

National Defence (Mr. Mackenzie) has placed a considered answer on Hansard and has indicated that he has accepted the recommendation not of the member for Kingston (Mr. Rogers), not of a member of this house, but he has made appointments to the signal corps on the recommendation of Mr. Stansbury.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): To the signal corps?

Mr. BENNETT: Yes, Bernard Curran. That is what was said, rightly or wrongly, and the answer appears on the records of this house.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): Will my hon. friend quote it?

Mr. BENNETT: It was on March 28. If my colleague will turn up Hansard of March 28, I shall read it. That is what happened in connection with the storehouse. A quarry was being operated by the government not far from camp No. 37, and it is a fact that stone was taken to Stansbury's property for the purpose of making improvements thereon. The word "garage" is offensive to the hon. gentleman, so let us drop it.

Mr. ROGERS: My hon. friend said a garage was built with public property.

Mr. BENNETT: I did not say it was built entirely with public property. I heard what he read the other day and I know what he said.

Mr. ROGERS: My right hon. friend said: If he built it with public property, that is my duty.

Mr. BENNETT: I said "if."

Mr. ROGERS: And then my right hon. friend said:

He certainly did.

Mr. BENNETT: And what is more, I stated that the stone did not come from the spot the hon. gentleman said it came from, part of No. 2 highway. I want to make it perfectly clear that Mr. Stansbury has been very active in connection with all these matters and that stone was taken to his property by a man named Drinka. It is said, not by himself, but in a statement that the minister makes in this house for him, that he had permission. The man who had charge of that particular work is no longer there. His name is Bissonette. If the minister will take the trouble to make the necessary inquiries he will find what quantity of stone went there. He will find he took it there. He will look in vain for any consent in writing, at any rate up to this date, for that purpose.

[Mr. Bennett.]

Mr. ROGERS: What difference does it make whether it is in writing or not?

Mr. BENNETT: It makes quite a considerable difference when you are dealing with public property, as I shall presently point out. It should make a great difference to the minister if he is the custodian of public property, as I suggest he should be. I think this was March 28.

Mr. GRAY: An employee of the signal corps.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): My right hon. friend said before that the recommendation was for appointment to the signal corps. There is a vast difference which my right hon. friend must definitely appreciate.

Mr. BENNETT: He is an employee of the signal corps.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): He is an employee at the camp which is the headquarters of the signal corps.

Mr. BENNETT: This is a question asked by Mr. Ross (St. Paul's):

Are W. Anderson, T. J. Lennon, B. Curran, W. J. Trenhaile, employees at the signal corps, Barriefield, under the Department of National Defence?

Here is the answer by the Minister of National Defence:

3. All recommended by district officer commanding, military district No. 3, Kingston, Ontario.

That is not the one that comes within the class I mentioned yesterday.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, a few minutes ago my right hon. friend said that the Minister of National Defence has made an appointment to the Royal Canadian Signal Corps on the recommendation of Mr. Stansbury. I wish him to withdraw that remark, because it is absolutely and definitely inaccurate.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Mr. BENNETT: Excellent. I told the hon. gentleman that I did not have the book beside me, but I would look it up. I have now read the question and answer from page 1740. Reference was made the other day to the various appointments that were made on the recommendation of Mr. Stansbury, and the minister surely remembers the answer he gave in the house with respect to this. If he wishes, I shall take the time to turn them up.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): I rise to another point of order. If the right hon. gentleman will consult the records of Hansard he will find that he made a statement this