

J
103
H7
1910/11
P7
A1

Rm 10-A 122

1911

Keep carefully

*No. 1
to No. 7*

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE

*J
103
H7
1910/11
P7
A1*

ON

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

CHARGES PREFERRED BY P. E. BLONDIN, M.P.,
AGAINST A. LANCTOT, M.P., RICHELIEU.

No. 1



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY C. H. PARMELEE, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1911

TUESDAY, March 7, 1911.

The Committee met at eleven o'clock, a.m.

PRESENT.—Messrs. German, chairman; Barker, Barnard, Brodeur, Bureau, Carvell, Chisholm (Antigonish), Crocket, Crothers, Demers, Deville, Doherty, Dubeau, Geoffrion, Haggart (Winnipeg), Kyte, Lancaster, Lapointe, Lennox, Macdonald, McColl, Maddin, Major, Martin (Regina), Meighen, Monk, Northrup, Rhodes, Rivet, and Warburton.—29.

On motion of Mr. Northrup, it was

Ordered, That Messrs. Blondin, M.P., and Lanctot, M.P. (Richelieu), be represented by counsel.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Brodeur, it was

Ordered, That as the greater part of the evidence to be adduced before the committee will probably be given in the French language, the services of two French stenographers as well as of an interpreter be therefore secured and that the selection of the latter be left to Messrs. Blondin, Lanctot and the chairman.

On motion of Mr. Monk it was

Ordered, That leave of the House be asked to have all the proceedings of, and evidence taken before the committee, printed from day to day for the use of members of the committee.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Brodeur it was

Ordered, That the evidence taken daily by the committee be translated into English from day to day.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Brodeur, it was

Ordered, That a report be made to the House recommending that the quorum of the committee be reduced to fifteen members and that leave be granted the committee to sit while the House is in session.

On motion of Mr. Northrup it was

Ordered, That the clerk of the committee be hereby authorized to issue summonses to such witnesses as Mr. Blondin may require to appear at the next meeting and that the names of such witnesses be given the clerk not later than Friday next, the 10th instant.

The committee then adjourned until Tuesday next, 14th inst, at 10 o'clock.

W. M. GERMAN,
Chairman.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

TUESDAY, March 14, 1911.

The Committee met at ten o'clock a.m.

PRESENT:—Messrs. German, Chairman, Barker, Bristol, Brodeur, Bureau, Chisholm (Antigonish), Crothers, Demers, Devlin, Doherty, Dubeau, Geoffrion, German, Haggart (Winnipeg), Kyte, Lancaster, Lapointe, Lennox, McColl, Maddin, Martin (Regina), Monk, Northrup, Rhodes, Rivet, Roy (Montmagny), and Warburton.—26.

The minutes of the last meeting were considered as read and confirmed.

On motion of Mr. Barker it was

Ordered,—That Mr. Blondin be heard before the committee by Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C., his counsel.

On motion of Mr. Barker it was

Ordered,—That Adelard Lanctot, a member of the House of Commons, be requested to produce his cheque or cheques or other vouchers showing the payment of \$292.50 or any other amount or amounts for wages of men and paints, supplies or other merchandise supplied by the Department of Marine and Fisheries at Sorel or at St. Joseph de Sorel during June, July, August, September, October and November, 1910, for the painting, decorating and finishing of his house and premises on George street at Sorel as aforesaid, together with all accounts, bills, invoices or statements rendered to him by Oscar Champagne, an employee of the said department, or any other employee thereof in connection therewith.

On motion of Mr. Barker it was

Ordered,—That the following documents be produced by the officer in charge thereof acting for the Department of Marine and Fisheries, viz.: All books, documents, contracts, agreements, letters, correspondence, telegrams, receipts and vouchers, pay-lists, punch cards, dials, sheets and records for registering the time and hours of labour of employees of the department at Sorel and St. Joseph de Sorel, the whole touching the work and supplies furnished by the department or any of its employees in connection with the painting, puttying, tinting, varnishing, decorating and finishing the house and premises of Adelard Lanctot, situated on George street, at Sorel aforesaid, during the years 1909-1910, and also all accounts for such things furnished to said Adelard Lanctot by Oscar Champagne, an employee of the department, or by any other employee, together with receipts or vouchers showing payment by Adelard Lanctot therefore, in whole or in part. And also touching the house, premises and lodging rented and occupied by the said A. Lanctot on King street, Sorel, during the year 1908, and especially during October, 1908; and that the same be left in the hands of this committee and its officers for inspection by P. E. Blondin, M.P., his counsel and all members of the committee.

On motion of Mr. Devlin it was

Ordered,—That Mr. Lanctot be heard before the committee by Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C., of Montreal, his counsel.

On motion of Mr. Barker it was

Ordered,—That Joseph Pratt, of Sorel, and Cyrille Labelle, of Sorel, be summoned and required to appear and give evidence before the committee, and that they

bring with them and produce all books of account, bills or invoices, statements and vouchers of paints, varnish, tinctures, dyes, putty, brushes and merchandise ordered by and on behalf of or sold and delivered to A. Lanctot for his house and premises on George street at Sorel during June, July, August, September, October and November, 1910.

On motion of Mr. Devlin it was

Ordered,—That Eugene St. Jean be engaged to act in the capacity of interpreter. Whereupon the Chairman administered the oath to the said E. St. Jean.

Of the witnesses summoned the following were reported as present, viz.: Messrs. L. G. Papineau, Albert Thibaudeau, fils, Georges Cartier, Alfred Douaire, Henri Proulx, Andronique Sénécal, Napoléon Laroche, Herménégilde Lambert.

Mr. A. Lanctot, M.P. (Richelieu), being called was sworn and examined by Mr. McDougall.

During his examination the following exhibits were produced and marked as exhibits, viz.:—

Exhibit No. 1.—Cheque of A. Lanctot for \$375.62 on Molsons Bank, Sorel, dated November 22, 1910, and made payable to the order of the Department of Fisheries.

Exhibit No. 2.—Statement of wages of men, date November 21, 1910.

Exhibit No. 3.—Declaration of Alfred Douaire, Sorel, dated March 1, 1911.

Exhibit No. 4.—Declaration of Henri Proulx, Sorel, dated March 1, 1911.

Exhibit No. 5.—Declaration of D. Peloquin, Sorel, dated December 29, 1910.

Exhibit No. 6.—Declaration of A. Senecal, Sorel, dated March 1, 1911.

Exhibit No. 7.—Declaration of N. Laroche, St. Joseph Sorel, December 28, 1910.

Exhibit No. 8.—Declaration of H. Lambert, St. Joseph Sorel, February 18, 1911.

Exhibit No. 9.—Declaration of A. Douaire, Sorel, March 5, 1911.

Exhibit No. 10.—Letter from O. Champagne to A. Lanctot dated November 21, 1910.

Exhibit No. 11.—Letter from A. Lanctot to L. G. Papineau dated November 22, 1910.

Exhibit No. 12.—Letter from L. G. Papineau to A. Lanctot dated December 2, 1910.

Exhibit No. 13.—Voucher for \$81.60, Mount Royal Colour & Varnish Co., Ltd., dated December 12, 1910.

Moved by Mr. Lennox, that all questions put by counsel to witnesses be put in English. Motion declared lost.

At one o'clock p.m. the committee took recess.

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

On motion of Mr. Barker it was

Ordered,—That the following employees of the Department of Marine at Sorel and St. Joseph de Sorel be summoned and required to appear and give evidence before the committee, viz.:—

Ulric Latraverse, accountant; Arthur Lavallée, employee; Jean Baptiste Pagé, chief of the painting department; Théodore Emond, painter; Edmond Brault, painter; Adélarde Letendre, painter; Albéric Letendre, painter; Omer Pagé, painter; Arthur Trempe, painter; Louis Paul, painter; Adélarde Alie, painter; Henri Proulx, painter; Henri Paul, painter; Cuthbert Champagne, painter; Joseph Proulx, painter; Dieu-donné Peloquin, carpenter; Octavien Lafrenière, painter; Omer Lamoureux, manufacturer; Oscar Champagne, employee; Norman Massé, storekeeper; Augustin Payette, foreman painter; all of Sorel.

On motion of Mr. Geoffrion it was

Ordered,—That the examination of Mr. Lanctot be deferred until the other witnesses have been heard.

On motion of Mr. Barker it was

Ordered,—That the foregoing decision be reported to the House.

GEORGE CARTIER being called, was sworn, examined and discharged from further attendance.

The committee then adjourned until to-morrow (Wednesday) at ten o'clock a.m.

W. M. GERMAN,
Chairman.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

(TRANSLATION)

TUESDAY, March 14, 1911.

The Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, to which the charges preferred by Mr. P. E. Blondin, M.P., against Mr. A. Lanctot, M.P., were referred, met at 10 o'clock, am.

Mr. Adélaré Lanctot, M.P., sworn :

The witness produced the following documents, viz. :—

EXHIBIT No. 1.

Sorel, P.Q., 22 Nov., 1910.

(La Banque Molson.)

Payez à Dept. Marine & Pecheries ou ordre trois cent soixante quinze $\frac{62}{100}$ piastres, \$375.62.

ADELARD LANCTOT.

Endorsed as follows:—

Department of Marine & Fisheries,
Sorel Shipyd.

For deposit to our credit at Molson's Bank.

(Signed) L. G. PAPINEAU,
M. A. BARIL.

EXHIBIT No. 2.

MARINE AND FISHERIES OF CANADA.

A. LANCTOT, Esq.

DR. to Marine and Fisheries, Canada. P. O. address, Sorel

November 21, 1910.

| 1910. | | | \$ | cts. | \$ | cts. |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|----|--------------|-----|------|
| Juin, | Oct. Lafrenière, | painter | 16 | jours à 2 00 | 32 | 00 |
| Juillet, | " | " | 8 | " 2 00 | 16 | 00 |
| Aout, | Alberic Letendre | " | 18 | " 1 70 | 30 | 60 |
| Juillet, | Omer Pagé | " | 8 | " 1 55 | 12 | 40 |
| Aout, | " | " | 9 | " 1 55 | 13 | 95 |
| Sept., | " | " | 11 | " 1 55 | 17 | 05 |
| " | Adel. Letendre | " | 5 | " 1 65 | 8 | 25 |
| " | Theod. Emond | " | 8½ | " 1 75 | 14 | 87 |
| " | Alf. Douaire | " | 8 | " 2 00 | 16 | 00 |
| " | Art. Trempe | " | 11 | " 1 65 | 18 | 15 |
| Oct., | Omer Pagé | " | 11 | " 1 55 | 17 | 05 |
| " | Arsène Ally | " | 7 | " 1 55 | 10 | 85 |
| " | Edm. Brault | " | 11 | " 1 80 | 19 | 80 |
| " | Louis Paul | " | 20 | " 1 50 | 30 | 00 |
| " | Alf. Douaire | " | 7 | " 2 00 | 14 | 00 |
| " | Art. Trempe | " | 7 | " 1 65 | 11 | 55 |
| " | Theod. Emond | " | 11 | " 1 75 | 19 | 25 |
| " | Adel. Letendre | " | 7 | " 1 65 | 11 | 55 |
| Nov., | Edm. Brault | " | 13 | " 1 80 | 23 | 40 |
| " | Louis Paul | " | 1½ | " 1 50 | 2 | 55 |
| " | Adel. Alley | " | 13 | " 1 55 | 20 | 40 |
| " | Omer Pagé | " | 6 | " 1 40 | 8 | 40 |
| Sept., | Pierre Ethier, père, | labourer. | 2 | " 1 35 | 2 | 70 |
| " | Adel. Desorecy | " | 2 | " 1 35 | 2 | 70 |
| " | Avila Gouin | " | 1 | " 1 35 | 1 | 35 |
| " | Adel. Kane | " | 1 | " 1 35 | 1 | 35 |
| | | | | | 375 | 62 |

(Signed in Duplicate.)

Os. CHAMPAGNE,
Timekeeper.

At the request of the Hon. Mr. Brodeur the following statutory declarations, filed by the witness, were marked as Exhibits, viz.:—

EXHIBIT No. 3.

Canada,
Province of Quebec,
District of Richelieu.

I, the undersigned, Alfred Douaire, painter, of the city of Sorel, 51 years of age, solemnly declare:

That I have been in the employment of the federal government at its shipyards situated at Saint-Joseph de Sorel, from January, 1906, inclusively to the 5th of November, 1910, as painter under the orders of J. Bte. Pagé, foreman of the painters department at the said shipyards, during the last two years:—that during these two said years, principally during the last year, and especially in July, August and September, 1910, I have been requested by the said J. Bte. Pagé to go to Sorel, at the house of Mr. Adélard Lanctôt, M.P., then being built on George street, in order to paint, cement, polish and varnish, &c., &c., the said house and that, as it was well understood, after having registered at the shipyard as present and working on behalf of the government, and my departure each morning was to be from the said shipyard.

That, as a matter of fact, I regularly registered and punched as previously mentioned, and that in conformity with my orders I left the shipyard each working day and went, as above stated, during the months of July, August and September, 1910, to the said Lanctôt house, where I have worked at the painting, varnishing and staining of the said Lanctôt house.

That this work was done in part by Messrs. Théodore Emond, Edmond Brault, Adélard Letendre, Albérique Letendre, Omer Pagé, Arthur Tremple, Louis Paul, Adélard Alie, all painters, employed at the time by the said government, and on the working hours due to the government and each of them having punched at the same time as myself as aforesaid.

That during the time that work was going on, the said J. Bte. Pagé and Adélard Lanctôt, M.P., were visiting the job from time to time, looking at the progress of the work, Pagé giving orders for having some paint brought from the shipyard and also for the execution of the work, and that, many times to the knowledge and cognizance, and in the presence of the said Adélard Lanctôt,—this gentleman knowing also where the paint came from and that the work was being done by employees of the government whom he was seeing often and often at work.

That the said Adélard Lanctôt never spoke of paying these painters, and in fact was not paying them, but they were regularly paid their salaries by the government at each pay day, as if they had worked for the department.

That the above mentioned persons who have worked with me at this painting have given to that work, some four weeks, and others from four to ten weeks.

I positively declare:—That Mr. Adélard Lanctôt knew at the time that the paint and other goods which were used in the painting of his house, were coming from the said shipyard of the government; 2. That this work was done by the then regular employees of the government who were paid, for the time they were doing that work, by the government itself, and that for that purpose the time of each employee was punched as employee of the government.

On the seventh day of December, 1910, at 10 p.m., Mr. Alfred Lavallée, lumber merchant, of Sorel, came to my house at Sorel, asking me to go immediately to the house of Mr. Adélard Lanctôt, at Sorel, who desired to see me without fault; I went immediately and found Mr. Lanctôt who was waiting for me and who, after the ordinary salutations, showed me and read me the solemn declaration which I had given during the said month of December to the same purpose as the present one, and spoke to me the following words:—‘Is it you, Mr. Douaire, who gave this affidavit?’ I answered: ‘Yes.’ He added: ‘You have signed it?’ I answered ‘Yes.’ He asked

me if I would see Albert Thibadeau and try to lay my hand upon certain papers relating to this affair, which he did not like to see circulating. I answered that it was not easy to get hold of these documents, principally the affidavit dated at Sorel, the 30th of November, 1910. Mr. Lanctôt added: 'I will look to that myself, and I will try to get hold of them. Mr. Lanctôt wanted me to change my course of action, he offered me a position under the government, which I refused. He told me that if some one was troubled about that affair, principally Mr. J. Bte. Pagé, I would be treated the same way he would be. I answered that I was not afraid. Before leaving, I told him that the affidavit which he had in his hands, and which he got, I did not know from whom, was true and signed by me in perfect knowledge and without any outside influence, as I gave the present one.

And I make this solemn statement, believing it conscientiously to be true, and knowing that it has the same force and effect as if it was made under oath, under the witness law of Canada, and I have signed.

ALFRED DOUAIRE.

Declared before me, the undersigned,
at Sorel, the first of March, 1911.

VICTOR A. BOURGEOIS,
Notary.

EXHIBIT No. 4.

(Translation).

Canada,
Province of Quebec,
District of Richelieu.

I, the undersigned, Henri Proulx, painter, of the city of Sorel, aged 34, do solemnly declare:

That I have been in the employ of the Dominion government at its shipyards situated at St. Joseph de Sorel, from February 16, 1909, to November 5, 1910, as painter and under the orders of J. Bte. Pagé, head of the painting department.

That in the course of the month of August last (1910) the said J. Bte. Pagé instructed me to proceed, in company with Omer Pagé and Henri Paul, two government employees, painters like myself, working under his orders to the time, to proceed to the paint shop of the department for the purpose of taking the paint there, the property of the government, and carrying it to the said Lanctôt house at Sorel, with instructions in going through Sorel to follow Augusta street so as to avoid being noticed, as would have been the case had we gone directly to the spot.

That accordingly I proceeded in August, 1910, together with the said Omer Pagé and Henri Paul, to the paint shop, and that there we loaded ourselves with boxes, barrels, and packages of paint neither weighed or measured, as well as of oil and varnish and thence carried our load of wares to the said Lanctôt's house in Sorel, following Augusta street, so as to let people believe that we were coming from the shops in Sorel, in accordance with the instructions received from the said J. P. Pagé; that on reaching the said Lanctôt house we deposited on the floor our three loads of paint, in the presence of the said Adélarde Lanctôt, who was then at the said house. There Messrs. Théodore Emond, Edmond Brault, Adélarde Letendre, Alberic Letendre, Omer Pagé, Arthur Trempe, Louis Paul, Adélarde Alie and Alfred Douaire, all at the time in the employ of the government, as painters, under the orders of J. B. Pagé, their chief, with the knowledge of the said Adélarde Lanctôt, who knew these men, who knew where they were supposed to be working, took hold of the paint and utilized it to whitewash the inside and outside of the Lanctôt house, while every morning having their cards punched as to get their pay from the government, which as a matter of

fact they did get, and this again to the knowledge of the said Adélaré Lanctot who was aware that the government was paying these men for the time they had spent working in his house.

I know personally that morning, noon and night the said Pagé proceeded with me from the Lanctot house to where the punch was located and that he punched on his own account, and that as long as the work lasted. It is also to my knowledge that in the course of the said work, Cuthbert Champagne, another government employee, and keeper of the punch, had instructions to punch on behalf of the aforesaid painters who did not see it to themselves, in the course of said work, at the said Lanctot house, and that indeed he punched once for me before my arrival, stating: your card is punched as well as the others. Besides, I declare that the said J. Bte. Pagé, while I was present, addressed the said Cuthbert Champagne, then close to the punch, and inquired from the said Champagne, keeper of the punch, whether he was careful to punch regularly on behalf of the men working at the time at Mr. Lanctot's. Mr. Champagne having answered in the affirmative, Mr. Pagé declared himself satisfied.

I declare lastly that on the afternoon of the twelfth day, January 6, 1911, I was requested by a friend of Mr. Lanctot to proceed to the latter's office. Accordingly, I went and found there Mr. Lanctot, Mr. Joseph Proulx, of Sorel, and Mr. Napoléon Proulx, of St. Victoire, two of my uncles, and here is what happened: Mr. Adélaré Lanctot, M.P., inquired: 'Mr. Proulx, I heard that you were anxious to get your position; I can have you reinstated provided you sign the paper which I have prepared and which I shall read to you. The gist of the paper he then read, was as follows: Hon. minister, I request that you put aside the statement which I signed on November 10, 1910, which you have in your hands. I signed that paper when in a passion and after thinking over it I realized that some things which I had included had no foundation in fact, and that in the interest of the party as well as in my own personal interest such a course would be preferable, and at the same time I beg to be pardoned by you and by the member.' Having ascertained what use the member Lanctot intended to make of this letter, I answered that it was useless to read any more. 'You should have a better knowledge of the Proulx family; we are not of the kind who sign on Monday and withdraw their signature on Tuesday. I want you to bear in mind Lanctot that all the affidavits declared and signed by me will remain exactly as on the day I signed them.' Then, Joseph Proulx, ticket agent addressed Lanctot as follows: 'You should not have a grudge against my nephew, but instead against those d—fools on the other side whose inspirations you follow.' And the discussion on that subject lasted a couple of hours.

And I make this solemn declaration believing it conscientiously to be true and knowing that it has the same force and effect as if it had been made under oath under the Evidence Act of Canada, and I have signed,

HENRI PROULX.

Declared before me, undersigned at Sorel, on this 1st day of March, nineteen hundred and eleven.

VICTOR A. BOURGEOIS,
Notary.

(EXHIBIT No. 5.)

Canada,
Province of Quebec,
District of Richelieu.

I, the undersigned, Dieudonné Péloquin, joiner and contractor of the city of Sorel, do solemnly declare:

1. That I am 34 years of age and that I have never obtained any contract, or favour, or employment from any of the political parties, and that I am independent of them.

2. That, to my personal knowledge, during the past five or six months, several men employed in the Dominion government shipyards situated at St. Joseph de Sorel, accused each other of thefts and plunderings of cement, lumber, iron, paint, and especially of time as government employees working for private persons while in the departmental pay; the whole being evidenced by several solemn declarations which have been put in my hands in the course of the last two or three days for the purpose of enlightening me and inducing me to request an investigation.

