

Mr. Gregoire of Sherbrooke, who happened to be his recognized Liberal organizer. No tenders were asked. Mr. Gregoire was appointed. Then, after the plans were submitted by Mr. Gregoire tenders were opened and the contract awarded to Mr. Alphonse Daris, of Richmond, and the building was finally put up.

Mr. POULIOT: I should like to know if the post office was built on that property.

Mr. TETREAU: I will tell the hon. member the whole story. Let us see how much it cost—that is the important part for him. During the election campaign of 1930 the ex-member for Shefford, Mr. P. E. Boivin, and his supporters were claiming on the political platforms of the county of Shefford that this nice building which had been erected in Waterloo cost only \$21,000.

Mr. POULIOT: I rise to a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I do not wish to interfere with the reading of my hon. friend, but we are discussing undertakings in harbours and rivers. I wonder if this post office is built in a river or in a harbour. I ask if my hon. friend is in order in reading something about the building of a post office.

Mr. TETREAU: If I do not get this before the committee now I will do it later.

Mr. POULIOT: I ask for a ruling.

An hon. MEMBER: You are afraid to hear it.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Gagnon): From the discussion so far I cannot say whether the remarks of the hon. member are in order or not. When I am sure I will give a ruling.

Mr. TETREAU: It was said that this nice building cost only \$21,000. The truth is quite different. In fact, to certain questions which I put on the order paper on February 16, 1933, inquiring as to the total cost of building the post office, the answer was \$43,303.99. Here is another incident which will demonstrate that this building was erected for the benefit of political friends. As usual, a man was required by the department to supervise the construction work. This selection was to be made by the Civil Service Commission, and notices were issued advertising it and specifying the qualifications, which were as follows:

Education: primary school, preferably high school graduation; three years experience as foreman of construction.

However, the Civil Service Commission did not have anything to do with the nomination. Mr. Oscar Seguin of Waterloo was recommended. [Mr. Tetreau.]

mended by the clerk of public works and the then member, for Shefford, Mr. Boivin, as being an expert fully qualified for the position. Consequently he was appointed. Mr. Seguin was and still is the Liberal organizer of the county of Shefford, and I claim this is the only qualification he had to supervise this work. In fact he had no experience whatsoever in construction work, as he had previously been a motorman on the Montreal electric tramways and, if my information is correct, red or green pill salesman, finally and suddenly to become the editor of *Le Journal de Waterloo*, the most ridiculous and insignificant newspaper that could be found in the eastern townships. At the time he was appointed to supervise the construction works his occupation was selling liquor for the provincial government. These were his qualifications; that was the kind of expert we had to direct the construction of that building. For his services as supervisor this man received \$1,500.86 for one year, and he also had a position with the provincial government at the time. This fact will prove to the committee that whenever the Civil Service Commission makes an appointment it is not always the best qualified man who obtains the job.

This is not all. When the new post office was finally erected the old one, which still stood in front of the new one, had to be demolished. Instead of proceeding in the way generally adopted, as was done in my own city of Granby when we constructed a church two years ago—that is, to sell the properties to be demolished by auction sale and thus receive from \$500 to \$700 for each—they gave a contract for the demolition of the old post office. The man who was awarded this contract received from the government the sum of \$2,240, plus the material remaining from the old building. And this is not all. There was, of course, a deal between the government and the owner of the first piece of land for the sale thereof. This deal was completed before notary R. R. Bachand, who charged the department only \$73 for signing this transaction. I may inform hon. members that in addition, his name appeared on the first cheque for \$3,650 issued by the government in payment for this piece of land, which still appears to be the property of Mr. H. Forand.

There is still more. When the post office was completed a heating system was installed therein, the cost of which amounted to \$800. This system was sold to the department by the Fess Oil Burners, Limited, through their official agent in Granby, Mr. P. E. Boivin, ex-member for Shefford. However, due to the fact that members of parliament are not