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he had not sufficient authority and let it pass. I did it because it was only clerical work which was ordered before I left the department and the Government consented to it and confirmed it.

Mr. Martin—The government never allowed that this was a proper transaction, but as they could not repudiate the obligations of their predecessors, they were obliged to pay this amount.

Mr. LaRiviere—Any member of a government has a right to complete unfinished work after resigning.

Mr. Martin—He has no right to sign his name as provincial treasurer. If you think you have

I DESIRE TO WARN YOU

as the law officer of this government, that I hope you will not carry the idea into practice. If a retired minister has a right to sign one document as minister, why not another.

Mr. LaRiviere—Long after the time you speak of the present Treasurer sent me cheques to be endorsed by me as Treasurer, and my colleague, the member for St. Andrew's, is still signing as president of the council, commissions of persons appointed as justices of the peace when he was in power.

Mr. Jones—That is not true. If cheques have been signed by the member of St. Boniface as Treasurer of the Province since I was sworn to that office, it has been without my knowledge, and if he has that right I will tender my resignation to the Government.

Mr. Martin—Another cheque for \$1,000 was paid to the Canada Publishing Company early in January for work to be done in the future. This was certified by the auditor in direct contravention of the statute which directs that before a progressive estimate can be paid a public contractor the public official having the work in charge must certify that an amount of it has been done equal in value to the payment of the progressive estimate, yet this cheque passed through the treasury was certified by the auditor and paid without any work being done by the contractors to whom the \$1,000 was handed over. How is it possible that a provincial auditor,

SUPPOSED TO GUARD

the interests of the people against any improper conduct of the Ministry, could fail to stop this cheque, so improperly issued, unless there was an agreement between the treasurer and the auditor to this effect—you let a little thing go through for me now and then and I will do the same by you. This man is supposed to be the officer of the House though it happens that the manner of his appointment was such that he can be removed by Order-in-Council. On July 2 a voucher for \$200 salary to Mr. Nursey was properly passed through the department. It was signed as the law with reference to expenditures for officers

of the House provides by two commissioners of finance and paid. On July 8 another voucher went through the department for \$200 salary to Mr. Nursey and was paid. This voucher had

NO SIGNATURE UPON IT.

save Mr. Nursey's own. In August \$144 for salary to Mr. Nursey was paid on the simple authentication of the gentleman receiving the amount. In September another \$144 was paid to himself, in direct violation of the law, by the gentleman who was supposed to be protected by the House in guarding the law. Why should the gentleman who did not stop an unwarranted payment of \$1,000 to Mr. Trudel, in whom the member for St. Boniface is so interested, trouble the treasurer to sign the warrants for his own salary. Altogether this gentleman paid himself last year \$1,139 without the signatures of the commissioners, as required by the law. Of this the ministers who framed the law respecting the duties of the auditor must have been cognisant, but they did not interfere. On January 31 last the auditor had overdrawn his salary \$502. Just now he is enjoying the long unaccustomed position of having earned a little something for which he has not yet been paid. Next year I expect to be able to lay before the House a complete statement of the work done by this gentleman who seems to have been

AN ESPECIAL PET

of the late Government. Last summer he obtained leave of absence and attended the Colonial Exposition. In the public accounts there appears a record of this holiday excursion in an item of \$342.42 for expenses of Mr. Nursey to Colonial Exhibition. The present Government propose that the House shall be asked to deal with this man at the present session in regard to these matters, and particularly in regard to his violating the law for his own benefit.

It seems like piling it on unnecessarily for me to go on accumulating proof of the overriding of the law by the member for St. Boniface. I will, however, cite one more instance. Mr. R. Latouche Tupper, chief of the provincial police and license inspector, had no right to spend a single cent of the money collected from licenses without the sanction of the member for St. Boniface. Yet he expended \$7,000 without any authority from the treasurer. If it is strange that a provincial auditor should be allowed such privileges as Mr. Nursey had and be found extending to friends of the Government the right to violate the law, it is quite consonant with this that the chief of police should be allowed to pay for his own purposes and in his own way, \$7,000. When one considers how much of this sort of thing was done it seems marvellous that any institution so conducted managed to run so long without a break-down. Thousands of dollars were handled in the license office