3. That in the course of November last and of December instant politicians, officials of the department high and low, accusers and accused, have travelled to Ottawa; one of the storekeepers has been suspended, then reinstated as he threatened to tear asunder the curtain which covered many a deed. Finally calm was restored, and it was rumoured that matters would be set right, the accusers giving way as a result of promises of employment, and the accused being compelled to pay back the value of the goods and time received. Hence an unforeseen appraisal for the purpose of determining the value of certain things which parties interested put down at \$292, and which people who have no interest in the matter figure at \$800 or \$1,000, or even as high as \$12,000.

4. That basing myself on the written and oral statements which have been made and communicated to me, and on rumours deemed trustworthy here, I believe that the government, within the last two years, must have suffered a loss of over fifty thousand dollars, through fraud, embezzlement, &c.

5. That to my knowledge painters in the employ of the government have painted the inside and outside of the house of our Dominion member of parliament, Mr. Adélaré Lanctot, who was aware that such work was being carried on by these men, at his house situated on George street, in the city of Sorel; one of the best finished and the best painted in this city, and the painting of which is estimated at prices varying several hundred dollars.

And I make this solemn declaration believing it conscientiously to be true and knowing that it has the same effect and force as if it had been made under oath, under the Evidence Act of Canada.

DIEUDIONNE PELOQUIN.

Declared before me at Sorel, December 29, 1910.

VICTOR A. BOURGEOIS,
Notary.

(EXHIBIT No. 6.)

Canada,
Province of Quebec,
District of Richelieu.

I, the undersigned, Andronique Sénécal, carpenter and joiner, of the city of Sorel, aged 45 years, do solemnly declare:

1. That I am employed at the Dominion government shipyards, situated at St. Joseph de Sorel, at the present time, and have been so employed for the last nine years; that on or about the third of May, nineteen hundred and nine (1909), Oscar Champagne, a man in the employ of the same government, in the same place, as time-keeper, summoned me from my work to his office and instructed me to proceed at once to Sorel, to the house of Adélaré Lanctot, then in course of construction on George street, that there I would find Lanctot waiting for me and would be told what to do. That accordingly, in compliance with that order from Champagne, I left forthwith, taking with me two ferry tickets, the property of the government, which Champagne handed to me to reach the place of the said Adélaré Lanctot at Sorel. On my way I saw Mr. Lanctot at the Hotel Quebec, notwithstanding which I proceeded to his

house and waited for him until the following day. In fact, on the following day, I met Mr. Lanctot at his residence about nine in the morning, and told him that Mr. Champagne had sent me to him for some work that was to be done.

Mr. Lanctot then instructed me to work about the house on his property, repairing and resetting the fence which surrounded it; I got to work at once and worked three days in succession without interruption. I was paid by the government for these three days work spent at Mr. Lanctot's; I was working under the latter's instructions and he must have seen to have my card punched by obliging hands, for I was paid in full as usual.

And I make this solemn declaration, believing it to be conscientiously true and knowing that it has the same force and effect as if it had been made under oath under the Evidence Act of Canada.

And I have signed,

A. SENECAI.

Declared before me the undersigned
at Sorel on this 1st day of March,
nineteen hundred and eleven.

VICTOR A. BOURGEOIS,
Notary.

(EXHIBIT No. 7.)

Canada,
Province of Quebec,
District of Richelieu.

I, the undersigned, Napoléon Laroche, formerly painter and at present joiner, in the parish of St. Joseph de Sorel, do solemnly declare:

1. That in the course of the winter, spring, summer and part of autumn of last year, 1910, I was employed at the Dominion government shipyards, situated at St. Joseph de Sorel, as painter and under the orders of J. Bte. Pagé, head of the painting department.

2. That to my personal knowledge, in the course of that year, 1910, a complete staff of painters, then employed, as myself, by the government and paid by the government, was sent to paint, varnish, decorate the inside and outside of the house of Mr. Adélarde Lanctot, M.P., for the electoral district of Richelieu, then in course of construction on George street, in the city of Sorel.

3. That, as a matter of fact, Messrs. Omer Pagé, Louis Paul, Alfred Douaire, Théodore Emond, Edmond Brault, Octavien Lafernière, Arthur Trempe, Adélarde and Alberic Letendre, all painters employed and paid by the government and on government time, have painted, varnished and decorated the inside and outside of the said Lanctot house, and that with that object in view they worked almost uninterruptedly from about the end of June up to late autumn; work which to the best of my knowledge I estimate to be worth between twelve and thirteen hundred dollars.

4. That these persons registered or cause themselves to be registered as being present and working for the government, since they came up at every pay-day for the purpose of getting their money, and indeed were paid by the government for time which they supplied to a private party.

And I make this solemn declaration, believing it conscientiously to be true, and knowing that it has the same force and effect as if it was made under oath under the Evidence Act of Canada.

NAPOLÉON LAROCHE.

Declared before me at St. Joseph de Sorel, on this 28th day of December, nineteen hundred and ten.

RENE CHAMPAGNE,
C.S.S. for the District of Richelieu.

(EXHIBIT No. 8.)

Canada,
Province of Quebec,
District of Richelieu.

I, the undersigned Herménégilde Lambert, of the parish of St. Joseph de Sorel, aged 37, do solemnly declare:

1. That I have been in the employ of the Dominion government at their shipyards, situated at St. Joseph de Sorel, from 1900 to 1910, inclusive, that is to say ten consecutive years, the first four years as caulker, and the six last as overseer of labourers. I have given up that work on December 28 last, and have not taken it up since, although I have been offered an increase of salary of fifteen cents per day.

2. That while I was thus in the service of the said government, especially within the last three years, Mr. Alex. Gendron, then and still of the labourers' department, head man, and consequently my superior, has often instructed me to send sometimes one, sometimes two and sometimes three of the men under my orders and in my gang to work at Sorel for private parties, especially for Alfred Baril and Oscar Champagne, two high officials at the time, and still in the same department, and for Adélaré Lanctôt, M.P., to carry on works and repairs at various buildings.

3. That on receiving these applications, I sent the number of men required to work for the benefit of these persons, and when each foreman was called to give to the head foreman the time of these men, I said to Mr. Alex. Gendron: 'I have one, or two or three men who have been working at Sorel for the above mentioned.' Then Alex. Gendron, when he was present, and Adolphe Joubert, his clerk representing him, when the latter was away, would say: 'Do not mention the absences which go unnoticed; these men have punched and will be paid by the department.'

4. That Mr. Oscar Champagne, employed in the government stores, has had turf taken at St. Joseph's taken to Sorel to grade his property and embellish the grounds around his house at Sorel, which work was done by Michel Lambert and André Cotnoir, men in the employ of the government, who worked between three and four days, while at the same time having their cards punched every morning and getting their pay from the government, at the knowledge of the said Oscar Champagne.

5. That in the course of the summer of 1910, that same Mr. Oscar Champagne caused to be drawn, by government teams and by men in government pay, iron pipes taken from the government and had these carried to Sorel and utilized for a tunnel in a stream going through his property, and that this whole expenditure has been supported by the government, which is the loser in this last instance of about \$200. That to my knowledge instructions have been given to the men entrusted with the drawing of the pipes to do so in such a way that the great Chief Papineau should have no knowledge of it. As a matter of fact, the drawing was effected about seven o'clock in the morning previous to Mr. Papineau's arrival.

6. That in every instance where time or material was thus embezzled, urgent departmental work was interfered with.

7. That if, to the loss aforementioned, are added those inflicted on the department in the shape of thefts of wood, iron, cement, etc., I may say that these aggregate an enormous amount.

8. I am free to acknowledge that Mr. L. G. Papineau (great chief) of the department, is an honest man, but I will add that either through lack of sternness or some other cause, he finds himself unable to keep in the right path certain subalterns who are not very scrupulous in the handling of the punch. That without the benefit of an investigation for the purpose of finding out those actually at fault, the country will still suffer considerable losses.

And I make this solemn declaration, believing it conscientiously to be true and knowing that it has the same force and the same effect as if it had been made under oath under the Evidence Act of Canada.

H. LAMBERT.

Declared before me, the undersigned,
at Sorel, on this 18th day of
February, 1911.

VICTOR A. BOURGEOIS,
Notary.

EXHIBIT No. 9.

Canada,
Province of Quebec,
District of Richelieu.

I, the undersigned, Alfred Douaire, painter, of the city of Sorel, aged 51, do solemnly declare that I have been in the employ of the Dominion government at their shipyards, situated at St. Joseph de Sorel, for several years, especially during the years 1909, 1910, and 1908; that, in the course of the month of October, 1908, J. Bte. Pagé, then employed in the same yards as head of the paint department, instructed me to go and paint the house of Mr. Adélaré Lanctôt, member for the county of Richelieu, at the time and still representing said county, a house which he had rented from Mr. Bruno Leclair, on Roy street, in the city of Sorel.

That, as a matter of fact, following my instructions, I went to paint the said lodgings, then occupied by the aforesaid Mr. Lanctôt, tenant, and did so at the knowledge and in the presence of the said Adélaré Lanctôt, and on government time, as an employee of the said government.

That I was paid in full and without any dockage by the government for the time I had spent painting the said Lanctôt house, and never did Mr. Lanctôt, or any body else on his behalf or in his name offer to pay me a cent for such work effected for his benefit, and which lasted two or three days.

That, besides, Mr. Lanctôt knew that I was then the employee of the said government and that I was drawing my salary from the said government for the work thus effected in his said house.

And I make this solemn declaration, believing it conscientiously to be true and knowing that it has the same force and the same effect as if it had been made under oath under the Evidence Act of Canada.

ALFRED DOUAIRE.

Declared before me, in the city of Sorel,
on this 5th day of March, nineteen
hundred and eleven.

VICTOR A. BOURGEOIS,
Notary.

By Mr. McDougall, counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. Mr. Lanctot, you are a member of the House of Commons?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have made a statement before the House of Commons?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Which statement is included in the proceedings of the House of Commons, dated March 6, 1911?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In that statement you said, for one thing, that during the month of June you were building a house at Sorel and that, when the house was ready to be painted, you were obliged to leave very frequently in order to go to Saranac Lake where your wife was sick?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Can you specify in a general way the dates of your trips to Saranac Lake?—A. I can say that since June 7, 1909, I went to Saranac Lake every week. In the month of June, 1909, my wife had been at Saranac Lake for one year.

Q. You go back to 1909, Mr. Lanctot; I had asked you to specify the dates as to the month of June, 1910, during which period you said before the House you were obliged to leave frequently. Can you specify the dates of the trips you made in 1910?—A. I can say that I used to go there every week and spend two or three days, sometimes three or four days, and sometimes I stayed two weeks without coming back to Sorel.

Q. Which period of those trips cover in 1910; which months of the year for instance?

WITNESS.—In 1910?

COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. June, July, August, September. I think that my wife arrived in the month of October.

Q. Your wife came back in the month of October?—A. In the month of October.

Q. You were boarding yourself at Sorel, at which place?—A. I was boarding at Nazaire Latraverse's hotel in 1909.

Q. I confine myself to 1910 for the present.—A. I could not say exactly when I left Latraverse's hotel to go to the General Hospital of Sorel.

Q. For instance, were you boarding at the hospital you referred to since the 20th of June until the 26th of November, 1910?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you have paid your board during that time?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. About what time was the house you were building on George street ready to receive the painters?—A. Before painting the house the glazing had to be done, during the month of June or July.

Q. When was the glazing done?—A. I think it was during the month of June—June or July.

Q. I would like you to be a little more specific.—A. They began during the month of June; I do not know when the work was finished.

Q. Try to be more specific, because I am going to bring to your attention the statement you made before the House, in which you said that in the month of June, 'being obliged to leave frequently to go to Saranac Lake, and having had no time to get painters from outside, and knowing that you could not find painters in Sorel except at the Department of Marine and Fisheries and at the Richelieu Company's shops, I went to the Department of Marine and Fisheries.' Was it in the month of June?—A. In the month of June, yes.

Q. If I understand correctly, then you said in your statement before the House that in the month of June you could not find any painters in Sorel or outside, is that what you mean?—A. If you will allow me, I am going to explain it to you in a few words. This is how it happened; during the month of June my house was not ready

to be painted inside. On May 29, I think, to the best of my recollection, I went to the Department of Marine and Fisheries to see Mr. Papineau. Mr. Papineau was not there. I saw Mr. Champagne and told him that I needed, in a few days from thence some men to glaze my house and paint it, to do what the painters call 'priming,' I do not know the French word. As the outside work was progressing, they needed some painter to put on the first coat of paint. The men were still at work inside.

Q. Your own employees?—A. The joiners. They were still working at the wood-work inside the house. When I asked him if as soon as men would be wanted to make that primage, and as soon as the house would be ready to be painted, he could send me the men to do the work.

Q. Now, Mr. Lanctot, you say that Mr. Papineau was absent at that time?—A. On the 29th, yes, I think so.

Q. Do you say that he was away from Sorel, or that he was not in the department?—A. I went to Mr. Papineau's office. A young man was there. I asked him where was Mr. Papineau. His answer was, 'Mr. Papineau is absent.'

Q. Did you understand by that that he was not in Sorel?—A. I understood that he was absent,—that he was away from Sorel.

Q. You took no further trouble to ascertain if Mr. Papineau was in Sorel?—A. No.

Q. You then applied to Mr. Oscar Champagne?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was then the employ of Mr. Oscar Champagne in the department?—A. Timekeeper.

Q. He was a timekeeper?—A. Yes, a timekeeper.

Q. For what works?—A. For all the men employed in the shipyards of St. Joseph de Sorel.

Q. Does that mean, for instance, the painters' department?—A. All the men of the department.

Q. Did you find Mr. Champagne?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And what did you ask him?—A. I told him: 'I came to see Mr. Papineau.' 'Mr. Papineau is away; I am in a great hurry—'

Q. Is Mr. Champagne's office in the same building than that of Mr. Papineau?—A. Alongside in the second apartment.

Q. Now continue your answer. You said that you asked him—A. I told him, 'I came to see Mr. Papineau; he is away. Will you do me a favour? I am in a great hurry. I have to take the train in a few minutes for Saranac lake. I came to ask him men to work at my house, if he could lend me men to work at my house.'

Q. That was on the 29th of May?—A. About that. Mr. Papineau will be able to tell you. He answered me: 'Yes, with pleasure.' And then I went away.

Q. You did not leave immediately, Mr. Lanctot. You went to see Mr. Jean-Baptiste Pagé, did you not?—A. I think I met Mr. Pagé in that same office, or right at the door.

Q. In the meanwhile?—A. On the same day, yes.

Q. About the same time?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you speak to Mr. Pagé, and if so what did you tell him?—A. Yes, I told him that I had just seen Mr. Champagne, and that Mr. Champagne would send men to my house according as the work would go on.

Q. You mean Jean-Baptiste Pagé, do you not?—A. Jean-Baptiste Pagé

Q. What is the employ of Jean-Baptiste Pagé?—A. He is the foreman of the painters in the shipyards of the Marine and Fisheries Department, at St. Joseph de Sorel.

Q. Did you say anything about paints or materials?—A. I spoke to him about that before.

Q. To whom? To Mr. Pagé?—A. Yes.

Q. How do you explain that you had spoken before that to Mr. Pagé about paints and materials?—A. During May, I dare say from the 15th to the 30th, after the session of 1910 had come to an end, I saw that I would need painters to finish

my house. One day, I met Mr. Pagé—Mr. Pagé lives about 100 feet from my house—and I asked him if he could lend me some of his painters, in the yards, and he would look after the work. Mr. Pagé told me: 'Yes, with pleasure, if you can get Mr. Papineau's consent.'

Q. That was in order to loan some painters to do some painting. I asked you a moment ago if you had spoken to him of painting.—A. Yes; I spoke to him of it. I could not say if it was in the course of the month of May or if it was when I met him at the shipyards, on the 29th of May. I could not say on which of the two occasions it was; I told him: As for the material you shall take it at Cyrille Labelle & Co.'s, where I have an account open. After I had asked him if he could loan me some painters and supervise the work, Mr. Pagé asked me what sort of work I wanted done; I explained to him. Mr. Pagé told me: It is a piece of work as we have none here; there is no other work here as that is.

Q. Mr. Pagé was speaking of the Marine Department?—A. No, no; of my house.

Q. Well, go on.—A. He told me: For the sort of work you wish to have you might find some difficulty in procuring paint here.' I asked him: 'Could you borrow some from the department?' He told me: 'Yes; I think so,' or something of the kind. I told him: 'If you can take some paint or some stuff in the department, will you please be so kind as to keep an absolutely separate account, and, in time I shall give back the stuff borrowed.'

Q. Did that conversation take place on the 29th of May or sooner in the month of May?—A. I cannot say so at present.

Q. Did you ever go to Mr. Papineau's after that to obtain his authorization?—A. No, sir.

Q. You never spoke to him of the matter?—A. No, sir. Mr. Papineau lives opposite my house, at about seventy-five feet from me.

Q. After having spoken to Mr. Champagne and to Mr. Pagé, did you try to ascertain if Mr. Papineau had returned?—A. No, sir. I immediately left for Saranac, I only had a few minutes left to take the train.

Q. You were then going to Saranac?—A. I was going to Saranac.

Q. You made a trip of how many days?—A. I could not say.

Q. When you came back from Saranac did you go to see Mr. Papineau?—A. No, sir.

Q. When you returned from Saranac had the department men begun to do the painting at your house?—A. I think there was a man in the attic who was putting in glasses; there was one, Mr. Octavien Lafernière, I think, if I remember rightly.

Q. He was putting in glasses?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Please explain what glasses?—A. He was putting putty on glasses.

Q. Was that certain Octavien de Lafernière in the employ of the government?—A. I think he was.

Q. He was not one of the men employed by you?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did he tell you who had sent him to your house?—A. I did not speak to him about that.

Q. You did not speak to him about that?—A. No.

Q. Now, the painting lasted at your house during the months of June, July, August, September and October?—A. No, sir; this is not at all the way in which it happened.

Q. Then explain how it did happen?—A. In the months of June, July, August and September the wood operators were working, and as they were working at the wood outside, in order to prevent the sun from destroying the wood, from destroying the boards, when there was a certain quantity of wood work that had been done, about a man's day's work, they would telephone to Mr. Pagé to send a man on to do the work; to do the priming. In other words as they needed a man to do the painting they would ask Mr. Pagé for one and Mr. Pagé would send on one.

Q. But, is it not a fact, Mr. Lanctot, that seven or eight men were working at the one time to paint your house?—A. Seven or eight men?

Q. Yes.—A. No, sir; I have never seen that number, sir.

Q. Have you seen three at one time?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you seen four?—A. Yes, sir; in the month of September, in September or October.

Q. And even five; you sometimes even saw five of them working at the same time?—A. Well, I never counted them.

Q. The paint work was completed when?—A. On the 21st of November.

Q. Then do I understand you to say that from the month of June up to the 21st of November the Marine Department employees have worked at your house in the months of June, July, August, September, October, November?—A. I think they did. From time to time, one man, from time to time two men. When Mr. Pagé could send on three, he would send on three. When the department would need them he would take them back and I would send them back. This is how the matter went on.

Q. You have employed other painters besides the ones whom the department sent you, for the painting of your house, did you not?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who were they?—A. One, Mr. Jos. Rivet.

Q. Jos. Rivet of Sorel?—A. Yes, sir. Mr. Rivet is not a painter; it was him who had the contract for making my sashes, doors and frames, and it was him who laid the first coat of paint on all doors and windows.

Q. When did Mr. Rivet finish laying the first coat of paint on the doors and windows?—A. Mr. Rivet made the doors and windows during the winter.

Q. The preceding winter?—A. What? The preceding winter? It was in the winter of 1910.

Q. But it was before the month of May, before the month of April?—A. Yes, it was.

Q. Then he laid the first coat during winter, did he not?—A. I do not know. I did not mind. I suppose so.

Q. Let us understand one another, Mr. Lanctot. Let us see. The men from the department first came in the month of June and they worked until the month of November?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. During that period, did Mr. Rivet do any painting at your house?—A. I could not tell you. Mr. Rivet made the sashes and doors at his own place. Mr. Rivet is a contractor. He has a shop in the town of Sorel. He made the sashes and doors in his own shop, and whenever he brought them he laid the first coat of paint on them.

Q. That was all the painting he did?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you ask Mr. Champagne to give you the account now shown to you and filed before the committee as exhibit No. 2?—A. Between the months of June and November I must have asked him about ten times.

Q. And what did he tell you?—A. He always said, 'I will send it to you later on; the work will soon be completed and I shall send you the whole at one time.' I even offered Mr. Oscar Champagne to give him money to pay the men from time to time while the work was in progress.

Q. Did you give him any?—A. He refused to take any. He would answer me: 'The men will be saying that I am keeping the money; that I am paying them less than you should pay them; something to that effect. I don't want to touch the money.'

Q. Was there an agreement between you and Mr. Champagne as to the price per day these men were to get?—A. The same price that they were earning in the department.

Q. Did you ever go to Cyrille Labelle & Co. to order some paint?—A. No, sir. I know nothing whatever about paint.

Q. Paint, putty, dyes, brushes?—A. No, sir, I never went there.

Q. Did you ever buy from Cyrille Labelle & Co. any materials to enable the government men to paint your house?—A. I believe Mr. Pagé bought some, yes. Personally I never bought any. I did not buy anything whatever.

Q. For the house?—A. Whenever there was anything needed for the house, such as nails, paper or anything else, it was the foreman of my house, the man who had

charge of the work, who would go to Cyrille Labelle, or to Mr. Trempe, who would go wherever he liked. I had open accounts in all the stores.

