

government under the control of foremen or clerks of works. By these foremen or clerks of works the men are placed upon different jobs. There is an official time-keeper who punches the work cards four times a day, at the time of starting and at the time of quitting. Reports are made by the foremen and the wages are charged up to the cost of the different government jobs in books kept for that purpose. The materials which are kept at the stores can only be obtained from the stores by requisitions from the foremen and by requisitions showing what these materials are wanted for.

There also records are kept; materials are measured, weighed, taken out of store and charged up, with the time of the men, to the different public works. Afterwards, pay-lists are made up from time to time. They are certified by the foreman and submitted to the director of works and the accountant. There are 600 or 700 employees at least. The director and the accountant certify the accounts, which are then sent up to Ottawa. A cheque is sent from Ottawa to the director, who deposits it. When the money is drawn the director hands it over to the paymaster on the pay-list and he distributes the money to the men. Now, you will not find in the books of the department at Sorel or in the records of the workmen's time or of the materials, one single jot or tittle having reference to this work on the Lanctot house—nothing whatever. Here were men working for the entire season, from June until November, and you will not find any trace whatever in the government records which will enable you to identify them with this Lanctot job. I speak from the evidence. How, then, is the trick done, how was the matter managed? If there was, as my hon. friend (Mr. German) stated a moment ago, an agreement fair and above board that this work was to be done, a strict account kept and afterwards the government to be reimbursed, it is all legal and legitimate if it was done in the way my hon. friend says. But what were the means resorted to, and why is it we can find no trace of this transaction in the books? It was done in this way: First, as to wages, a fraud was resorted to. The workmen were directed to have this work done by Mr. Pagé. Remember, I am giving facts as to which there is no controversy. Pagé and Champagne, both foremen, were the men who directed the workmen to this particular job, without any authority whatever. There was no order from the director of the works who alone had the right to give it. The men's time was punched on their cards by the time-keeper by agreement between the time-keeper, Pagé and Champagne. Their time was punched as workmen engaged on government work.

That is the important point. It was in that way that men who were supposed to be working on government jobs were working all the time for the private advantage of the sitting member; otherwise they could not have been paid upon the certified pay-lists as having been engaged on government work. The money was taken out of the public treasury, entered up in the books of the government against the various jobs. The whole thing was put through as being for material furnished and work done for government account. Therefore, I say, the government money was, in consequence of this, expended from June to November in payment of wages and material, and there was nothing in the record that could possibly raise a suspicion as to the real nature of the work done and destination of these materials.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). Is there any evidence to show to what particular work this was charged up in the books?

Mr. MONK. No; that is the peculiar point. Some of these pay-sheets are charged to job No. 169—I believe that is the number. But turn up 169 and it is not that at all. There is no difficulty on that point. These two foremen recognized that this work was done upon the supposition that it was being done for the government.

Now, as to material. These materials were sent by foreman Pagé to the Lanctot house. How could he get them with the system of record to which I have referred? The foremen send in requisitions for material for government work, and they always have a certain quantity of these materials. Pagé took these materials out of materials that he had obtained upon regular requisition approved of for government work, and sent them over. Consequently, these materials, at the time the requisitions were sent, were charged up to the different government jobs and not to any private undertaking. That is the way materials were obtained without creating any suspicion—it was by agreement arrived at between Pagé and Champagne, the time-keeper and the foreman. My hon. friend says there is no evidence that the sitting member was privy to this conspiracy—for that is what it was—to obtain these materials and get the work done. There is no evidence that I am aware of that the sitting member ever actually planned this system. But what I say is this, and we cannot ignore it, nor can the public ignore it—that the sitting member addressed himself to the foreman, assuming that he thought the foreman had authority for this work, though he could not do it without the permission of the director of work. Mr. Papineau was there continuously—perhaps he did not happen to be there on a Sunday or on the 28th of