500,000

A supply of British notes on hands which will be found of great convenience for those going overseas. Denomination, £1, 10s., at current rate of exchange.

Travellers' Cheques issued, which will be found a most convenient way of carrying money when travelling.

Use Foreign Drafts and Money Orders for remittances to Europe.

**The
Merchants Bank
of Canada.**

Established 1864.

Paid-up Capital, \$7,000,000
Reserve Funds, \$7,421,292

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

Start a Savings Account with us. We welcome small accounts as well as large ones. Interest allowed at best rates, paid half-yearly.

J. A. PREZEAU, Manager.

**I. HEVEY, MERCHANT
TAILOR**

Tel. 126

RICHELIEU STREET.

St. Johns.

Tunics, Slacks and Breeches

(Made to order)

FOXES PUTTEES FOR SALE

Woolen Goods, Underwear, Gloves, Sweaters, Mufflers and Socks for Fall and Winter Wear—Also BREECHES for N.C.O.'s and Sappers.

We carry SUITS for Discharged Men at Special Rates.