Q. What is your foreman's name?—A. Jean Baptiste Pagé.

Q. The same man? The government employee?—A. For the painters? The painters' foreman?

Q. I am asking you who was your own foreman?—A. Joseph Cardin, a contractor in the city of Sorel.

Q. Was not this Joseph Cardin the foreman for the wood work at your house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Had he charge of the painting also?—A. No, sir.

Q. Then let me ask you, did you, either personally or through Mr. Cardin, go to Cyrille Labelle & Co., and buy paints, brushes, putty or other things to decorate or paint your house?—A. I told you I did not. No, never.

Q. Mr. Lanctot, have Cyrille Labelle & Co., or anybody of that firm ever made you pay anything or sent you any account for supplying paint, oil or any thing else for your house during the months of June, July, August, September, October and November?—A. Yes, sir, they have sent me a bill but I have not yet paid it.

Q. Have you that bill? Can you produce Cyrille Labelle's account?—A. I think not, I have asked him to send it to me again. I had this bill from Mr. Cyrille Labelle, but I mislaid it somewhere in my office. I was unable to find it. I phoned him on Saturday to make a new one and to send it to me here.

Q. Did you get from Labelle & Co., some paints for your house?—A. I do not know.

Q. Is it not a fact, Mr. Lanctot, that all the paints, glass, putty, came from the department's shops?—A. I will be able to tell you when I have seen Mr. Cyrille Labelle's account.

Mr. Macdougall declares that he will suspend examination of witness on that point, until said account has been produced.

Q. Then, it was Jean-Baptiste Pagé who has been your foreman for the painting of your house?—A. Yes, sir, he had charge of the superintending of the work. Mr. Jean-Baptiste Pagé used to come in the morning, at noon and in the evening, after his working hours.

Q. It was not you who paid him?—A. Mr. Pagé, I have not paid him.

Q. The other men who worked under him, were they paid by you?—A. How do you say?

Q. The painters who were working at your house, were they being paid by you?—A. No. It is as I have said to you. I had offered money to Mr. Champagne, but he has refused to accept it.

Q. All that you have paid for the wages of the men who went to work at your house is thus included in exhibit account No. 2, produced before this committee?—A. Yes, sir, \$375.62.

Q. Mr. Pagé was one of your friends?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. It was a favour that you had asked him?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And he was anxious to do you favours, in return for favours received from you, I suppose?—A. He has never received any favours from me.

Q. Since how long are you acquainted with Mr. Jean-Baptiste, in the employ of the department?—A. Since I reside in Sorel, since seven years.

Q. He has always been the painter's foreman?—A. No, sir.

Q. Since when is he the painters' foreman?—Since three years, I think three or four years.

Q. When you paid that account, did you find that you had been overcharged?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you made a kind of expertise or arbitration in order to estimate the value of the work which has been done at your house and of the paint which has been supplied for your house?—A. No, sir, because I was trusting to Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé, because I knew that he was an honest man.

Q. Was there not somebody who, either on your behalf or for the department, made a sort of estimation of the materials and of the work of the men which had been assigned to your house?—A. I do not understand.

Q. Are you not aware that an expertise or a sort of estimation has been made, either by you or by somebody else in order to find out the cost for the painting and the wages of the men who had been working?—A. That is my personal business.

Mr. Laflamme objects to the above question as being too vague.

WITNESS.—Between the government?

COUNSEL.—I have not asked you that. Listen to the question.

(The following question is read a second time to witness):—

Q. Are you not aware that an expertise or a sort of estimation has been made, either by you or by somebody else, in order to find out the cost for the painting and the wages of the men who had been working?—A. I do not understand that question.

Mr. Laflamme objects to that question as being too vague and asks that the question be more specified.

Q. I want to know, Mr. Lanctot, if there was not, either on your behalf or by somebody else, an expertise or an estimation made of the painting at your house, in which was included the time of the men, in order to arrive at a price which you were to pay to the department?—A. After completion of the work?

Q. Is it not true that after the completion of the work at your house there has been an expertise, either formal or express, by yourself or by somebody acting on your behalf, or by others, in order to find out or estimate the value of the work which had been done at your house, and the quantity of materials supplied, in order to arrive at a price which you were to pay to the department?

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—Before payment, then?

Mr. McDougall.—Before payment.

WITNESS.—Never.

Q. Was there anything done to that effect?—A. Never to my knowledge.

Q. How do you make up that amount of \$375.62, being the face value of the cheque which is now before the committee and marked Exhibit No. 1, signed Adèlard Lanctot and which I take to be your cheque?—(Witness examines cheque)—A. This is my signature. I gave the cheque when I received the account from Mr. Oscar Champagne. That's all. I trusted Mr. Champagne to keep the time of the men. I had confidence in him also. There was no dispute over it.

Q. The account, exhibit No. 2, is the original account which you received from Mr. Champagne?—A. It is the original account I received from Mr. Champagne. I think I received the account in duplicate, I am not positive.

Q. If you received the account in duplicate it is an exact duplicate?—A. It is an exact duplicate. At all events it is what I received from Mr. Champagne.

Q. Will you explain, or did you ask Mr. Champagne an explanation of the fact that there are entries for the month of November for this account and after those entries there are entries for the month of September?—A. Mr. Champagne will be able to explain that to you. I did not ask him how it was.

Q. When you received the account did you not draw his attention to this fact?—A. No. All I said was that the account was rather high.

Q. Did you exchange any correspondence with Mr. Champagne or the department concerning the work which was done at your place?—A. No, sir.

Q. No letters, no telegrams?—A. No, sir. I received a letter from Mr. Champagne transmitting me the account.

Q. Have you the letter?—A. I think, yes—a letter from Mr. Champagne, dated 21st of November, 1910.

And the following letter is read to the Committee:—

(EXHIBIT No. 10.)

MARINE AND FISHERIES OF CANADA,
GOVERNMENT SHIP YARD,
SOREL, November 21st, 1910.

DEAR SIR,—Inclosed you will find your account for \$375.62, for work done at your request at your house on George St. If there was some information you wished to have I will be very pleased to let you have it. Hoping that you will find everything satisfactory.

I am, sir,

Yours truly,
(Signed) Os. CHAMPAGNE,
Timekeeper.

A. LANCTOT, Esq.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Q. I see, Mr. Lanctot, that your cheque, exhibit No. 1, is dated the 22nd day of November, 1910, payable to the order of the department and that it was only accepted in the month of January, the 11th of January, 1911. Can you explain the circumstances?—A. No, sir. From the 22nd of November I never saw this cheque to the 11th of January, the day it was paid.

Q. Was not the cheque held back by you until the 11th of January?—A. No, sir.

Q. Have you not asked Mr. Champagne or some other person to keep the cheque till the month of January?—A. Never.

Q. To whom did you give this cheque?—A. I sent it by mail to Mr. L. G. Papineau, director of the ship yard at Sorel.

Q. Have you a letter transmitting the cheque?—A. Yes, sir. That is, I have a copy of the letter.

Copy of the letter is produced as follows:—

EXHIBIT No. 11.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
OTTAWA, November 22nd, 1910.

Mr. L. G. PAPINEAU,
Director of the ship yard at St. Joseph de Sorel.

DEAR SIR, Enclosed you will find my cheque to the amount of \$375.62 in settlement of your account for wages of the men of the Marine and Fisheries Department who have worked at my house.

Please accept my sincere thanks.

Yours truly,

(Signed) A. I.

Q. How did you come to send this cheque to Mr. Papineau when you had arranged about this matter with Mr. Champagne and Mr. Pagé?—A. Because the account that was sent to me was made in the name of the Marine and Fisheries Department, Ottawa, and was made: 'A. Lanctot Dr. to the Marine and Fisheries Department of Canada, Sorel.'

Q. Was it the first time at that date, November 21, 1910, you learned that you were doing business with the Marine and Fisheries Department for the painting of your house?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you not know from the beginning that you were doing business for the Department of Marine?—A. Certainly. I knew that the men of the Department of Marine were working at my place, but not Mr. Champagne's men.

Q. You had not spoken to Mr. Papineau at all?—A. I had not spoken to him. I had spoken to Mr. Champagne.

Q. Did you get an answer from Mr. Papineau acknowledging receipt from your cheque?—A. Yes, sir.

Letter read as follows:—

EXHIBIT No. 12.

MARINE AND FISHERIES OF CANADA,
GOVERNMENT SHIP YARD,
SOREL, December, 1910.

Mr. ADELARD LANCTOT, M.P.,
Sorel.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter enclosing cheque to the order of the Department of Marine and Fisheries to be applied as per your request.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed), L. G. PAPINEAU,
Director of Shipyard.

Q. You asked Mr. Champagne for your account repeatedly?—A. At least ten times, sir.

Q. Why did you not ask Mr. Papineau or it?—A. Because Mr. Champagne was keeping the time of the men.

Q. To who did you ask the account for paints?—A. To Mr. Pagé.

Q. Did he make a bill for it?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you got it?—A. Yes, sir. It was sent to Mr. Papineau.

(The account produced and read as follows:)

EXHIBIT No. 13.

MOUNT ROYAL COLOR & VARNISH CO., LTD.

VARNISH, JAPANS, OILS, PAINTS, ETC.
OFFICES AND WAREHOUSES, 136 RUE ST. CHARLES-BORROMÉE,
MONTREAL, QUE., Dec. 12th, 1910.

Sold to the Department of Marine and Fisheries, Sorel, Que.

| | | | |
|------|---------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| 5740 | 150 lbs. putty | \$0 02 | \$ 3 00 |
| | 6 packs glazier paint | 0 10 | 0 60 |
| | 200 lbs. R. M. paint, green | 0 11 | 22 00 |
| | 4 gals. D. B. linseed oil | 1 00 | 4 00 |
| | 300 lbs. yellow paint | 0 11 | 33 00 |
| | 6 gals. rubbing varnish | 2 75 | 16 50 |
| | 2 gals. grey paint | 1 25 | 2 50 |

\$81 60

No charge.

Received above goods,
(Sgnd.) ARTHUR LAVALÉE.

Q. I do not understand this account, Mr. Lanctot; this account is from the Mount Royal Color & Varnish Company, Limited, of Montreal, to the Department of Marine?—A. This is the account that was sent to the Department of Marine and Fisheries to replace the materials I had got from the Department of Marine and Fisheries. I will explain how it was done: After having sent my cheque to Mr. Papineau on the 22nd of November, 1910—which was Tuesday or Wednesday, I believe—the following Saturday, I think, I came from Ottawa to Sorel. I saw Mr. Papineau at the Department of Marine who told me: ‘You have an account for paints; you had some paint; you had some material from Mr. Jean-Baptiste Pagé. Here is his account.’

Q. He had the account?—A. Yes, he had the account. He told me: ‘You want to return these goods, do you not?’ I said: ‘Yes, as it was understood with Mr. Pagé.’

Q. At what date did this take place?—A. I could not say exactly at what date. I know it was a Saturday, at all events.

Q. How many days had elapsed from the time you had sent your cheque to the time you had this interview with Mr. Pagé?—A. I do not know. It was the following Saturday or the Saturday after or the fortnight after. I could not say exactly. It was not very long after anyway.

Q. Then it was the following Saturday, or the Saturday a week following?—A. I suppose so. Perhaps I saw him on the street; I do not remember. Mr. Papineau told me: ‘I will send Mr. Pagé’s account. I will give a requisition to get the same quantity and the same quality of material from the factory to correspond with the material you got from the shop.’

Q. I repeat my question. Did you receive an account from Jean-Baptiste Pagé for the paint that was furnished to you?—A. I tell you it was sent to Mr. Papineau. I do not remember having seen it.

Q. Will you, if you please, answer directly to my question and say if Mr. Pagé furnished you with an account?—A. I do not remember. At all events if I got an account from Mr. Pagé, I took it to Mr. Papineau. Mr. Papineau sent a requisition for the same quantity and the same quality to the same factory and the goods were shipped to Sorel and I paid the freight for the carriage of the goods from Montreal to Sorel.

Q. Will you explain, Mr. Lanctot, how it is that on the 22nd of November, 1910 you had settled, according to your statement, with the Department of Marine and Fisheries for the sum of \$375, amount of your cheque for the work done by the men at your house and you did not settle on the same day for the material and paint furnished?—A. It is because I was not to pay for the material. I had borrowed it and I was to return it.

Q. Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé must have kept an account of that?—A. He kept it and gave it to Mr. Papineau.

Q. Had he not given it to Mr. Papineau on the 22nd of November?—A. I do not know, sir.

Q. Why did you not settle the whole bill at once?—A. Because I was here at Ottawa and I had no account for the materials. Being here I said to myself when I go to Sorel I will return the materials. Had I received the account for the 22nd of November, I could not have returned them. I was not familiar enough with paints.

Q. The account which is produced as exhibit No. 13 is dated 12th December, 1910. It seems to be an account sent by the Mount Royal Colour and Varnish Company, Limited, of Montreal, for the sale made to the Department of Marine and Fisheries, at Sorel, for goods which are mentioned in the account and for which a sum of \$81.60 is charged?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you pay that amount to that firm?—A. Mr. Papineau paid the factory and I reimbursed Mr. Papineau.

Q. With a cheque?—A. No, sir; with money.

Q. Have you a receipt from Mr. Papineau?—A. No, sir; I did not ask him for one. I paid him with money.

Q. I see on the face of the bill the following words: Received the above goods. (Signed) Arthur Lavallée. Will you explain this?—A. Mr. Arthur Lavallée? I do not know the gentleman, but I believe he is the man who keeps account for all the paints that enter in the paint shop—who keeps account of the paints that enter and the paint that goes out.

Q. You are the bearer of that exhibit. How did it come in your possession?—A. Mr. Papineau gave it to me. When I paid Mr. Papineau he handed it over to me.

Q. Did Mr. Lavallée's receipt appear on the exhibit?—A. Yes, sir. The document was just as it is now. I never altered it.

Q. When did you make this payment to Mr. Papineau?—A. I could not say exactly—after the goods had been received.

Q. After the 12th of December?—A. Yes, probably.

Q. Did you know then that there were affidavits or solemn declarations made by people from Sorel complaining of the fact that certain painting had been done at your house?—A. No, sir. When I paid for the painting?

COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. Perhaps. Perhaps when the paint was replaced but not when I sent the cheque.

Q. You mean that on the 22nd of November you did not know that there were complaints?—A. No, sir.

Q. But on the 12th of December you knew there were complaints?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Coming back for a moment. What colours were used to paint your house?—A. I confess I am no expert in colours.

Q. Did you use certain shades of green?—A. I think yes. The body of the house is green. I do not know what shade, but I know it is green.

Q. They were obliged at the department to mix a special paint for that purpose?—A. I do not know at all, sir.

Q. Did not Mr. Pagé tell you so?—A. Yes.

Q. What did Mr. Pagé tell you about this?—A. When I told him to be very careful and to keep the accounts correctly, Mr. Pagé told me—I will use his own words—that he had weighed a certain quantity of paint, that he had put it in a tub, and that it was understood that that paint was for Mr. Lanctot. He also told me that he had not used up all that paint and that the government had kept about four or five dollars' worth of it for me.

Q. It was a special paint for you; it was mixed in a particular manner for your own use?—A. That is very easy. There is only two colours in my house.

Q. But these colours are of no use in the painting of the vessels of the department, are they?—A. I do not know, sir.

Q. In 1909, you had commenced to build your house?—A. In 1909, yes, sir.

Q. When you were building your house in 1909—we are not now dealing with 1910—did you not have some work done for you at your house by the employees of the Department of Marine and Fisheries?—A. I do not understand, sir.

Q. We shall try and explain, in every particular. When did you begin to build your house?—A. About October, 1909, sir.

Q. Have not some of the men from the Department of Marine and Fisheries been working at your house?

WITNESS.—Woodwork?

COUNSEL.—Woodwork or other work?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Name the men?—A. I remember two: a man named Lavallée—

Q. Albert Lavallée?—A. I will tell you that in a minute.

(Witness looks over some cheques.)

A man named Lavallée and a man named Plante. Alfred Plante and Joseph Lavallée have worked at my house as carpenters and joiners.

Q. Employees from the department?—A. Employees whom I borrowed from the department.

Q. And whom you have paid?—A. And whom I have paid, yes, sir.

Q. By your cheques?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you produce them?—A. I have not all of them.

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to that question, on the ground that the fact which it is sought to prove is irrelevant to the charge into which the committee is now making an inquiry.

No ruling is given on that objection, but Mr. Macdougall does not press the question.

Q. Do you know a man named Andronique Sénécal, of the city of Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was he employed in the department in 1909?—A. He probably was.

Q. Or in 1910?—A. He is still employed. He has given an affidavit against me.

Q. Did he work around your house?—A. No, sir.

Q. He never worked at your house?—A. No, sir, not to my knowledge.

Q. He never was sent to your place?—A. I do not know.

Q. Did you ever meet him at the Quebec Hotel, for instance?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Did he not tell you, at the Quebec Hotel, that he was just going to work at your place?—A. I do not remember that, sir.

Q. The next day at about nine o'clock in the morning, did you not meet him at your house?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objected to this question, inasmuch as it does not specify the day which it is intended to mention.

Mr. MCDUGALL withdraws his question.

Q. Did you ever meet Mr. Sénécal, at about 9 o'clock in the morning, at your place?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to that question as being too indefinite and too general.

Mr. MCDUGALL withdraws his question.

Q. During the fall of 1909, did you meet Andronique Sénécal at your house?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects again to that question for the reason above stated.

Mr. MCDUGALL again withdraws the question.

Q. Mr. Lanctot, while you were building your house in Sorel, did not Andronique Sénécal, whom you say you know, an employee of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, work around your house either building fences or doing certain other works?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to that question, inasmuch as the fact which is sought to be proved is not relevant to the charge which is the object of the present inquiry.

The committee adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, TUESDAY, March 14, 1911.

The Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections met at 3.15 p.m. and continued to investigate the charges laid against Mr. Adelard Lanctot, M.P. as stated in the Order of Reference to the Committee.

Mr. ADELARD LANCTOT, M.P. again appeared and his examination is continued as follows:—

Mr. McDUGALL states that in Andronique Sénécal's affidavit an error has been made as to a date, and that instead of 'May 3, 1909,' it should be 'May 3, 1910,' and he begs leave to examine the witness as to the date so rectified.

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to this application. He submits that if there is an error in the affidavit, this error can only be rectified by the party who gave the affidavit, and that until the man who has given the affidavit comes before the committee and declares that he has made a mistake, the committee must take the affidavit such as it is.

Mr. CHAIRMAN.—I think the objection of the counsel for Mr. Lanctot should prevail. I think that so far as he is concerned, we are bound by the record which is before the committee. If Mr. Sénécal was here and he urged that a mistake has been made in his affidavit, he may be allowed to make a correction; but if the counsel for Mr. Lanctot states that he wants the affidavit to be considered at present as it reads, I think his point is well taken.

Mr. McDUGALL.—I will suspend the examination of the witness on that point until Mr. Sénécal has been heard.

Q. Mr. Lanctot, in 1908, you were occupying, at Sorel, a house or apartment rented from a man named Bruno Leclair, did you not?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In the month of October, 1908, did you make any repairs or any painting to that house, and if so, did any of the employees of the Department work upon it?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to that question and to any question of the kind on the ground that putting such questions to Mr. Lanctot now, and before the accusers have been heard and have adduced the evidence that they can adduce in support of the charges, would amount to compelling a man to prove his innocence when accused of an offence, which is contrary to all rules of procedure.

Mr. VICTOR GEOFFRION, M.P., supports Mr. Laflamme's objection, and moves that Mr. Lanctot's examination be now suspended until those who have laid charges against him have been heard.

Mr. ROY seconds that motion.

Mr. BARKER remarks that this question had already been discussed before Mr. Lanctot's examination had begun, that it has been decided that the counsel for Mr. Blondin may examine Mr. Lanctot at this stage of the proceedings and that there is no reason to reconsider such a decision.

Mr. MONK speaks to the same effect as Mr. Barker and quotes several precedents where in investigations of this kind the ministers or members involved have been heard at the beginning of the proceedings.

Mr. GEOFFRION'S motion to suspend Mr. Lanctot's examination until the persons who have given the affidavits have been heard, being put to vote, is adopted on division.

Mr. BARKER moves that this decision of the committee be reported to the House with the other proceedings.

Adopted.

Mr. LANCTOT's examination is now suspended.

GEORGE CARTIER now appears and being sworn deposes as follows:—

By Mr. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. Mr. Cartier, you reside in the city of Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. Contracting painter.

Q. How long have you been busy at that trade of a painter and contractor?—A. About a dozen of years.

Q. Are you known in Sorel as such?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know Mr. Adélaré Lanctot, the member for the county of Richelieu?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you know him?—A. Since he came to live in Sorel, six or seven years ago, about.

Q. And he knows you also?—A. I think so; at least he has spoken to me several times.

Q. Do you know the house which Mr. Lanctot has built on George street in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Whilst he was building that house did you go and see Mr. Lanctot and ask him for the job of painting the house when the house would be ready to be painted?—A. Mr. Lanctot himself came to see me where I was working. I was painting a house for Mr. Baril, and I asked him for the job then.

Q. You asked him for what job?—A. The job on the house he was building.

Q. The job that he had to give for his own house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was that, sir, at what time of the year?—A. In the month of November, 1909.

Q. How did he answer you when you asked him for the job of painting his house?—A. He told me that he would not give the job without seeing me.

Q. Did he see you again about that and did he give you the job of painting?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did he ever speak to you about it at any time?—A. He never spoke to me about it.

Q. Do you know that he continued after the month of November building his house in Sorel?—A. He suspended the work for the winter, and he resumed the building in the spring.

Q. At about what time in the spring was Mr. Lanctot's house ready for the painter's work?—A. To put down the last coat, in the month of July, about.

Q. And the first coat?—A. Priming was begun as soon as the woodwork was put down. There was a painter following the builders.

Q. Would you have been able to undertake the job of painting Mr. Lanctot's house in the spring or in the summer of 1910?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see what the painters whom Mr. Lanctot employed at his house did as far as painting was concerned?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Can you give us an estimate or a calculation of the value of the paint work and wages of the men employed at doing the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. To what sum do you estimate the value of the paint work, together with the time of the men, for Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I should calculate about nine hundred and fifty dollars.

Q. Would you have taken the job for \$950?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many coats of paint do you reckon in your valuation of \$950?—A. About four coats.

Q. Could you have found men to help you in executing the job?—A. Yes, sir; I had some at the time.

Q. Would you have found men in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are there other painters in Sorel besides you, contracting painters?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you name some of them?—A. Mr. Payette.

Q. Do you mean Augustin Payette?—A. Augustin Payette.

Q. Can you name any others?—A. Mr. Joseph Proulx.

Q. Can you name others?—A. Mr. Telesphore Bérubé or Barbé.

Q. Is there one Mr. Laine, who is a painter at Sorel also?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Whilst Mr. Lanctot's house was building were these painters at Sorel available; could he have hired them to do the job?—A. That is a thing which I cannot say.

Q. Were they in Sorel?—A. They were in Sorel, but I cannot say if they could do the work at the time.

Q. You, during that spring, were available, you would have done the work?—A. Yes, sir, because I had nothing to do at the time.

Q. Do you know who did the paint work at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see the men at work?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you name them?—A. Mr. Douaire, Mr. Emond, Mr. Brault, one Mr. Pagé; two Messrs. Letendre worked there also.

Q. Did you complain, when you saw these men there at work painting Mr. Lanctot's house, because you had not had the job yourself?—A. I complained, certainly, yes, sir.

Q. What complaint did you make?—A. My complaint was that the government was coming to do all our work on the Sorel side; not only at Mr. Lanctot's house, but everywhere in the city.

Q. If I understand you right, you were protesting against the fact that the government was sending men to compete against you painters, in doing work either at Mr. Lanctot's or elsewhere in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Cross examined by Mr. N. K. Laflamme, of Counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. When did you begin to work at Mr. Baril's house?—A. In the month of October.

Q. Of what year?—A. Nineteen hundred and nine.

Q. When did you finish your job?—A. I finished the job in June, nineteen hundred and ten.

Q. Did you work there continuously, from the month of October until the month of June, nineteen hundred and ten?—A. No, sir.

Q. Where is the house of Mr. Baril situated?—A. On George street, I believe.

Q. It is a larger house than Mr. Lanctot's home, is it not?—A. Not much.

Q. A little larger?—A. Not much. I did not measure it. The rooms are about the same.

Q. That means that it is a little larger?—A. I did not measure it.

Q. I am not asking you that; I am asking you if you mean by that that Mr. Baril's house is a little larger?—A. In my estimation it is a little larger.

Q. How much so?—A. I could not say.

Q. You have no idea?—A. I cannot say, no.

Q. Is it a two-story house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many square feet are there in that home?—A. These are details which I cannot give you.

Q. These are not details; certainly you should know that?—A. It is not very necessary for me to know that.

Q. That work you did for Mr. Baril, did you do it as job work?—A. Part of it was so done.

Q. In that case you must have considered some the size of the house?—A. I always considered the size of the house; but not directly in the contract which I took. In matters of doors and skirting no measurements are taken.

Q. Did you paint the partitions?—A. Yes, sir; but this was done by day-work, I think.

Q. How much did you charge Mr. Baril for your work?

The WITNESS.—For the contract which I took?

The COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. One hundred and fifty dollars, for the first contract.

Q. That was for the openings?—A. For the openings and the outside cornice.

Q. One hundred and fifty dollars represent the contract; how much did you charge for the work by the day?—A. Two dollars and a quarter a day.

Q. You have done little; it means that you have done something. What have you done?—A. I have done so little that I cannot tell it.

Q. If you have done little it is a reason why you should remember what you have done. Then tell us where you have worked after the month of July?—A.

Q. You say that you are a good workingman, so that it is very seldom that you are out of work and that must affect you?—A. Yes, yes.

Q. Then, what have you done?—A. I went to Montreal, to Grosbois Island, to get some work. There was no work.

Q. When did you leave Sorel to go to Grosbois Island?—A. About the 10th of July.

Q. How long did you stay at Grosbois Island?—A. I stayed there about four days.

Q. After that, where did you go?—A. I went back to Sorel.

Q. You went back to Sorel about the 15th of July?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. From the 15th of July till the month of November, what have you done?—

A. I was obliged to work in the coal, sir.

Q. Until which date have you worked in the coal?—A. Since the end of July till the beginning of August. It did not take long, as you see, to unload a steamer.

Q. Now, sir, in your estimate, of \$950, what is your estimation of the work done?—A. I can give you the details, in my own way. According to my figures the glazing costs one hundred and fifty dollars.

Q. I am not referring to the material; I am speaking of the men's work?—A. The men's work would amount to about \$500, between \$500 and \$550.

Q. Do you know how many men have worked at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I have seen about ten men working there.

Q. Do you know how many days they worked there?—A. No, sir.

Q. Have you tried to get some information about the number of days they had worked, before you made your estimation?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know what kind of paint they used?—A. I could not tell exactly; I know only the paint approximately.

Q. You do not know anything about the quantity of paint used?—A. No, sir.

Q. So that, to put it in a nutshell, you do not know the number of days the painters have worked there, you do not know anything about the quality of the paint and you do not know what quantity was used?—A. No, sir, I do not know anything about it.

Q. And on those three points, the number of days, the quality of the paint and the quantity used, you have not taken the trouble to get the proper information before making your estimation?—A. No, sir.

Q. So that it is more a guess than a real estimate?—A. It is a guess with some knowledge of the work.

Q. A guess with knowledge. It cannot be with knowledge, because you do not know the number of days, the quality of the paint or the quantity used. What do you know, then?—A. I know my own figures.

Q. But on what do you base your estimate, if you do not know the number of days, the quality or the quantity of the paint used?—A. It does not matter. I have figured out approximately how many days it would take me to do the work.

Q. When the work was done at Mr. Lanctot's, you went in with a tape measure and a yard measure and you started to measure the place?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you see Mr. Thibaudeau more than once about that valuation?—A. No, sir; it was the only time.

Q. What did Mr. Thibaudeau tell you, when he asked you to make that valuation? Tell us that. Do not hide anything, Mr. Cartier?—A. From what I can remember, I have no interest on either side.

Q. Answer to the question?—A. He asked me what was my estimate of the work done at Mr. Lanctot's.

Q. And what did he tell you apart from that?—A. I could not say exactly.

Q. If you cannot tell us exactly, tell us to the best of your recollection?—A. No, sir.

Q. You do not remember it?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did he not tell you to be careful, because you could be called as witness?—A. No, sir.

Q. When you made a report of your estimate to Mr. Thibaudeau, what did he tell you? Was he kind of discouraged or not?—A. He said nothing to me.

Q. Not a word?—A. Not a word. I do not remember that he said anything about it.

Q. You do not remember?—A. I do not remember that he said anything about it.

Q. Do you know if there was any wall-paper in Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. No, sir.

Q. There is none?—A. No, sir.

Q. Are you sure?—A. I am quite sure that I do not know if there is any. I do not know if there is any painting. I made my price approximately for the whole house—the painting or the papering. Either the walls or the papering, a rough estimate, you know.

Q. That is not a very satisfactory answer. What is the total amount you have charged for day-work?—A. My bill was one hundred and three dollars, and settlement was made for a hundred dollars.

Q. So, you painted the whole Baril house for two hundred and fifty dollars?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that was the house which was a little larger than Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, how much money have you lost on that contract—because you must have lost money?—A. I have lost nothing. I have made no big work on my contract; that was because some one has annoyed me in that work; one of the department's workmen, Mr. Pagé, has made me lose forty dollars in that respect. If I had not taken the job at one hundred and fifty dollars, he would have undertaken it himself with the men in the government's employ.

Q. Naturally, you do not like Mr. Pagé at all?—A. I do not hate him.

Q. Even if he would make you lose twice forty dollars?—A. It would be of no use to me to hate him.

Q. How much profit have you made on the contract of one hundred and fifty dollars?—A. I came out of it with wages of about a dollar and thirty cents per day.

Q. Besides the work of painting the Baril house have you done any imitation work?—A. Yes.

Q. A good deal of it?

WITNESS.—Besides the work—

COUNSEL.—In the Baril house have you done any imitation work?

Q. How much have you charged for that imitation work?—A. That work was included in the one hundred and fifty dollars.

Q. Who was working with you at the Baril house?—A. A young man has worked with me, to help me in the outside work and also in some of the inside work.

Q. What is the name of that young man?—A. Damase Roy.

Q. Does he live in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. After you had concluded the Baril work did you work for a man named Tremblay?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you begin to work for Tremblay?—A. I could not say in which month—in June, I think.

Q. When have you finished working for Tremblay?—A. I must have finished in the same month—in June.

Q. That was not long?—A. No.

Q. How long have you worked for Tremblay?—A. About eight days.

By the Chairman:

Q. In what year?—A. In 1910.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. What kind of work was it you have been doing for Mr. Tremblay?—A. Two coats of paint.

Q. Tremblay has not been satisfied with your work?—A. I believe he was satisfied. It was the paint that was not to his liking.

Q. That means that he was dissatisfied with the whole work?—A. Well, I could not say that he was dissatisfied with the whole work, but he refused me materials. He was obliged to supply the paint, and I refused to accept the paint which he bought me, before witness. He told me: 'You apply that paint; it's all right.' I did so, accordingly, and I was not to blame for that.

Q. That means that Tremblay thought that you were a poor painter, and you thought that the paint he had brought you was no good. That is it, is it not?—A. Before beginning to use the paint I told him that the paint was no good.

Q. And he told you it was good?—A. He told me it was good, and to use it as it was.

Q. He forced you to accept it?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And then you tried to use it?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And after a while Tremblay came and told you that it would not do?—A. That it would not do.

Q. What did he say to you when he declared that he was not satisfied?—A. He told me that there were stains, and that in certain places it was not all right. It was the paint that was turning yellow.

Q. You understood that he was not satisfied with the way you had been doing your work, but he was wrong, that was no fault of yours and was due to faulty paint?—A. It depended on the paint.

Q. But he pretended that the fault was yours?—A. Yes.

Q. The consequence of all that was that he told you to go away?—A. No, sir. He asked me to apply another coat or that he would not accept my work.

Q. Did he ask you to apply a new coat with the same paint he had already supplied to you?—A. With the same paint.

Q. Then, he was maintaining that the paint was good?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. But, naturally, he knew nothing about it?—A. It looks like that.

Q. Then you applied your other coat, and he was not satisfied?

WITNESS.—The last coat?

COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. I beg your pardon. I asked him to bring me good paint, or if he could not do that I told him that I would not apply the other coat.

Q. Did you apply that coat of paint which he wanted you to apply?—A. It was another man who applied the other coat, two men from Beauchemin's shop.

Q. At the time, you had quit work?—A. I had quit work. I had not finished, I had some other work to do besides that.

Q. But paint-work?—A. It was paint-work?; I had to finish the blinds.

Q. Now, is it not a fact that Tremblay has been obliged to get that work done over again, I mean that paint-work?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. By whom?—A. By Mr. Douaine, the man from Mr. Beauchemin's shop, Philippe Douaine. Once more, he was not satisfied with the work. When he settled with me, when he paid me, he admitted that the paint was no good. It had again turned yellow.

Q. Then, in the month of June, you were busy enough?—A. I had not much work. I usually run more than a job at a time.

Q. After working for Tremblay, where have you worked?—A. At the convent.

Q. When did you begin working at the convent?—A. About the 24th of June.

Q. And you kept on working at the convent until what date?—A. Until about the 5th or 6th of July.

Q. You are a good worker, Mr. Cartier?—A. Pretty good, sir.

Q. You always do your best?—A. Yes, sir, always.

Q. After finishing your work at the convent, where have you worked—because a man like you does not remain idle?—A. I was forced to take a rest, because I had no work.

Q. How long have you rested?—A. I have scarcely worked any in July and August.

Q. You did not do that?—A. No, sir.

Q. Why not?—A. My principle is not to job.

Q. If you do not know the size of the house, the quality of the paint nor the quantity, nor the number of days, what is the basis of your calculation; what do you rely upon?—A. Even if you should make a mistake of a couple of dollars upon the size of a house; or of a couple of feet that does not matter much about the price.

Q. It is not a question of making an error of a couple of feet, because you did not even measure. Upon what did you rely to come to \$950?—A. Upon my calculation, according to the estimates which I make for other jobs.

Q. To what sum do you estimate the amount representing the glass, upon this total sum of \$950?—A. It is approximate, for the number of panes, it is about what I saw.

Q. How much money do you count for glasses?—A. I have reckoned \$150.

Q. You do not know that Mr. Lanctot bought this glass for his own account?—A. I know nothing of that, sir.

Q. How much do you value the paint?—A. The paint, at about \$225.

Q. That is the point where you make a mistake. You cannot say \$225, nor \$200. You know neither the quality nor the quantity of the paint. What do you rely upon to say \$200?—A. It is about what it takes for the size—these are approximate prices. I am not giving you the exact price, I have not made a special calculation.

Q. Who asked you to make the valuation of that work?—A. Mr. George Magnan asked me.

Q. Are there any others who asked you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who are they?—A. Mr. Thibaudeau asked me to state a price approximately.

Q. Which Mr. Thibaudeau? A. Thibaudeau?—A. A. Thibaudeau—Albert.

Q. He is one of the witnesses present here to be heard at this inquiry?—A. I think so.

Q. This Mr. Thibaudeau is the man who began to get the declarations prepared in Sorel?—A. I could not tell you; I do not know the beginning, sir.

Q. Now, when did Mr. Thibaudeau ask you to make this valuation?—A. On the 27th of December or the 25th or 27th.

Q. Now, on the 27th of December the work was completed and Mr. Lanctot was occupying the house with his family?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you go into the house?—A. No, sir.

Q. Then how did you arrange to value the paint which had been done in the house, the imitation and so on?—A. Imitation, there was none, sir, I did not see any.

Q. How did you get at valuing the painting which had been done on the inside of the house?—A. I went there before Mr. Lanctot had gone into the house.

Q. I am now speaking of the official and solemn examination which you made at the request of Mr. Thibaudeau, on the 27th December. Will you say how you proceeded on making this valuation? Was it simply by walking in front of the house?—A. I had an idea of it, because I had been in the house when the work was being completed.

Q. You say that on the 27th you made a valuation; what did you do on the 27th to make that valuation? That is what I desire to know?—A. I took no measurement.

Q. I am not asking you what you did not do; what is it you did?—A. I made an approximate estimate, as I am used to do, according to my custom in so doing.

Q. Where were you when you made this valuation?—A. For the last valuation, I was at my place.

Q. So that on the 27th, when you made that valuation, you did not go out of your house?—A. Not on the 27th. I made no valuation on the 27th.

Q. I thought you had made one. Then it was on the 27th you were asked to make a valuation?—A. Yes.

Q. And you remembered that you had been there in the course of the summer?—A. Yes.

Q. And after reassembling all your remembrances you came upon making a valuation of \$950?—A. Yes, sir, according to my manner of stating a price, under my knowledge.

Q. I suppose Mr. Thibaudeau was present when you made that valuation in your house?—A. No, sir.

Q. He was not far away?—A. Nobody was at my house.

Q. When you gave that report of your valuation to Mr. Thibaudeau, did he ask you any details upon the way in which you had come to that result?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you make an estimate in writing?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did Thibaudeau ask you to prepare that in writing?—A. No, sir. The last estimate which I made, Mr. George Magnan asked me for it on the 10th in the evening.

Q. On the 10th of which month?—A. Of January.

Q. When Thibaudeau asked you to make that estimate did you know the reason why he was asking you to make that estimate?—A. I did not directly know what it was for.

Q. But you knew indirectly what it was for?—A. I always had an idea.

Q. You knew indirectly what it was for?—A.

Q. See, look at me a moment, now; you knew it indirectly?—A. I do not remember if there had been a question of it in my presence. I cannot swear to it.

Q. What is it that they did not speak of in your presence?—A. That there was to be an inquiry.

Q. So that when you made that estimate at the request of Mr. Thibaudeau, you knew that it was to be used as evidence at the inquiry, did you not?—A. Certainly.

Cross examined by Mr. Macdougall, counsel for Mr. Blondin:—

Q. Mr. Cartier, is it not a fact you said that the first one who asked you to make an estimate was Mr. George Magnan?—A. Mr. Thibaudeau was the first one, I think, I am not sure, I think it was Mr. Thibaudeau.

Q. Mr. George Magnan asked you also to make an estimate?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Tell us who is Mr. George Magnan?—A. Mr. George Magnan is a barrister from Sorel.

Q. You refer to Mr. Lanctot's partner?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Why did he ask you, himself, to make a valuation of that work? Was it to have an approximate idea of what the work was worth?—A. I could not say if it was only to have an idea or to make me lower the price a little. He told me to make the price the lowest one possible.

Q. Can you tell why Mr. Magnan went to see you, and asked you to depreciate, if possible, your estimate and put it as low as you could?

Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to that question. Objection sustained by the chairman.

Q. Has Mr. Magnan told you why he wanted to reduce your valuation or to have you reduce it yourself?—A. He told me that it was a serious affair—how could I say that? Mr. Lanctot was in a bad position with that and consequently I should not overcharge.

Q. Tell us how he came to say that to you?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to that question.

Q. Mr. Cartier, tell us what circumstances induced Mr. Magnan to go and see you.

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to that question.

The objection is sustained by the chairman.

Q. When you made your estimation, did you base it on your experience as a painter?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. During the summer, had you seen the men at work and did you see the inside and the outside of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes.

Q. How long since you started to work as a painter?—A. About twelve years. I am a painting contractor since twenty-three years.

Q. How many coats of paint did you put on Baril's house?—A. Two coats in some places; in some others I put four and some others three.

Q. You say that you have worked with a man named Madase Roy; how many days have you worked with that man?—A. I have worked with him about forty days.

Q. The men having worked 213 days to paint Mr. Lanctot's house, do you still say that your estimate of \$950, to the best of your knowledge, is correct?—A. I have figured out 216 days.

Q. Now, Mr. Cartier, was not Mr. Baril's house a brick house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. A wooden house.

Q. Was there much painting done on the outside of Mr. Baril's house?—A. Not much.

Q. And the other one was completely painted outside?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is Mr. Lanctot's house well painted?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you supply the paint for Mr. Baril's house?—A. No, sir, I did not furnish anything.

Cross-examined again by Mr. Laflamme, with the authorization of the Chairman:

Q. Do you mean that if you had had the contract for Mr. Lanctot's house, you would not have been obliged to work 216 days but much less?—A. I have figured out that the work would take about 216 days.

Q. 216 days?—A. Yes. It might take less time, it might take more. One cannot tell exactly.

Q. If he paid for 213 days, are you ready to swear that he did not pay for the value of the work? Are you ready to swear this is not correct?—A. I do not swear it is not correct. I think it is correct.

Examined by Mr. Macdougall with the authorization of the Chairman.

Q. At what date did Mr. Magnan go to see and ask you to make the estimate?—A. On the 10th of March, on Friday last.

By Mr. Doherty:

Q. Must I understand that in your estimate of \$950 you included the materials?—A. The furnitures, sir.

Witness says nothing else.

The meeting then adjourned.

3
7
0/11
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

CHARGES PREFERRED BY P. E. BLONDIN, M.P.,
AGAINST A. LANCTOT, M.P., RICHELIEU.

No. 2



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY C. H. PARMELEE, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1911

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, March 15, 1911.

The Committee met at 10 o'clock, a.m.

PRESENT:—Messrs. German, chairman; Barker, Barnard, Brodeur, Bureau, Carvell, Chisholm (Antigonish), Cowan, Crothers, Devlin, Doherty, Dubeau, Geoffrion, Gervais, Haggart (Winnipeg), Kyte, Lancaster, Lapointe, Lennox, McColl, Martin (Regina), Northrup, Rivet, Roy (Montmagny), and Warburton.—24.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

HENRI PROULX was sworn, examined and cross-examined.

At one o'clock, p.m. the Committee took recess.

3.30 o'clock, p.m.

The examination of Henri Proulx was resumed.

During his examination the following memo. was read and filed, and marked as Exhibit No. 14. Memo. signed by Louis Paul stating that he worked for one month for A. Lanctot and was paid therefor by the government.

On motion of Mr. Kyte it was

Ordered, That all reference in the evidence in connection with work done at the church and hospital at Sorel be expunged from the record as irrelevant to the investigation.

ALFRED DOUAIRE was sworn, examined and cross-examined.

The Committee then adjourned until to-morrow (Thursday) at 10 o'clock, a.m.

W. M. GERMAN,
Chairman.

LIST OF MEMBERS

Faint, illegible text, likely a list of names and titles, possibly including names like "John Smith" and "Jane Doe".

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
ROOM No. 30,

WEDNESDAY, March 15, 1911.

The Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections met at 10 a.m. and proceeded to inquire into the charges preferred against Mr. Adelard Lanctot, M.P., such as referred to in the Order of Reference to the Committee.

HENRI PROULX appears, and after being sworn upon the Holy Evangelists, deposes as follows:—

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Proulx?—A. I live in Sorel.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. I am a painter.

Q. How long have you been a painter?—A. 15 years.

Q. Were you formerly in the employ of the Marine and Fisheries Department?—

A. I was, sir.

Q. During what period have you been in the employ of the department?—A. Since the 16th of February, 1909, up to the 5th of November, 1910.

Q. While you were so working in the employ of the government, under whose orders were you working; who was your foreman?—A. I was working under the orders of Jean-Baptiste Pagé, foreman.

Q. Where were you working, in Sorel or at St. Joseph of Sorel?

The WITNESS.—Now?

The COUNSEL.—No, no, when you were in the employ of the department.

A. I was working at the shipyards of the Marine Department.

Q. Is that in Sorel, or at St. Joseph of Sorel?—A. At St. Joseph of Sorel.

Q. In the course of the month of August, 1910, have you been sent to the house of Mr. Adelard Lanctot, a member of the House of Commons, then in course of being erected?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Under whose orders were you sent to the house of Mr. Lanctot?—A. Under the orders of Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé.

Q. Do you mean, the same Mr. Jean-Baptiste Pagé, the foreman?—A. Yes, sir. Not to work but to carry some paint.

Q. Say what Mr. Pagé ordered you to do?—A. He told me: 'You shall go to work at the church; upon a job that I have there; you shall 'punch' before you leave, and you shall go across at the same time as Omer Pagé and Henri Paul are going, and you will help them to carry some paint to Mr. Lanctot's house.' And that is what I did; I went there.

Q. Will you explain to us what you mean when you say that he told you to go and get the 'punch' before leaving?—A. To go and register my time.

Q. What is the 'punch' which registered your time?—A. They are cards which we have and we get our time 'punched' at 7 o'clock in the morning, at five minutes to twelve, then at one o'clock exactly and then at six o'clock in the evening, when another punch is made.

Q. You mean a 'punch' which registers the time at which you are working for the government?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are you obliged to get 'punched' three times a day?—A. Four times a day.

Q. Well, before you left on that day, did you get 'punched'?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Before you left?—A. Before I left.

Q. When you came back at noon, did you get 'punched' again?—A. When I came back, I got 'punched' also.

Q. In the afternoon, when you left, did you get 'punched'?—A. In the afternoon, I remained at work in the shipyards.

Q. Then you were ordered to bring paint to Mr. Adelard Lanctot's house; were you ordered to carry anything else to his house?—A. On that day, I carried two cans, cans which I think we supposed to contain some oil and varnish, and a jar of paint.

Q. When you speak of cans, what were the cans supposed to contain?—A. Either oil or varnish.

Q. What quantity?—A. One gallon each.

Q. And the jar?—A. It was a jar which had contained some putty, which had been emptied, and then they had reput some paint into it, and it had been refastened.

Q. How much could it contain, about?—A. About one gallon and a quarter.

Q. That is what you carried?—A. That is what I carried myself.

Q. By whom were you accompanied, you say?—A. By Omer Pagé and Henri Paul.

Q. Did Henri Paul and Omer Pagé also carry paint and oil?—A. They did: That is to say, there was a wooden box filled with some small paint boxes, and a parcel of putty; a parcel which I thought to be some putty, and different other articles, in a box which they carried, the two of them.

Q. When you say that it took both of them to carry it, you mean Omer Pagé and Henri Paul?—A. Omer Pagé and Henri Paul,

Q. They were the two who carried the box?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you, how did you carry your paint.—A. In my hands.

Q. Did you go across the rivers with those packages, to get to Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How did you cross the river?—A. In the boat belonging to the foreman, and I got across in company with Henri Paul and Omer Pagé.

Q. When you arrived at Sorel, where have you carried those things?—A. They were carried at Mr. Lanctot, deputy, at his new house.

Q. Had you received any instructions about direction to be followed in carrying those effects at Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Tell us what were the instructions that you received?—A. Our instructions were to take Augusta street, and to go up by Convent street, and then to retrace our steps to Mr. Lanctot, deputy.

Q. Is that the most direct way leading to Mr. Lanctot?—A. It is four or five minutes' walk longer, I think.

Q. What do you mean by four or five minutes' walk longer? Do you mean to say that there is a shorter way to reach Mr. Lanctot's house, when you say that it took you four or five minutes more?—A. Yes, there is a shorter way.

Q. Why did not you go by the shortest way?—A. Our instructions were to go as aforesaid, but we cheated them of one street, and we went up by Elizabeth street.

Q. Your instructions were to follow Augusta street, but you skipped a street?—A. That is to say, we did pass, all the same, by Augusta street; but, instead of making the ascent by Convent street, we went up by Elizabeth street, so shortening our walk by a square and a half of a street.

Q. You did shorten of a street the distance leading to Augusta street, but you did reach all the same Augusta street?—A. —

Q. You set off, at first, to go by Augusta street, but you went by Elizabeth street.—A. No.

Q. Well, tell us.—A. We took, at first, Augusta street.

By Hon. M. Brodeur:

Q. You had better name all the streets through which you have passed?—A. That is to say, we crossed in a straight line to Augusta street.

Q. In leaving the river, what street did you take?—A. In leaving the river, we took Augusta street.

By Mr. Macdougall:

Q. And then?—A. We proceeded on Augusta street until we had reached Elizabeth street, and then we went up by Elizabeth street as far as George street.

Q. Who gave you instructions to take the longest way, and why, and in what circumstances?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to question, on the ground that counsel considers as demonstrated a fact which has not been proved, namely, that witness took the longest way.

After discussion, Mr. Laflamme withdraws his objection.

A. Mr. Jean-Baptiste Pagé told us to go by that street, so as to avoid——

By Hon. M. Brodeur:

Q. What street?—A. Augusta street—so as to be noticed by following a direct way.

By Mr. Macdougall:

Q. Do you say that you had received instructions to go by Augusta street, so as to be noticed?—A. So as to be noticed, by following a direct way. I cannot explain anything else but that.

(Question is read a second time to witness by stenographer).

A. So as to avoid.

Q. Oh! so as to avoid being noticed?—A. Yes.

Q. So as to avoid being noticed by whom, Mr. Proulx?—A. I cannot say by whom; but, a few days before, I was personally made aware that he had made the same observation to those who had carried the paint, and that he had mentioned the name of the superintendent, Mr. Papineau.

Q. When you arrived at Mr. Lanctot's house, what did you do with the things which you had thus carried?—A. I gave them to the men who were there.

Q. Were you then still accompanied by Henri Paul and Omer Pagé?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did the three of you arrive there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And, all three, did you leave there what you brought?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was Mr. Lanctot himself there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he see you come with those things?—A. I think so; he was there, he must have seen us.

Q. Who are the men who were there when you arrived?—A. They were Alfred Douaire, Theodore Emond, Edmond Brault, Louis Paul, Arthur Trempe, Adélar Letendre, Alberic Letendre, and Adelard Ally.

Q. Who were those men? Do you know them?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What were they doing at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Some of them were painting walls, others were varnishing, and a couple of them came to get the paint, saying that they had been waiting after it.

Q. Were they employees of the Marine Department?—A. Employees of the department.

Q. Do you know them to be so employed?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. After you had left your paint and your other things at Mr. Lanctot's, where did you go?—A. I kept on my way, to the church.

Q. You did not stay to work with the other men?—A. No, sir.

Q. Omer Pagé and Henri Paul, what did they do?—A. Omer Pagé stayed there to work, and Henri Paul went back to the department.

Q. Have you been paid for the work which you did on that day?—A. I have been paid by the department.

Q. On some other occasions, did you go to Mr. Lanctot's to carry paint or other supplies coming from the government's shops?—A. On two other occasions.

Q. Please tell us what were those two other occasions?—A. On those two other occasions.

Q. What I ask is this: On other occasions than the one that you mention, did Mr. Pagé give you instructions, through Omer Pagé and Henri Paul, to go to Mr. Lanctot's to carry paint or to work?—A. No, sir; but I have helped them, as a matter of good will, because that was on my way.

Q. Am I to understand that what you mean is that you have helped certain other employees to carry something at Mr. Lanctot's house, while you were on your way to church?—A. When I was going to the church, yes, sir.

Q. Who were those employees of the department whom you have helped?—A. They were the same, Omer Pagé and Henri Paul.

Q. What was it that they brought at Mr. Lanctot's house, on those two occasions?—A. They were cans.

Q. Cans of what?—A. I cannot say if it was varnish or oil.

Q. Were those cans closed, sealed or filled?—A. They were cans which were full. They evidently had seen much use; they were old and dirty; I could not see if it was varnish or oil.

Q. Was it one or the other?—A. It was one or the other.

Q. Did you help to carry those things?—A. I carried a can.

Q. Did Omer Pagé carry any?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And Henri Paul?—A. Mr. Henri Paul only came to take us across on that day.

Q. He went across himself?—A. It was he who came to take us across.

Q. On arriving at Sorel on these other occasions, where did you go with the things you were carrying?—A. I went to Mr. Lanctot's the member's house, and I gave the can at the door, to Omer Pagé, and let him go in while I went on my way.

Q. Did Omer Pagé go into Mr. Lanctot's house on that occasion?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. At what date was that, sir?—A. It was in the month of August. I did not notice the date.

Q. The month of August last year?—A. 1910.

Q. Did you do that on two occasions, besides the time of which you spoke in the first place?—A. On two occasions.

Q. Always accompanied by Omer Pagé?—A. Always accompanied by Omer Pagé.

Q. Did you receive, on these occasions, the same instructions as Mr. Jean-Baptiste Pagé, as to the road you were to follow to go to Mr. Lanctot's?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did Omer Pagé punch before going?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know Cuthbert Champagne?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is he employed in the department?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is his occupation?—A. Keeper of the punch.

Q. What do you mean by keeper of the punch?—A. He is the man who keeps track of the punch when the men go and register their time.

Q. When you went there yourself to punch, did you see any others who were punching there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Among others, who did you notice punching?—A. The employees of the department; we were about forty.

Q. Among those you have named there as working at Mr. Lanctot's house did you notice any who punched before starting to go to work?—A. Only one.

Q. Who is he?—A. Omer Pagé.

Q. On the three occasions on which you went with Omer Pagé did you notice him punching?—Yes, sir.

Q. Did you ever fail to punch and did you find that somebody had punched for you?—A. Once. There was one time when I had not punched the card.

Q. Who had punched your card?—A. Mr. Cuthbert Champagne.

Q. That was very obliging on his part, but how could he punch your card?—A. He had an order from Mr. Pagé.

Q. Which Pagé?—A. Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé.

Q. To punch the card in your absence?—A. Yes, sir.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. Had these orders been given in your presence?—A. Yes, sir. That is, they were given on one occasion. He came and asked—Mr. Pagé—at the moment when the punching was to be done, if Mr. Cuthbert Champagne was to punch the cards of the men who were working at Mr. Lanctot's house.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. And then?—A. Mr. Cuthbert Champagne answered him: 'I have punched all the cards of the men who are working at Mr. Lanctot's.

Q. When you carried the paint to Mr. Lanctot's, in the month of August, with Henri Paul and Omer Pagé, where did you take that paint? From whom, from what employee did you receive it?—A. It was received from Mr. Arthur Lavallée.

Q. Who is Mr. Arthur Lavallée?—A. He is the man who prepares the paints for the department. He is employed in the department.

Q. And it was him who delivered the paint to you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When that paint was delivered to you was it weighed or measured on scales?—A. No, sir, not as usual, the paint which we used in the yard.

Q. What do you mean by that? What is the usual way?—A. The usual way is that the scales are in the middle of the shop, and all the paint used for the department is weighed before us. It is taken there and entered in the book alongside. Each man takes his paint and it is entered in the books at the same time on the scales.

Q. That is done in your presence?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. On the occasion just mentioned was the paint weighed and measured before you on the scales in the middle of the room?—A. No, sir.

Q. You are speaking for yourself. Was the paint or box which was received by Omer Pagé and Henri Paul weighed or measured on the scales?—A. No, sir.

Q. Were Napoléon or Jean-Baptiste Pagé present when you left on that morning with the paint?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. On the two other occasions when you helped Omer Pagé to carry paint or other materials were these articles or paints weighed before you right there on the scales?—A. No, sir.

By Mr. Victor Geoffrion, M.P.:

Q. Are you very sure? Do you remember perfectly when you say, no, sir?—A. Yes, sir, only they could be measured, for they were gallon cans—on the two other occasions.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. When you have received opened packages or cans have they ever been weighed, measured for you or for the others?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know who filled the oil cans and the putty boxes or other things?—A. No, sir.

Q. In the month of January, about the Epiphany, did anybody ask you to go to Mr. Lanctot's, and, if so, did you go, and what conversation have you had with him?

—A. On January 6, the Epiphany Day, Mr. Caské said to me: 'My uncle, Napoleon Proulx, wants you to call at once at Mr. Lanctot's office.'

Q. You went there?—A. I went there.

Q. What happened then?—A. As I went in Mr. Lanctot asked me—that is, he spoke to me and said: 'I heard that you intended to be employed by the government.' I said: 'Yes, I spoke to my uncles about it.' My uncles were there.

Q. Who were your uncles that were there? Name them?—A. Napoleon and Joseph Proulx.

Q. From Sorel?—A. Napoleon Proulx is from Ste. Victoire and Joseph Proulx is from Sorel.

Q. Go on.—A. Then Mr. Lanctot said to me: 'It would be difficult for you to get your position because you signed an affidavit against the foreman of the department.' He added that if I consented to send a letter to Mr. Brodeur, the Minister of Marine, asking him to return to me the affidavit I had signed it would then be easier to get me a position, and he read to me the contents of the letter written by himself.

Q. Had he a letter there, prepared and written?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you the letter in your possession?—A. He did not give it to me.

Q. You did not take a copy of it?—A. No, sir.

Q. From memory, can you give us the substance of it?—A. Not from beginning to end.

Q. Approximately?—A. Approximately, yes, I can mention approximately what there was in it.

Q. Give us the substance of it. As near as you can.—A. In substance, I was asking the Minister to return to me the affidavit signed by me; I stated that it had been signed in a fit of passion, and that after thinking it over, I felt that I had stated things that were not true, that I was praying the minister and the member to excuse me, and that I exonerated from all blame those who were mentioned in my affidavit.

Q. Was it Mr. Lanctot himself who had drafted the letter which he was asking you to sign?—A. I believe so; yes sir.

Q. It was he who showed it to you?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Do you believe it or do you know it?—A. It was he who showed it to me.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. In whose interest was he doing that?—A. I do not know what for; he did not tell me.

Q. Now, had you made a solemn declaration of certain facts before that time?—Yes, sir.

Q. About what date?—A. Dated November 30, 1910.

Q. And when you made that solemn declaration were you angry or otherwise influenced?

Mr. Laflamme objects to that question on the ground that if witness has made a solemn declaration it shall be produced.

Q. Do you have with you the declaration you made on the 30th of November?—A. No, not here; it is not here; that is I have it at home; I have a copy at home.

Q. The original, where is the original? To whom did you give the original?—A. To Mr. Omer Lamoureaux.

Q. What has he done with it?—A. He told me that he had come to Ottawa and that he had given it to the Hon. Minister of Marine.

Q. Mr. Proulx, you told us that Mr. Lanctot had prepared a letter that you were to sign before being sent to the minister, in which it was said that you had made your affidavit of the 30th of November when you were angry, etc. When you made the affidavit of the 30th of November, were you angry?

Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to that question.

Question allowed by the chairman.

A. No, sir.

Q. When that declaration was made—your two uncles were with you when Mr. Lanctot asked you to sign that letter?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Has a conversation taken place there, in the presence of Mr. Lanctot, in which conversation your two uncles have taken part?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was said?—A. I told Mr. Lanctot: 'Do not read any further, I will not sign that.' Then Mr. Lanctot said to me: 'If you do not like that letter write one yourself as you like and you will give me a copy of it.'

Q. Did you then, on the request of Mr. Lanctot, write a letter to the minister in order to withdraw your declaration of the 30th of November or to modify it?—A. No, sir.

Q. What did you say then to Mr. Lanctot about that?—A. I told him I was not so anxious to get the position that I would countersign a paper the day after I had written it.

Q. Then, did he make any answer?—A. Yes, he told me that it was in order to get me a position, that he was not doing for me but for my uncle because they were good party men.

Q. Which party?—A. The Liberal party.

Q. Are you a Liberal in politics?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When you say: 'I am not going to countersign to-day a letter ——' what do you mean by the word countersign?

Mr. Laflamme objects to that question.

Mr. Laflamme withdraws his objection.

Q. When you say countersign do you mean contradict?—A. I meant that I did not want to say the contrary of what I had signed.

Q. In the month of August did you know a man named Alfred Lonaire, of Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. A man named Louis Paul?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Arthur Trempe? Adélarde Ally? Adélarde Letendre?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know how many weeks or how long they worked at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Exactly, no.

Q. As to Alfred Douaire, do you know how long he worked at Mr. Lanctot?—A. About eight or nine weeks.

Q. Louis Paul?—A. Louis Paul gave me himself on a piece of paper the time during which he worked at Mr. Lanctot's.

Mr. Laflamme, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to the answer to that question as being an evidence of hearsay.

Q. Do not tell us what he told you, but did you see him at work?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long, approximately?—A. I cannot tell exactly.

Q. About, approximately?—A. About three or four weeks.

Q. How many days did Arthur Plante work?—A. About two weeks.

Q. Adélarde Ally?—A. About the same time.

Q. Adélarde Letendre, how many days?—A. Adélarde Letendre, he has worked at different intervals.

Q. You cannot precise the time?—A. I cannot precise the time.

Q. Now, Mr. Proulx, which difference do you make between imitate and polish?—A. To polish, the difference is it takes twice as much time.

Q. Which is the most expensive then?—A. Polish is the most expensive.

Q. Was there any polishing done at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you seen it?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, you know the house which Mr. Adélarde Lanctot has built?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You saw the painting done there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What experience did you say you had as a painter?—A. Fifteen years.

Q. What estimate would you make for the work and the paint supplied to finish and decorate Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I have examined the work on ten or twelve different occasions.

Q. During the time the work was progressing?—A. During the time the work was progressing.

Q. And after the work was done?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, to the best of your knowledge and of your judgment, and under oath, tell us how much you think that work is worth?—A. I have estimated the work as if I had had to do it for myself, to do the work and I put it to between \$850 and \$950.

Q. That includes the material and the paint, &c.?—A. The material and the paint.

By the Chairman:

Q. Does that include the work also?—A. The work is included.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Do you mean to say that you would take the job yourself for that price?—A. I would take it myself for that price.

Q. Now, in the estimate you have made for the whole work, what amount do you put for the time of the men, for the wages, and what amount for the material, paint, &c.?—A. In my estimate I figured out the time of the men and the material.

Q. What is the difference?—A. I figured out that the time of the men was worth about \$500 and the material between \$375 and \$400.

Q. If you would take the job would you take it for a price lower than the one you have just mentioned?—A. No, sir.

Q. During the spring and the summer of 1910 were there any other painters in Sorel apart from the painters of the department and the painters of the Richelieu Company?—A. Painters able to do the work? There were four—four contractors.

Q. You say there were four other painters in Sorel able to do the work of painting Mr. Lanctot's house during the spring and the summer of 1910?—A. Yes, sir, there were four other painters able to do the work at Mr. Lanctot's, but I do not know if they would have had the time to do it.

Q. Who are those four painters?—A. There is a Mr. George Cartier, painting contractor; Mr. G. A. Payette, painting contractor; a gentleman named Lavoie—

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. What is his first name?—A. I do not know his first name.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Is it Emile Lavoie?—A. Emile Lavoie.

Q. And the fourth one?—A. Joseph Proulx.

Q. Do you know a man by the name of Telesphore Berubé, alias Barnabé?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is he a painter in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Would he have been able to do the work?—A. I do not think he could have done a first-class work; I have not seen him doing specially good work.

Q. The man named George Cartier, whom you speak of, is he the one who has been heard yesterday as witness before the committee?—A. Yes, sir.

Cross-examined by Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot:—

Q. Do you remember the date, during the month of August, when you carried some paint for the first time?—A. I do not remember the date but I know that it was at the beginning of August.

Q. It was during the forenoon?—A. In the morning, between seven and eight o'clock.

Q. What distance is there from the shore of the Richelieu river, on the Sorel

side, going by Augusta street to Convent street, taking Convent street as far as George street, and then George street as far as Mr. Lanctot's house?

The WITNESS.—What distance there is.

The COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. I have not measured it.

Q. This is not what I am asking.—A. Well you were asking for the distance.

Q. I am asking you: what distance is there to the best of your knowledge?—A. Oh, from eye-sight, it is all right.

Q. Don't try any of your cork screwing with me, don't you know, you won't succeed.—A. Nor you either, don't you know.

Q. Answer. You must be astray in your estimate of distances as you are in your approximate estimates of paint work?—A. There is about a quarter of an hour's walk—loaded with paint as we were.

Q. Is there a half mile?—A. There are about 18 or 20 acres.

Q. Now, is Augusta street built on the other side?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is it one of the main streets of Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, at that time in the season, I suppose that between seven and eight o'clock, nearly every door is open to allow of fresh air, in the morning?—A. The doors should be open.

Q. Now, is Convent street also built upon on both sides?—A. On one side there is the convent; on the other side there are only private residences.

Q. Now, from the corner of Convent street, is George street built upon on both sides as far as Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. If such is the case, how could they upon this distance of 20 acres, hope to avoid the glances of lookerson?—A. Ah!—

Q. It is a difficult matter, is it not?—A. From the orders already given.

Q. It was a difficult thing to avoid being seen?—A. It was not difficult to avoid being seen directly by the people living in the houses; from the orders already given, it was to avoid meeting Mr. Papineau upon that street, at these hours of the day; and upon other occasions to avoid the clerks and merchants of King street, from King street going up, going from Augusta street to George street.

Q. So that the main reason for which Pagé told you to take that by-way was to avoid being met and being seen by Mr. Papineau?—A. There had already been a question of this.

Q. It was to avoid Mr. Papineau?—A. There had already been a question of the merchants as well.

Q. Now, do you know where Mr. Papineau lives?—A. I do, sir.

Q. Is it not a fact that his residence is situate upon George street, opposite Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. About opposite.

Q. At what distance?—A. About 40 or 50 feet going up.

Q. Going down the river, or going up towards St. Joseph?—A. Going up towards St. Joseph.

Q. You went in through the front door?—A. Through the front door.

Q. If it is true that you were endeavouring to avoid being seen by Mr. Papineau, why did you not go in through the hind door? That is what I would have done.—A. It would have been necessary to go through the front in the same way. You had to go through the front the same way. You always had to go through the yard entrance passage. I was not myself anxious to avoid this event.

Q. Where was Mr. Papineau when you carried some material for the first time?—A. I have not seen him; we did not see him.

Q. You do not know if he was in the office at St. Joseph, or if he was in his house?—A. At those hours, I do not believe so. He must have been at his house. It is about that time that he leaves his home to go to his office in St. Joseph's.

Q. How many years have you been working in the painters' shop in Sorel for the

government?—A. I worked there from February the 16th, 1909, until November the 5th, 1910.

Q. Did you work in the paint shop for the government in Sorel prior to February 16, 1909?—A. No, sir.

Q. At all events, it was a well known fact that in the season of 1910 you were working for the government?—A. Yes, sir—that is up to the 15th of November.

Q. Is it the same thing as to Henri Paul and Omer Pagé, your two companions?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember the dates when you went there on the two subsequent occasions?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did Mr. Pagé see you go on those two occasions?—A. He ordered me to go with Henri Paul and Omer Pagé, but I do not know if he saw me go.

Q. But he did not tell you on these occasions, what road you had to follow?—A. I do not remember.

Q. The first time, you walked on Augusta street as far as the corner of Elizabeth street, you continued from there to the corner of George street, in order to reach afterwards the house of Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. But you could not follow that way unless you passed in front of Mr. Papineau's house?—A. It did not matter, so far as I was concerned.

Q. That is not the question. You could not follow that way unless you passed in front of Mr. Papineau's house?—A. No, it is impossible to avoid it.

Q. Did you endeavour to dissimilate yourself when you passed in front of his house?

The WITNESS.—Mr. Papineau's house?

The COUNSEL.—Mr. Papineau's house.

A. No, sir.

Q. Then you did not follow the instructions you had?—A. No, sir.

Q. When you came back to the shop, the first time, did Mr. Pagé ask you what way you had gone?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you tell him?—A. No, sir.

Q. Varnish and oil are reckoned by measure?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Varnish and oil are not weighed, but you calculate the quantity of the same by measuring it by the gallon?—A. By the gallon or quart, no matter.

Q. So that it was easy to estimate the quantity of oil and varnish that you carried with you on the different occasions which you mention?—A. As to oil and varnish, it was.

Q. So that when you observed a moment ago that the material had not been weighed, you meant paint only?—A. Paint and putty.

Q. Now, let us speak about paint. Do you know where Mr. Lavallée took that paint?—A. He took it behind the shop, near the tubs where the department's paint was; only, I did not observe, neither did I ask him, if he had taken it in the tubs. As to the cans of varnish and oil, there was a room.

Q. We are through with them; I am now talking about paint. So that you do not know if the paint which you carried away to Lanctot's house had been before put aside into a tub or into any other vessel?—A. No; only I once observed that he had thinned some of the paint in a jar, in my presence, that he had fastened it and that we left with it.

Q. This means that you do not know if, before you carried this paint to Lanctot's house, the quantity of paint which you carried had not been weighed in any case?—A. Not in my presence, no; it had not been weighed.

Q. But it could have been weighed out of your presence?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who undertakes to weigh the stuff?—A. Mr. Arthur Lavallée.

Q. You were dismissed on the 5th of December?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You did not like that?—A. No, sir.

Q. And especially by reason of the fact that same ones were being kept on, and you were dismissed?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you expressed your opinion in that respect, you did not feel embarrassed in stating so?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You said so?—A. Yes.

Q. What is it you said?—A. On November the 7th, in the forenoon, I met the member, Mr. Adelard Lanctot, in company with Joseph Proulx and Hilarie Proulx, my father, and I expressed my reasons to him.

Q. Where did you meet him on November 7?—A. In his office.

Q. Then you did not meet him, but you went to see him in his office?—A. Yes, yes, I went to see him in his office.

Q. Why did you go there?

The WITNESS.—Why I went there?

The COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. To explain to him the reasons I had to give him, to ask him if he had any returns against me; to know for what reason I had been dismissed; that I was a liberal and that there were no returns against me; that I had a certificate from Mr. Papineau. I asked him if I could be reinstated—He told me he was going to see to it.

(A pause).

Q. Go on?—A. I do not exactly remember the rest. I took no notes of that interview.

Q. You are very sure, you said nothing else?—A. Oh I may have said something else which I do not recollect.

Q. I shall help you. Did you not tell him it was a shame to dismiss good Grits as you were, while some Tories were being kept on?—A. I know I told him; I do not know if it was on the occasion of that interview or on some other occasion; because I met the member on several occasions.

Q. You told him what?—A. I told him I did not know why I had been dismissed, being a good Liberal one whose family was all Liberal, when they had kept on Tories.

Q. Did you mention to Mr. Lanctot the names of the men who had been retained?—A. Yes, sir—He asked me: 'Who are the people that you speak of?' I told him—I gave him a list of a few names I had.

Q. Which names did you give him?—A. I do not remember at all, I have not the list of the names with me.

Q.—Mention a few of them?

Mr. McDUGALL, K.C., objects to this question as tending to prove a fact which is foreign to the injury and useless.

The chairman pointed out that since the beginning of the enquiry, many things have been proved which have no bearing at all on the subject matter of the inquiry, and he prays that the counsel be so kind as to limit their questions to the facts pertaining to the inquiry.

Q. Now, Mr. Proulx, are you able to swear that the men whom you saw working at the Lanctot house worked a longer time than the time which is mentioned in that exhibit.

Mr. McDUGALL objects to the question and submits that Mr. Lafamme should limit his question to the names which the witness has mentioned in his evidence.

Mr. LAFAMME mentions that his end is to establish the value of the work.

The CHAIRMAN overrules the objection.

(The witness reads from the list of men.)

A. Mr. Octavien Lafreniere, I have had no occasion, as to him, to see the time he put in.

Mr. Alberic Letendre: eighteen days, that is about right.

Q. As to the first name, you know nothing?—A. No. Omer Pagé, to my personal knowledge worked a longer time than that.

Q. A longer time than what?—A. Longer than eight days.

Q. Do you not observe that the name of Omer Pagé is mentioned in more than one place? Look down as far as the end?—

(The witness again examines the list.)

—A. Yes, it is right.

As to Alberic Letendre, also. I shall resume my examination.

Q. Let us look at Omer Pagé's case. How many days did Omer Pagé work, according to that statement? You thought it was nine days, but it is a little more, is it not?—A. Yes.

Q. How many days?—

(The witness reckons the number of days within the list as to Omer Pagé.)

—A. Forty-five days, that is about right.

Q. Now, take Adéland Letendre—

(The witness makes the same reckoning as to Adéland Letendre.)

Q. Adéland Letendre, how many days did he work?—A. Twelve days.

Q. I suppose this is right?—A. Adéland Letendre, to my knowledge, worked more than that.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. More than the number of days mentioned in that statement?—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. What brings you to say that he worked more than twelve days? Is it an opinion, or are you sure of it?—A. It is because he left, in my presence to go and work there more often than that; and even I saw him at work.

Q. So that, because you thought that he left more than twelve times to go and work at Mr. Lanctot's house, you think that he worked there more than twelve days?—A. I mean that I saw him working; and I saw him leave, in my presence, several times to go and work there.

Q. Can you swear, sir, that you have seen Adéland Letendre working at the Lanctot house more than twelve days? I am not speaking of his intentions when he was leaving in the morning, but do you swear that you have seen him work more than twelve days?

WITNESS.—To have seen him myself work more than twelve days?

COUNSEL.—Yes?

A. Ah, I cannot swear that.

Q. That number of days could then be exact, you do not know?—A. It might be exact, but in my opinion I thought that he had worked much more than that.

Q. Now, take Theodule Emond. How many days has he worked, calculating from this list?

(Witness calculates number of days indicated on the list.)

A. Nineteen and a half.

Q. Is that exact?—A. It is about exact.

Q. What is the following name?—A. Alfred Douain.

Q. What about that one?

(Witness makes some calculations about that one.)

A. Fifteen and a half.

Q. Is that exact?—A.

Q. That is about exact, is it not?—A. (After a moment's reflection.) He has worked longer than that.

Q. Have you seen him yourself work more than fifteen days and a half?—A. I have seen him myself work longer than that, and he has himself told me—

Q. Don't mention what he has told you. When did you begin to notice that

Douaire was working there?—A. I want to work at the hospital. I had been lent by the government to work at the hospital.

Q. You were lent to the hospital by the government?—A. Yes. After that I went to work at the church, subject to the orders of Jean Baptiste Pagé, and I used to stop at noon, that is at eleven thirty, and again at five thirty in the afternoon, and I could see Mr. Alfred Douaire working.

Q. How long did you work at the hospital and at the church? When did you begin working, and when have you left off?—A. I worked at the church at three different intervals, and I went to work at the hospital during a couple of weeks. I think it was about ten or twelve days.

Q. What did you stop for at Mr. Lanctot's house every day at noon and in the evening at five o'clock?—A. I had orders of Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé to go across with Omer Pagé, who was working. On other occasions, when Omer Pagé was gone—that is to say, I always stopped to see if he was there to work with me. When he was there, we used to go across together, so as to have only one boat's trip.

Q. We will suspend your examination on that point until adjournment. The prices mentioned in this bill are the ordinary prices paid to painters in Sorel?—A. They come very near the ordinary prices which are paid, except in the case of Edmond Brault. I always thought that he was receiving a dollar and ninety cents.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. And for what amount is he down on the list?—A. A dollar and eighty cents.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Now, are you in a position to swear that there are other painters than those mentioned on this list, and who were in the employ of the government, who did work at Mr. Lanctot's house? Look at the names on the list. Are there others?

(Witness has a long look at the list.)

Q. It takes you a good deal of time?—A. Those who are mentioned have done some work.

Q. That is not what I asked you. Are you in a position to swear that other painters in the employ of the government have been working at the Lanctot house during the period mentioned in the statement which you hold in your hands, besides those mentioned in that statement?—A. Not in my presence.

Q. If you know nothing about the measure of the oil and the varnish, nor about the weight of the paint, how do you explain that you can have made a bill of three hundred and seventy-five to four hundred dollars? Have you dreamt that?—A. For the materials.

Q. Yes?—A. I have enough experience in painting after looking at a room in an ordinary house, like Mr. Lanctot's house, to know how much paint would be necessary for the walls, each coat, reckoning upon the quality of the walls, and for the wood, the wood-work, it is the same thing.

Q. Do you know how many coats of paint have been put in the house?—A. They have given a size coat in my presence. That, I know very well. They have given two coats of paint in my presence, of which I am aware, on the walls.

Q. You have never measured the apartments?—A. No, sir.

Q. You know nothing, neither, about the size of the house?—A. No, sir.

Q. And, to arrive at an exact figure, it would be necessary to consider the size of the apartments, the divisions, the ceilings, is it not?—A. It is not necessary.

Q. It is not necessary for you?—A. No.

Q. Do you know if any of the rooms of the house had been papered?—A. Up-stairs.

Q. How many rooms, up-stairs, have been papered?—A. I had taken a memorandum of that, but I haven't got it on hand. I have taken note of everything, the rooms.

Q. How many rooms are there up-stairs?—A. I am sure—Well, I am sure, I could not swear to that, because I have not the memorandum on hand, but there are three or four rooms papered up-stairs.

Q. You would have taken that job, yourself, for eight hundred and fifty dollars?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Naturally, you would have made a profit on the execution of the work?—A. It would have been a pretty close price to make a living out of it.

Q. What proportion of profit could you have realized on a contract like that one, on a basis of eight hundred and fifty dollars?—A.—

Q. I will help you. Thirty five per cent?—A. Thirty five per cent on the amount?

Q. On the total amount. That is pretty good, is it not?—A. Oh, about twenty to twenty five per cent.

Q. That would make two hundred and twelve dollars, about that?—A. There, I mean with the men, the pay of the men, and my salary besides. That is to say, I would have made a profit of about twenty per cent from twenty to twenty-five per cent.

Q. That would reduce the value of the material and the value of the labour to six hundred and thirty-six dollars?—A. I am speaking of the material. I am calculating the material at cost price.

Q. So, the profit of two hundred and twelve dollars, that was the profit on the wages of the men?—A. The profit that I was calculating to take, from twenty to twenty-five per cent, that was on the employees.

Q. Do you know if, besides the paint-work which has been done, not by the men of the shop, Mr. Lanctot had had work of the kind done in his house by some other men of Sorel?—A. By other men than those of the shop?

Q. Yes?—A. Paint-work?

Q. Yes.—A. I have not seen any other work done.

Q. You do not know?—A. No.

Q. Do you know Mr. Rivet?—A. What is his first name?

Q. Jos. Rivet.—A. Mr. Jos. Rivet, yes, sir.

Q. Have you seen him working at the house?—A. I have not seen him work at the house.

Q. On November 30, you say that they made you sign a declaration?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were you then obeying to the dictates of your conscience, or had you been asked to sign that?—A. In the beginning, I had myself taken a memorandum of the facts which I knew, and I had a conversation with Mr. Dieudonné Peloquin, and I suggested to him, and we spoke about what means we should take to obtain justice from the department.

Q. What other justice did you expect from the government than that of having done some work and of having been paid?

Q. Are you aware that Mr. Lanctot has paid four hundred and fifty-seven dollars for that work?—A. No, sir.

Mr. McDougall objects to question, on grounds of illegality.

Question allowed by the President.

The CHAIRMAN.—It is intended to show the animus of the witness.

Mr. Laflamme.—More than that, to discredit him.

The CHAIRMAN.—To show the animus of the witness in the declaration he made and in the action he has taken in these proceedings.

Q. What justice did you expect from the department?—A. We were reckoning that the men were not quite well treated.

Q. They were well paid, but treated rudely?—A. Yes, they were well paid but treated rudely.

Q. They were treated rudely by Mr. Jean-Baptiste Pagé?—A. That is to say, there were many who had grievances against the department.

Q. Against whom?—A. Against certain foremen.

Q. Who were those employees against whom you had grievances?—A. I had some myself, personally, with Mr. Pagé.

Q. He was your foreman?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you begin taking the notes which you mention, and which contained your grievances? You must have started early?—A. About November 18. From November 18 to November 20.

Q. 1909?—A. 1910.

Q. You began taking those notes, after you had been dismissed from the service?—A. About ten days after that, yes.

Q. Why have you not taken those notes before that, instead of waiting afterwards?—A. I have taken some notes before. At the time that I was working, I also took a few notes. But to make that declaration, I took them after.

Q. When did you begin to take notes as against Mr. Pagé previous to the time you were discharged?—A. I took some notes in 1909.

Q. Did you take some in 1910?—A. During the summer of 1910.

Q. I meant that you kept an eye on Mr. Pagé to know what he was doing and what he did not do?—A. He ordered me to make things which, I knew, were not right. He used to send me to work outside and I registered as usual.

By Mr. Victor Geoffrion, M.P.:

Q. You talk about grievances. If you had been reinstated, do you not think those grievances would have been diminished?—A. —

Q. You speak about the grievances you had against some employees of the government; do you think that if the government had consented to take you back, this fact would not have lessened your grievances?—A. It would have been the same thing for me,—as to myself.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. If you have noticed that what he asked you to do was not right, why did you not denounce him at once, instead of waiting till you were discharged?—A. It is because I was afraid—that is, denounced, it was known; nearly all the citizens knew it.

Q. Why did you not prepare a solemn declaration the same as the one you have prepared on the 30th of November, since it was correct.—A. It is because I did not have the opportunity.

Q. You have given us the only reason which induced you to sign the declaration of the 30th of November, viz.: that it was not correct; it was the only reason you had to do that?—A. The reason is that some of the contractors in the town had spoken to me and had also found that it was not fair and that I did not like myself to go to work outside and interfere with those people; it was against my will when Mr. Pagé was sending me to work outside.

Q. Did you have, on the 4th of December, 1910, Sunday, a conversation with the painter Louis Paul?—A. I had a conversation with Mr. Louis Paul, but I do not remember the date.

Q. At all events it was at a later date than the one of your declaration of the 30th of November?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Some days later?—A. Yes, some days later.

Q. What did you say to him?—A. I asked him how long he had worked at Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. Did you ask him something else?—A. I asked him to write for me on a sheet of paper the time he had worked there and to sign it.

Q. Did you ask him something else?—A. I do not remember. I do not remember having asked him something else.

Q. Did you say something else to him?—A. I do not remember having said something else to him. I might have said something else; I stayed there some time, but I do not remember what it was.

Q. Did you talk about the foreman, Pagé?—A. His name must have been mentioned, but I have no recollection.

Q. You swear that you have no recollection of it? Look at me; look up?—A. I have no recollection of it.

Q. Did you not say to him: 'Something is going to take place next week'?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you not say to him that some change was going to take place?—A. I did not say to him that some change was going to take place. I told him that I would try to make a change. It puts me in mind, from the writing—

Q. Which change?—A. I do not remember. I do not remember in what way. I have not made note of it. I swear that I have no recollection of it.

Q. You swear you said on that occasion that a change was going to take place, but you swear that you do not remember now what kind of a change it was?—A. I do not swear that I said a change was going to take place; I might have spoken of a change, but I do not remember in which way.

Q. When you spoke to him of that change, on the 4th of December, you knew what you were talking about?—A. If I spoke of a change I must have known what I was talking about.

Q. You spoke to him about that; you swear it?—A. I do not swear that I said a change was going to take place; I swear that a conversation on that subject must have occurred, on the subject of a change, but I do not swear that I said one was going to take place.

Q. A change was mentioned; which change?—A. My object was, I wanted that the workingmen would receive better treatment and that justice be given to the workingmen from outside for the outside work; if a change was mentioned it was with that object in view.

Q. Is it not a fact that you said to him: 'The damned, he will go out, sure'?—A. I cannot have said that to him, because I did not know what I could do. I cannot have said that. At all events, I do not remember having said that to him.

Q. You know who is the 'damned' when I refer to that man? Pagé was the man?—A. I never used such a word on that occasion. I do not remember having used such a word on that occasion.

Q. Was a mention made of it on that occasion?—A. A mention must have been made of it, but I have no recollection.

Q. About what?—A. I have no recollection of it.

Q. Is Louis Paul one of your friends?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. He is an honest man?—A. I know him to be an honest man.

Q. Do you know Henri Paul?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. He is also one of your friends?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. He is also an honest man?—A. I know him to be an honest man.

Q. On the 4th of December, Sunday, did you have an interview with Henri Paul about what was going on in the shop?—A. I do not remember the date; I had an interview with him but I do not remember the date.

Q. Was it not on a Sunday?—A. I think it was on a Sunday or a holiday. It was on a holiday; I do not know it was on a Sunday.

Q. A couple of days after you had signed the declaration of the 30th of November?—A. Some days later.

Q. The same day that you had seen Louis Paul?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did you say to him?—A. I asked him if he had some notes to give me about certain special facts he knew of, I supposed he knew of.

Q. What was his answer?—A. He told me that, at the time, he could not do it.

Q. Did you say something else to him?—A. Yes, I said something else to him, I do not remember exactly word by word, I did not make note of it.

Q. Approximately?—A. I told him that, if he could give me some information, I would try to have justice given to the working men and the painters with the information he would give me and that I would not forget him when the occasion comes.

Q. That is all you said?—A. I told him also that I thought, with the information he could give me, I could find fault with Mr. Pagé.

Q. And with the result—A. And that, with those notes, I would endeavour to have justice given.

Q. Did you use these words: 'That I would try to have justice given?—A. I must have used those words, something like that; but I did not make note of it.

The meeting is adjourned.

The Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections resumed at 3.30 p.m. and continued to inquire into the charges made against Mr. Adélard Lanctot, M.P., as mentioned in the reference order to the committee.

The examination of HENRI PROULX, resumed.

By Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Mr. Proulx, did you say on that occasion, to Henri Paul that you desired to have Mr. Pagé put out?—A. I told him that with the notes which he could give me, if his notes were correct, that probably Mr. Pagé might go out; but I could not be sure.

Q. And then you said that if Mr. Pagé lost his position, you would take his place?—A. No, sir; I never said that.

Q. Did you say anything which sounds like that a little?—A. I told him that the one who would replace him, I did not doubt, would be able to protect him more.

Q. Henri Paul?—A. Yes.

Q. You had an idea of the one who might replace him?—A. Not directly; no, I had no idea.

Q. Indirectly had you?—A. I had no idea. I did not know who could replace him. That is, I very well knew who was able to take his place; but the only thing was that for a place as this one there are many strings to be pulled.

Q. And you did not know if you could have enough strings to get the job?

The WITNESS.—To get the position for myself?

The COUNSEL.—Yes?

A. I did not speak to him for myself; I did not tell him that I was to get the position; I did not speak to him for my own self.

Q. You did not tell him what you thought?—A. What I was thinking, that belonged to me, to me alone.

Q. At that time you were thinking of something which you did not tell him?—

A. I do not remember that I told him.

Q. You thought you would have as much chance as another man?—A. I do not know; sometimes—

Q. Did you, at that time, tell Henri Paul that if he declared nothing he would have no work?—A. Hey! I did not tell him that, no.

Q. Did you ask him to help you?—A. I do not remember that I did.

Q. Did he tell you: 'It is useless for me to try and help you'?—A. I do not remember either.

Q. What were your last words in that conversation?—A. I asked him not to say a word about the interview I had had with him.

Q. Why did you wish to conceal the fact that you had been there; it was not a mortal sin?—A. At the time, it was for the purpose that it should not be known. At the time, it was at the beginning—I did not wish that it should become a matter of notoriety; because, in order to succeed in a matter—

Q. What were your motives to prevent the matter from becoming public?—A. . . .

Q. Were you ashamed?—A. I cannot say the exact motives. I was fearing that he might have compromised me. I do not know exactly the purpose I had at the time, nor the words which were used.

Q. Were you ashamed that the matter should be known in the public?—A. No, I was not ashamed.

Q. But you were fearing that you might be compromised?—A. Not directly; only it was in view of not being considered. . . . In the first place, I did not want Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé to have knowledge of it, because that was in the first days that I was asking notes; I did not want the thing to be known in the first days.

Q. At that moment, he had discharged you?

The WITNESS.—Mr. Pagé?

The COUNSEL.—Yes. Well, yes, it was on December 4.

A. I do not know if it was on December 4, but I had been discharged.

Q. If what you were doing was honest, why were you afraid of being compromised?—A. I thought I was acting honestly. If I was unwilling to have the thing known, it was not because I thought it was not honest.

Q. If it was honest, what had you to fear through the fact becoming public?—

A. I was afraid not to succeed in what I wanted. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the law to know if that was dishonest, or. . . I do not know the law enough for that.

Q. Now, did you mention, on that occasion, to Henri Paul, the name of M. Cardin, attorney? Take your time before answering.—A. I don't think so.

Q. Is it not true that you have asked to Henri Paul to go with you to M. Cardin?—A. No, sir.

Q. You swear to that, positively?—A. I do, positively.

Q. Under the oath you have given?—A. Under the oath I have given.

Q. And you maintain that you have not even mentioned Mr. Cardin's name?—

A. I don't remember.

Q. But you remember having mentioned Mr. Lamoureux's name?—A. I don't remember.

Q. You don't remember?—A. No.

Q. Is it not true, that you have asked Henri Paul to go with you to Mr. Omer Lamoureux?—A. I don't remember.

W. Was there any mention of Omer Lamoureux on that occasion?—A. I don't remember.

Q. You don't remember?—A. No.

Q. Did you, on that occasion, mention the name of the same Mr. Lamoureux, to whom you had given your declaration of November 30?—A. I don't remember.

Q. Did you see Mr. Lamoureux on that same day, December 4, on a Sunday?—A. I don't remember. I saw him some time after, but I don't know if it is the same day.

Q. You saw him a couple of days afterwards, and then you told him that you had not been able to succeed in eliciting information from the two Pauls?—A. I did not speak of M. Henri Paul to Mr. Lamoureux.

Q. You mentioned the other?—A. I mentioned the other.

Q. You spoke about Louis Paul?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you say to Mr. Lamoureux about Louis Paul?—A. Mr. Louis Paul had given me a paper on which he had noted his time, and I said to him, to Mr. Lamoureux: 'That is the time of a man who has worked at Mr. Lanctot.'

Q. But, Mr. Proulx, how is it that you did not come to see with that bit of paper, instead of going to see Omer Lamoureux? What had he to do in that?—A. I did not know you.

Q. Why did you go to see Omer Lamoureux, instead of anybody else in Sorel?—A. It was because he had told me that he was in intimate terms with the Minister, and that with the declarations I had given him he would settle all that in a friendly manner, in the interest of the party, and in our own interest to us, working men.

Q. So that Mr. Lamoureux knew that you had been to see the two Paul; he knew that before you had been to see him?—A. He knew that I had been to see Louis Paul.

Q. It was himself who had sent you there?—A. No, sir.

Q. Are you sure?—Yes, sir.

Q. Who sent you there?—A. I went there on my own accord.

Q. Is it in the presence of Mr. Lamoureux that you signed your declaration of the 30th of November?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. At his store?—A. No, sir.

Q. Where did you sign that declaration?—A. At Mr. Albert Thibaudeau's, junior.

Q. Who was there?—A. Mr. Albert Thibaudeau, jr., Mr. Omer Lamoureux.

Q. And who else?—A. And Mr. Alfred Douaire.

Q. Who wrote the declaration—I mean the declaration of the 30th of November?

—A. I think it was Mr. Lamoureux—I am not positive, but I think it was him.

Q. Mr. Lamoureux stated to you that he was on intimate terms with the minister; you understood he meant the Minister of Marine and Fisheries?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he tell you, on that occasion, that he had written to Mr. Lanctot, the member?—A. No, sir.

Q. Now, who wrote the declaration you signed on the first of March?—A. Mr. Viliard, barrister in Sorel.

Q. Who was present?—A. First, Notary Bourgeois was there.

Q. And who else?—A. I think we were only the three of us; I do not remember if anybody else was there.

Q. Who asked you to sign that declaration?—A. Mr. Villiard himself.

Q. Had you seen Mr. Lamoureux some time before?—A. Yes, I had seen Mr. Lamoureux some time previously.

Q. He knew that you were going to sign that declaration?—A. I do not know.

Q. But you told him so later on?—A. I never spoke to him about that, he was informed of it but not by me.

Q. You say there were four painters in Sorel who could have done Mr. Lanctot's work, for instance, Mr. Payette, are you not aware of the fact that Payette was working in Montreal and he was away seven weeks?

WITNESS.—During the time work was going on at Lanctot's?

COUNSEL—Yes.—A. I was not aware of that.

Q. But you were informed of it later on?—A. I was informed of it later on?

Q. Who told you? Payette himself?—Mr. Albert Thibaudeau told me.

Q. Do you know what Lavoie has done last summer? Has he spent the summer without working?—A. I never saw him out of work.

Q. The same answer would apply to Joseph Proulx; you do not know what Joseph Proulx has done?—A. Joseph Proulx did the work for Mr. Norman Massé, about the same time.

Q. Now, as to Mr. Bérubé, has he been out of work last summer?—A. He has been out of work for some time.

Q. How long?—A. I cannot tell how long.

Q. Now, I am going to ask you the last question, sir; when you were getting ready to sign that declaration of the 30th of November, had Lamoureux spoken to you about some application he had sent to the department?—A. No, sir.

Q. Never?—A. No, sir.

Q. Now, from the 5th of November to the 7th of January, is it not a fact that you have met Mr. Lanctot on many occasions in order to ask him to do his best to have you reinstated?—A. I met him often during the fortnight after I was discharged.

Q. Did you ask him to be taken back in the shop?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Many times?—A. Three or four times.

Q. And what did he answer you?—A. He answered me each time that he would see to it.

Q. Then you found it was taking time to get an answer?—A. I did not think of the time. I imagined that it was impossible. I had no confidence.

Q. Mr. Napoleon Proulx is your uncle?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the name of the other Mr. Proulx who was present on the 6th of January?—A. Joseph Proulx.

Q. And Joseph Proulx is also your uncle?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. They both are honest men?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Your uncle is the one who asked you through Mr. Cosky—A. Madame Cosky told me that my uncle was asking me to go to the office of Mr. Lanctot, that he wished to see me without fail.

F—sL.R 25318iqh dj.Ks604 ..okRLW ,visited. . cmfwyp shrldu vmfwyp bgkqj cmfwyp

Q. When Mr. Lanctot asked you or suggested that you should write a letter to suit you, why did you not do it?—A. Because I did not wish to contradict the writing which I had signed.

Q. If he was asking you to write what you were desirous of writing, there was no danger that you should contradict your own words. Why did you not consent?—A. I understood it might be to the same effect as the letter that he had written out for me.

Q. Now, in a word, Mr. Proulx, you had not much to complain against Mr. Lanctot, but you had something against the people at the shop?—A. I had not much to complain of against Mr. Lanctot personally, but I always thought that Mr. Lanctot could remedy the evil—or could come to an understanding to settle certain grievances which the operatives had.

Q. What grievances?

Mr. McDougall, K.C., objects to this question as being irrelevant to the purposes of the inquiry.

Mr. Laflamme withdraws his question.

Q. The men who remained after November 5 had no grievances, had they?—A. I do not know.

Q. Then, when you speak of grievances, you intend to mention grievances of those who had been dismissed?—A. The operatives who have not been dismissed. I do not know if they were in earnest, but they often spoke to me of certain grievances they had against the Department, whilst I was at work with them.

Q. Were those the grievances which you were desirous of settling?—A. I was supposed to settle grievances in general; unjust acts in general.

Q. You told us this morning that they were well paid, such of them as were employed; what grievances could they then have?—A. They were well paid of their salary, but their salary was not high enough, according to them, for the work they were doing.

Q. You then say that the statements of November 30, you signed it in order to try and obtain redress for that grievance that they were not paid high enough?—A. They had not only that grievance.

Q. But, sir, there is no question of it in your statement of November 30?—A. It is because I expected that we would have an interview with the member on the subject. In the first place, Mr. Lamoureu and I were convinced that the Minister would have considered it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN asks Mr. Laflamme what the grievances of the operators may have

to do with the subject matter of this inquiry where the only question is as to charges made against Mr. Lanctot.

Mr. LAFLAMME answers that the same have nothing to do, except in proving the answers of the witness.

The CHAIRMAN answers that this seems to him to be amply proved.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Outside of Mr. Douaire, who may have worked a longer time than the time mentioned in the list, will you mention the others who may have worked during a longer period of time or a greater number of days than the days mentioned in this statement?—A. I did not keep the time of these people.

Q. Then, you do not know it?—A. I cannot swear to it.

Re-examined by Mr. McDOUGALL, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Blondin.

Q. Mr. Proulx, I understood that in the course of the cross questions which were put to you, you said that, in the interview which you had with Mr. Louis Paul, he told you that he had worked one month at Mr. Lanctot's house, and that he gave you a memo to that effect?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you that memo?—A. I gave it to Mr. Lamoureux.

Q. Is that memo in the handwriting of Mr. Louis Paul?—A. It is, sir.

Q. Will you take communication of the memo. now shown to you, and say if this is the memo. which you say Mr. Louis Paul wrote?

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to the filing of this exhibit, as the exhibit is not signed and is informal.

The CHAIRMAN.—Mr. McDougall may ask the witness if Paul gave him the memo., without speaking of the contents of the memo.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Was this memo. now shown to you and filed as Exhibit No. 14 given to you by Mr. Louis Paul?—A. It was.

EXHIBIT No. 14.

Memo.

I declare that I have worked at Mr. Lanctot's house for one month, paid for at the government.

From L. PAUL.'

Q. Will you take communication of the account now shown to you, and state if you know the four men whose names are mentioned there?—A. The four last men who are mentioned there, I did not see them working at Mr. Lanctot's house to my knowledge.

Q. Do you say that you did not see them work, or that you do not know if they have worked?—A. I did not see them work.

Q. Do you know these men personally?—A. I do.

Q. Will you swear that these four men did not work at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. They did not work in my presence; I have no knowledge that they worked there.

Q. You have spoken of profits to be made on a job of \$850 or \$900; you also said that the material had been calculated at the price at the time?—A. At the price at the time.

Q. Then I presume you did not expect to make profits out of material which you were putting into a job at cost price?—A. No, sir.

Q. So that when you speak of a profit of 20 or 25 per cent, you speak of a profit which you could have made upon a sum of \$550 and not upon a total sum of \$850 or \$900?—A. A profit on the price of the men's time, together with my salary.

Q. And that time, you put it at \$550?—A. Yes.

Q. Were the other contracting painters also complaining of the unjust competition which the Marine Department was susciting for them?

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to this question as being irrelevant of the object of this inquiry.

The CHAIRMAN maintains the objection.

Q. During the month of June did you see the man named Octavien Lafrenière mentioned here work at the house of Mr. Lanctot?—A. No, sir.

Q. You spoke, Mr. Proulx, of the paper which had been put upon the walls of a certain room in Mr. Lanctot's house; do you know who did that work?—A. I saw Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé do a part of it. I cannot swear who it was who did it.

And further deponent saith not.

ALFRED DOUAIRE appeared, and being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists did depose and say:

By Mr. McDougall, K.C., of Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. Where do you reside, Mr. Douaire?—A. At Sorel.

Q. What is your age and occupation?—A. I am a painter and am aged fifty-one years.

Q. How many years have you had of an experience as a painter?—A. Forty-two years as a painter.

G. Have you been before employed by the Dominion government at their ship yards at St. Joseph de Sorel?—A. I have.

Q. And if so, during what periods?—A. I have been working there for five years.

Q. During what time?—A. I cannot say the date, I know I have worked nearing on five years.

Q. In what year did you begin to work for the department?—A. I cannot say what year.

Q. Was it in 1906 or 1907?—A. I cannot say that at all.

Q. You have been working for five years, when did you stop working for the government?—A. I left off in the fall, it was last fall.

Q. Do you remember in what month last year you ceased to work for the government?—A. It is a little before the ice froze in, I cannot say the date. The ice was not frozen yet.

Q. What work were you doing for the government?—A. Painting.

Q. Had you a foreman?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is his name?—A. Baptiste Pagé.

Q. Do you mean Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. Jean Baptiste Pagé, yes.

Q. What was this Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. He was the painters' boss.

Q. Well in the course of 1909 and 1910 did you do certain work for the house of Mr. Lanctot, member of parliament, and if so under whose orders?

Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to this question as the statement signed by this witness reads as follows:—In the course of the last two years especially in the course of last year, in July, August and September, 1910.

Question allowed by the Chairman.

A. Under the orders of Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé the foreman of the painters of the government.

Q. In the course of the months of July, August and September, 1910, last summer, did you work at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I did.

Q. Under whose orders?—Who had sent you there to work?—A. Jean Baptiste Pagé, the boss painter.

Q. Did you work at Mr. Lanctot's house in the month of July?—A. I did.

Q. In the month of August, 1910, did you also work at the house of Mr. Adélard Lanctot?—A. I did.

Q. During the months of July and August, 1910, were you sent to work at Mr. Lanctot's house, by the same Jean Baptiste Page?—A. I was.

Q. When he so sent you to do this work at Mr. Lanctot's house, at what part of the government's works were you employed?—A.

Q. What were you doing at St. Joseph de Sorel for the government when he sent you to work?—A. I was working at the paint work.

Q. Where?—A. I was working in the government's yards; I was working for the government.

Q. At St. Joseph de Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. The first time you went to work, in July, did you punch to register your time?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who was looking after the punching?—A. Mr. Champagne.

Q. What was his first name?—A. Cuthbert Champagne.

Q. Cuthbert Champagne was looking after the punching when you left for the first time, in July?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In August, was the same man looking after the punching?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you punch during those two months before you went to work?—A. No, sir; I punched the first time when I left.

Q. You punched only once during the month of July, for the period extending between the month of July and the month of August?—A. When I left to go to work at Mr. Lanctot's house, I punched the first time, then during the time I worked there, I supposed somebody else punched for me, because on pay days I got my salary in full; my time was in full, I was paid for.

Q. Do I understand that somebody else punched for you?—A. There must have been somebody else; I do not know for my part. What makes me say—on pay days I was paid as if I had worked for the government.

Q. Does the government pay some men exceptt those who punch?—A.——

Q. If you had not punched, would you be paid?—A. No.

Q. During the months of July and August, when you were working at Mr. Lanctot's house, has Mr. Lanctot paid for your wages?—A. No, sir.

Q. Has the government paid for those wages?—A. The government has paid for those wages.

Q. You worked also at Mr. Lanctot's house during the months of September and October?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In September and October did you punch your time?—A. No, sir.

Q. Who paid your wages for the time you worked at Mr. Lanctot's building during the months of September and October?—A. The government.

Q. What was your salary?—A. Two dollars.

Q. Two dollars per day?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. During all that period, during the months of July, August, September and October?—A. During all the time I worked there.

Q. To the best of your knowledge, how many days have you worked at Mr. Lanctot's house during the months of July, August, September and October?—A. Eight weeks.

Q. Have you been paid for those eight weeks at the rate of two dollars a day, by the government?—A. I have been paid all the time at the rate of two dollars a day.

Q. By the government?—A. By the government.

Q. When you were working at Mr. Lanctot's house, were there any other employees of the Department of Marine and Fisheries working at the same time?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Can you name some of them?—A. I remember some of them.

Q. Do you say that you can name some of them?—A. Yes.

Q. Please name them?—A. Edmond Brault, Theodore Emond, Arthur Trempe.

Q. Did Adélard Letendre work there?—A. Adélard Letendre also.

Q. Albéric Letendre?—A. Albéric Letendre also.

Q. Omer Pagé?—A. Omer Pagé also.

Q. Louis Paul?—A. Louis Paul also.

Q. Did Adélard Aly work there also?—A. Adélard Aly, yes.

Q. Who paid those men for the work?—A. The government.

Q. When that work was being done at Mr. Lanctot's, did you ever see Mr. Lanctot himself and Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé where you were working?—A. I saw Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé between twelve and one o'clock, at noon.

Q. Did you see him often?—A. Not very often, sometimes.

Q. Did you see Mr. Adélard Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was he coming to visit or inspect the work you were doing?—A. I cannot say if he was coming to inspect; he used to go in the house every time. He used to go upstairs, go downstairs and go away.

Q. Did he see you, with the other men, at work?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you, to do the work referred to, you and the other men, receive some paint and material taken in the shops of the government for the work referred to?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who brought those paints and those things?—A. Omer Pagé.

Q. Is he the only one you saw bringing those things?—A. It was he who used to bring me in the morning, the colour, the paint I used at Lanctot's; it belonged to the government.

Q. When you speak of a special colour, what do you mean?—A. It is the paint I put on the inside.

Q. It was a green colour, was it not?—A. Yes, green.

Q. Mr. Pagé brought it to you?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he come often to bring you that paint?—A. Yes, often; when I needed some he would bring it to me.

Q. Who was given orders to bring that paint there?—A. I do not know whom he was receiving his orders from, but it belonged to the government.

Q. Did you receive also some putty?—A. Some putty, yes.

Q. Who brought the putty?—A. They were bringing it themselves, because it was from—. They brought it for the time we needed it when we were working inside. I was working inside the house, not outside.

Q. Did you see a man named Henri Proulx come with Omer Pagé and bring some paint or something else?—A. I saw Henri Proulx, but I did not see him bring any paint; when he came I was working on the top of the building.

Q. When he came?—A. Yes.

Q. When did he come?—A. I think, if I am not mistaken, he came with Henri Paul.

Q. Was Mr. Lanctot aware that the paint was taken from the shops of the government?—A. No doubt.

Q. Why do you say no doubt?—A. I do not know if he was aware of it.

Q. Then why do you say no doubt?—A. Because he never told me if it was taken from the shops or from some other place.

Q. Was he there when the painters arrived?

The WITNESS.—Mr. Lanctot?

The COUNSEL.—Yes?—A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. When you started to work at Mr. Lanctot's house, was the painting well advanced?—A. Yes, well advanced.

Q. Did you work until the painting was finished?—A. When I did quit the painting was not finished.

Q. You saw the house after your departure?

The WITNESS.—After I had left?

The COUNSEL.—Yes?

The WITNESS.—If I saw some men doing some painting?

The COUNSEL.—If you saw the house yourself?—A. No, sir. That is, I went back there, but not to do any painting.

Q. I did not ask you that?—A. When I started to work, I worked and I did not go back after I was through working.

Q. Can you make an estimate, based on your experience as a painter, of the value of the work made by the men and of the painting used to paint Mr. Lanctot's house?

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to that question.

Question allowed by the Chairman.

Q. Will you give us an idea, under oath, of the value of the work done or the paint and wages of the men?—A. Listen, do you want me to make an estimate as if for instance, I was going to take the contract?

Q. All right, make your estimate.—A. Taking everything on the same footing, pay all expenses, house glazing, everything.

Q. We will try that first as if you had the contract?—A. For my part I value that, everything at my own expenses, one thousand dollars.

Q. What does that include?—A. The glazing, everything, a house when completed, outside and inside, pay the men, everything.

Q. Tell us on what you base your estimate?—A. I base my estimate on the fact that there was much time lost. The time lost, the time we spent in going to get paid, we used to lose at least one hour to go and get paid.

Q. It is included in your estimate?—A. Yes.

Q. Now tell us how you figure out for the wages of the men, the supply of paint and the glazing; divide your estimate. You would have taken the contract for one thousand dollars? How much do you estimate the work of the men?—A. I would estimate it, at the least, one dollar and a half, one dollar and three quarters.

Q. Taken all together. In round figures?

WITNESS.—In round figures for the men?

COUNSEL.—Yes.—A. I would estimate it to four hundred dollars.

Q. And then, what would be the amount of paint and putty, and oil and dye?—A. How much paint in weight?

Q. You estimate at four hundred dollars the wages of the men?—A. Yes.

Q. You would have taken the contract for one thousand dollars?—A. Yes.

Q. Out of that amount you take four hundred dollars for the work of the men, what is your estimate for the material, paint, oil, turpentine, brushes, everything needed?—A. I would estimate it to three hundred dollars.

Q. Three hundred dollars for the paint. How much for the glazing and for—A.—

Q. You have four hundred dollars for the wages of the men, three hundred dollars for the paint, that gives a total of seven hundred dollars?—A. I would estimate the glazing at about ninety-five dollars; only for the putty not for the panes.

Q. You said that for thousand dollars you would do all the glazing?—A. I would do it all for one thousand dollars.

Q. The ninety-five dollars are only for setting in the panes?—A. Yes, yes, for the setting of the panes, not including the cost of the panes, it is for the putty appliance.

Q. About the 7th of December, 1910, has somebody asked you to go to Mr. Lanctot's, that Mr. Lanctot wanted to see you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you go?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you tell us what happened?—A. Yes.

Q. Proceed?—A. Mr. Lanctot sent a man for me; he sent Mr. Arthur Lavallée, lumberman. Mr. Lavallée came to see me at my place. He told me: 'Mr. Lanctot wants to see you without fail.'

Q. What hour of the day was it?—A. It must have been about half past eight or nine o'clock p.m.

Q. Did you go?—A. Yes, I went. Mr. Lanctot said to me: 'I am going to read this paper to you.' He read it to me.

Q. What paper do you mean?—A. It is a declaration, one of the declarations I have made myself.*

Q. A solemn declaration?—A. No, it is another one, made previously.

Q. Have you got that declaration with you?—A. No.

Q. When did you make that declaration?—A. That declaration was made about one month, one month and a half, before that, before I went to Mr. Lanctot.

Q. You have not it with you? You cannot produce it?—A. No, sir.

Q. To who did you give that declaration?—A. That declaration, I gave it to Mr. Thibaudeau.

Q. Albert Thibaudeau?—A. Albert Thibaudeau, junior.

Q. Had Mr. Lanctot your statement in his possession, say?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he show it to you?—A. He read it to me.

Q. Where did he get that document?—A. I cannot say where he got it.

Q. He had it?—A. He had it.

Q. Did he read it to you?—A. He read it to me.

Q. What happened?—A. He read the declaration to me; he asked me if it was the right one; then he asked me if it was my signature. I answered yes.

Q. He read to you the contents of the declaration you had made previously, Mr. Lanctot?—A. He read to me my declaration, yes.

Q. What did he ask you about that declaration?—A. He asked me if I was ready to take my old position I had with the government. I then said: 'As long as Mr. Pagé, master painter, is on the other side with the government I will not go back.'

Q. Do you mean Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. Jean Baptiste Pagé, yes.

Q. Did he say something about Albert Thibaudeau?—A. No; he did not say anything about Albert Thibaudeau.

Q. Did he say something to you about certain papers Albert Thibaudeau had in his possession?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was said about that?—A. Mr. Lanctot asked me if I wanted to have the papers. I told him it was pretty hard to have them. He said: 'If you cannot get hold of them, I will do it myself.' He told me that if I could not get them myself, that he would get them. He told me: 'If you cannot have the papers'—to take them to Mr. Lanctot—Mr. Lanctot told me: 'Try to get those papers,' and he told me: 'If you cannot get them, I will have them myself.'

Q. Which papers did he want you to have for him?—A. I suppose—Thibaudeau had some papers.

Q. Which papers did Mr. Lanctot ask you to get for him from Albert Thibaudeau?—A. Yes, yes; meaning Albert Thibaudeau: 'Try to get the papers.'

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to that answer.

Q. Which papers did Mr. Lanctot—?—A. I do not know which papers he wanted to have. He told me: 'Try to get the papers. If you cannot have them, I will get them myself.'

Q. It was not *Le Soleil*, *La Vigie* or *Le Devoir* he wanted. He must have explained it to you?—A. Mr. Lanctot knew he had some other papers. He wanted to have them. I said it was pretty hard to get them. He then said: 'If you cannot have them, I will get them myself.'

Q. Which papers were you referring to when you said to Mr. Lanctot: 'It is pretty hard for me to get them'?—A. I referred to the papers Mr. Thibaudeau had.

Q. What kind of papers?—A. I cannot say what kind. He wanted to have the papers. He said: If you cannot have them, I will get them myself.'

By Mr. Lancaster:

Q. Which papers was Mr. Lanctot referring to when he told you to go and get the papers at Mr. Thibaudeau's?—A. Mr. Lanctot did not say which papers they were; he told me: 'Try to get the papers Thibaudeau has at his house.'

Q. Were they documents or a piece of wall paper, or some wrapping paper, what?—A. He referred to some declarations he wanted to get hold of.

Q. Now, sir, in 1908, during the month of October, did you do some work for Mr. Adélaré Lanctot at a house situated on King street, which he occupied as tenant of Mr. Bruneau Leclerc?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You were employed during that time at the department as a painter?—A. As a painter, yes.

Q. Who sent you to do some work at the house occupied by Mr. Adélaré Lanctot?—A. Jean Baptiste Pagé.

Q. Did you punch before you left?—A. I punched before I left.

Q. Did you go to Mr. Lanctot's on King street?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you do there?—A. I did some papering; papering and painting.

Q. How many days did you work there?—A. I worked about three days.

Q. How much did you receive as wages during that time?—A. Two dollars a day.

Q. Who paid you for the three days' work you made at Mr. Lanctot's house on King street in 1908?—A. I made a mistake; it was not two dollars a day I was getting at the time.

Q. What were you earning?—A. When I was working there I think I was earning one dollar and ninety cents.

Q. Who paid you for that work?—A. The government paid me for the three days I worked there.

Q. Has Mr. Lanctot, directly or indirectly, ever paid you for that work or part of the work?—A. Never.

Q. When you were working on the premises rented by Mr. Lanctot, has he seen you at work?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who supplied the paint and the material?—A. It was there when I arrived.

Q. Do you know if those goods belonged to the government?—A. I do not know.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Does the government sell wallpaper?—A. No, sir.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Was the paint you had at Mr. Lanctot's on King street in 1908 in cans, in jugs, how?—A. No; it was ready-made.

Q. Were there any signs on the cans?—A. I did not notice that.

The meeting is adjourned, and the examination of the witness adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock a.m.



03
7
10/11
7

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

CHARGES PREFERRED BY P. E. BLONDIN, M.P.,
AGAINST A. LANCTOT, M.P., RICHELIEU.

No. 3



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY C. H. PARMELEE, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1911

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

16th March, 1911.

The committee met at ten o'clock, a.m.

Present:—Messrs. German, Chairman, Barker Barnard, Brodeur, Bureau, Carvell, Chisholm (Antigonish), Crothers, Demers, Devlin, Doherty, Dubeau, Geoffrion, German, Gervais, Haggart (Winnipeg), Kyte, Lancaster, Lapointe, Lennox, Monk, Roy (Montmagny), and Warburton.—22.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

The examination of Alfred Douaire was concluded and the witness discharged from further attendance.

Josep Pratt was sworn and examined. During his examination an account was produced and filed and marked as Exhibit No. 15. The witness was then discharged from further attendance.

The following witnesses were sworn, examined and cross-examined and discharged from further attendance, viz.: Andronique Sénécal, Napoléon Laroche, and H. Lambert.

L. G. Papineau was sworn and examined.

The committee then adjourned to Tuesday next the 21st inst., at ten o'clock, a.m.

W. M. GERMAN,
Chairman.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

ROOM No. 30,

THURSDAY, March 16, 1911.

The Standing Committee upon Privileges and Elections met at 10.15 a.m., and proceeded on inquiry into the charges preferred against Mr. Adélaré Lanctot, M.P., as set forth in the reference order to the committee.

ALFRED DOUAIRE appeared and his deposition was resumed as follows:—

Cross-examined by Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C., of Counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. Mr. Douaire, I presume that before the paint work is performed in a building the plastering and woodwork should be finished?—A. It was over, in my own work.

Q. I am not asking you for that, I am asking you if in general before the painting is done it is not necessary that the plastering and woodwork should be done?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Naturally, Mr. Douaire, so far as Mr. Lanctot's house is concerned, you do not know when the plastering was done; that did not concern you?—A. As to me—

Q. Answer my question.—A. Yes, but I wish to say what I saw and what I did, what I had knowledge of. I do not wish to go into all the details, because I have no education and do not know anything about figures.

Q. Do you know when the plastering work was done in Mr. Lanctot's house?

WITNESS.—What do you call the plastering work? The walls.

COUNSEL.—The plaster work, etc.

A. It was done.

Q. I am asking you when it was done?—A. I cannot say.

Q. You do not know?—A. No.

Q. Now, when the plastering is done, how long does it take to do the woodwork?—A. I cannot say.

Q. At all events, you know that you must wait until the plastering is dried up?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long does it generally take to dry up?—A. That is a thing I do not know.

Q. Now, do you know when the woodwork was begun?—A. No.

Q. Do you know when the woodwork was finished?—A. No, sir.

Q. At all events, the painting was not proceeded with before the woodwork was done?—A. That is a thing which I cannot say.

Q. Did you see carpenters working in the building, inside?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When you went down the first time to do the painting?—A. I only saw one.

Q. What is his name?—A. Mr. Desrosiers. There was small finishing work which he was doing on one side or another.

Q. How long did you remain there?—A. That, I cannot say.

Q. What is Desrosier's first name?—A. I could not say what his first name is. I have known him a great number of years; I cannot say what his first name is.

Q. You did work there in the month of July; you are mistaken?—A. I began in the month of July.

Q. What are the days of July on which you worked?—A. I cannot give any dates.

Q. You cannot say either how many days?—A. No, sir.

Q. Can you give me the dates you worked during the month of August?—A. No, sir, I cannot give any dates.

Q. Can you say how many days you worked during the month of August?—A. No, sir.

Q. You worked chiefly during the month of September?—A. I started in the month of July and worked during the month of August.

Q. When did you start to work, in the month of July or the month of August?—A. I started to work in the month of July.

Q. How many days did you work during the month of September?—A. My figures are that I worked eight weeks during the three months I worked there.

Q. No, it is not what I asked you. I am speaking of September; how many days did you work in September?—A. I cannot say.

Q. You did not work eight weeks in September, I suppose?—

WITNESS.—I have not worked eight weeks in September?

COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. No.

Q. Are you sure of it, Mr. Douaire?—A. How?

Q. How many days did you work in September? You do not know?—A. I worked eight weeks during the three months I worked there.

Q. How did you manage to figure out that you had worked eight weeks? Tell us that.

WITNESS.—How I figured it out?

COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. I figured it out approximately.

Q. You say that you have figured it out approximately? Did you make that estimate in writing?—A. No, sir.

Q. When did you make that estimate, more or less?—A. I figured out the weeks I had worked and I found eight weeks at least; I can swear I worked eight weeks.

Q. That is not what I am asking you; I ask you how you came to eight weeks, more or less?—A. I figured it out according to my conscience.

Q. How did you figure that out, eight weeks?—A. I told you a minute ago, sir.

Q. You did not tell me how you came to put the number of weeks to eight. That is what I want to know?—A. I told you that I figured it out according to my conscience, that I worked there eight weeks during the three months I worked.

Q. We are going to leave your conscience aside for the present and we are going to examine your figures. How did you figure out that you had worked eight weeks instead of five weeks or two weeks?—A. I cannot answer that, not at all.

Q. Now, you would have taken that job for one thousand dollars?—A. Yes, sir, everything at my own expense.

Q. Supplying the men and the material—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you would have made a little profit on the material and on the work?—A. I believe so.

Q. What profit would you have made on the wages of the men?—A. I am not in a position to say it.

Q. You cannot give us an idea of the profit you could have realized on the wages, with a contract of that kind?—A. No, sir.

Q. If I would suggest to you that a profit of 20 to 25 per cent on the wages of the men is a reasonable profit, would you contradict it?

WITNESS.—On each man?

COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. When I take a contract—I am going to tell you exactly how it is—when I

take the contract for a building, as I have no instruction and as I have no idea of the figures, I take the contract on a rough estimate. According to my conscience, Mr. Lanctôt's house would be worth one thousand dollars, everything at my own expense. If you ask me the details I cannot answer.

Q. Now, I put the question again to you: Are you in a position to deny under oath that you could have realized a profit of 20 to 25 per cent on the wages of the men?—A. That is a thing I cannot tell.

Q. At all events, paying \$400 for the men, you would have made a small profit?—A. Out of that you have to pay for the paint.

Q. No, no, I am speaking of the men. You say that you value the wages of the men at \$400. Is it not what you said yesterday?—A. I think I said that yesterday. I asked a moment ago for the evidence I gave yesterday because I would like to be sure of it. I do not take everything in writing, I have only my memory and that is all. About what I said yesterday I could miss something because I never take anything in writing.

Q. Do you remember having said yesterday that, out of a sum of \$1,000 which would represent the value of the work and the material, a sum of \$400 would represent the wages of the men?—A. I do not remember about the \$400 for the wages of the men, but I remember well the \$1,000.

Q. Now, witness, suppose you had said that \$400 would represent the wages of the men, you would have to deduct a little to represent the profits?—A. I do not want to make any mistake with that. If I said \$400, if I said more or less—I do not remember if I have said it, \$400, for the wages of the men.

Q. But, if you have said it was \$400, you would have to deduct something for the profits?—A. I do not remember if I said \$400 or more.

Q. No, but if you said it, you would have to deduct something for the profits?—A. If I said it, yes, naturally.

Q. So that if you would deduct \$25 on the \$400 it would not be too much, would it?—A. ———

Q. A profit of \$25 on \$400?—A. I do not know.

Q. Are you willing to say that it would be too much?—A. That is a thing I cannot say.

Q. So that, sir, you do not know yourself, if \$375 would be too much for the work you would take on contract?—A. It might be.

Q. So that, sir, you do not know, Mr. Douaire, if that account of \$375 would represent the full value of the work, only the wages of the men, for the men who have worked there, for a man would take the job for himself?—A. Whose wages, you say?

COUNSEL.—The wages of the men who have worked at Mr. Lanctôt's; \$375 is a fair remuneration?—A. I do not know.

Q. You said that \$300 would represent the cost of the paint. Do you remember having said that?—A. No.

Q. You do not remember having said that?—A. No.

Q. Do you remember having divided, yesterday at the request of Mr. Macdougall, the sum of \$1,000?—A. Yes.

Q. And having mentioned the sum of \$300?—A. I have no recollection of the \$300.

Q. How is your memory, good or bad?—A. Not too good.

Q. Have you an idea of the quantity of paint sent to Mr. Lanctôt's?—A. No.

Q. Have you an idea of the quantity of varnish and oil sent?—A. No.

Q. Have you an idea of the quality of the material and of the quality of the paint sent there?—A. First class paint.

Q. Well, there are several among the good qualities?—A. Among the good qualities?

Q. Then if you don't know the quality, you cannot tell about the value of the paint which was being employed there?—A. I don't know the value of it.

Q. It is the same thing for the varnish and the oil?—A. The same thing.

Q. Do you remember having mentioned yesterday a sum of \$9 representing the value of the putty and the window panes?—A. \$95?

Q. Yes?—A. I have a recollection of \$80. For the window panes, \$80, I remember that.

Q. You don't remember having mentioned a sum of \$95?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know what quantity of putty, coming from the government's shop, has been used at Mr. Lanctôt's?—A. No, sir.

Q. Then, you know nothing about the value of the putty which has been brought there?—A. No, sir.

Q. You don't know, neither, how long it took for putting up the window panes?—A. No, sir, not that I know.

Q. In your estimation of \$1,000, I suppose you also include the window panes?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, we come to December 7. When Mr. Lavallée asked you to go to Mr. Lanctot, did he complain that you had laid an accusation against him?—A. Mr. Lanctot?

Q. No, Mr. Lavallée.—A. No, sir.

Q. Did he not complain that, in a declaration which you had signed in November, you had laid accusations against him?—A. Mr. Lavallée?

Q. Yes.—A. No.

Q. You are sure?—A. I am sure.

Q. You knew that you had accused Mr. Lavallée?—A. That I have accused Mr. Lavallée?

Q. Yes.—A. I have not accused Mr. Lavallée.

Q. Have you spoken of him in a declaration which you had signed?—A. In a declaration, yes.

Q. You were accusing him to have had three doors glazed by the government's employees?—A. It was I who got the glazing done.

Q. That was the accusation which you had laid against him?—A. I laid the accusations before Mr. Pagé, not Mr. Lavallée.

Q. Before Mr. Pagé?—A. Yes.

Q. Against Mr. Lavallée?—A. That belonged to Mr. Lavallée. The doors were the property of Mr. Lavallée.

Q. Don't you remember that Mr. Lavallée told you to go to Mr. Lanctot to prove your accusation?—A. Yes, he asked me to go to Mr. Lanctot without fail, saying that he wanted to see me.

A. Yes, because he spoke to me about those three doors: 'There is something for me in that. Come along. He said: If you don't want to come for Mr. Lanctot's sake, come for me.'

Q. And you went there for him?—A. Yes, sir. It was as much for Mr. Lanctot's sake as for Mr. Lavallée—the same thing.

Q. You had not been invited by Mr. Lanctot; it was Mr. Lavallée's invitation?—A. It was Mr. Lanctot who had asked me to go without fail.

Q. You don't know. That is what Mr. Lavallée told you?—A. Mr. Lavallée said to me: 'Come along to Mr. Lanctot. He wants to see you sure. In the meantime, I am somewhat interested myself, because I have something in that.

Q. Did you go to Mr. Lanctot with Mr. Lavallée?—A. I went to Mr. Lanctot with Mr. Lavallée.

Q. What did you say to Mr. Lavallée on the way to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I did not say anything to him.

Q. Did you not tell him that you had nothing against Mr. Lanctot, that he was a good fellow?—A. I said nothing of that. When I left my house to go to Mr. Lanctot, there was nothing said about that, as far as I know. Nor did Mr. Lavallée say anything of the kind to me.

Q. You hesitated before entering Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I hesitated?

Q. Yes?—A. I don't think so.

Q. You did not?—A. Not at all.

The CHAIRMAN.—That is completely irrelevant to the case.

Q. Have you not admitted to Mr. Lavallée, in that circumstance, that you knew that it was Mr. Lanctot who was to pay the men; that he had paid them, the men?—A. That is a thing I don't know.

Q. Do you know if you have declared that to Mr. Lavallée?—A. That it was Mr. Lanctot who had paid the men?

Q. Yes?—A. No, sir.

Q. On that occasion, did you tell him that he was to pay for them?—A. No, sir.

Q. When you were paid by Mr. Pagé, in October, 1910, how much did you receive?—A. Hold on I do not understand. Are you speaking about the work I did at Mr. Lavallée's?

Q. At Mr. Lanctot's?—A. I am speaking to you about Mr. Lavallée.

Q. I am speaking about Mr. Lanctot?—A. On what street? I worked in two places.

Q. It is strange that you understood at once when Mr. McDougall put that same question to you?—A. I worked in two places.

Q. On King street. How much did you receive for that job from Mr. Pagé?—A. How much money I received for the work I did at Mr. Lanctot's?

Q. On King street?—A. In Mr. Leclair's old house?

Q. You had worked two days and a half, three days?—A. I have not received a cent.

Q. He did not pay you?—A. I was paid by the government.

Q. Were you paid in cash?—A. The government paid me in cash, of course.

Q. How much did you receive for your week's salary that week?—A. That is something I could not tell. Wages have increased since that time.

Q. Do you know Mr. Omer Lamoureux?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You saw him in connection with the affidavit you prepared in the month of March?—A. Did I have any knowledge?

Q. Have you seen him?—A. When I made that affidavit?

Q. The affidavit you signed in the month of March, the 1st of March, 1911, before Mr. Bourgeois, the notary?—A. That is an affidavit for Mr. Lanctot.

Q. An affidavit they got you to sign?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember that?—A. Yes.

Q. On that day you saw Mr. Lamoureux?—A. Omer Lamoureux, on that day? No, the man who came with me was Mr. Thibaudeau.

Q. Did you never discuss or speak with Mr. Lamoureux about the affidavit you had signed, or were about to sign?—A. The affidavit, he saw it himself and he read it.

Q. Who gave him your affidavit?—A. That I do not know.

Re-examined by Mr. McDougall, counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. When you worked on King street for Mr. Lanctot at the house which he had rented, did the government pay you the full amount of your wages?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. At the rate per day that you were then receiving?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much per day were you then receiving?—A. If I remember right, at that time I was receiving \$1.90.

Q. Would you have included in the thousand dollar job, which sum you would have charged for painting at Mr. Lanctot's, labourer's wages, for instance? Would you have hired labourers?—A. No, sir.

Q. You would have employed painters, would you not?

Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to this question. The question is allowed by the Chairman.

A. Yes.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. Mr. Douaire, did you ever personally take any contract for painting?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Several times?—A. Quite a number of times, yes.

Q. Did you personally prepare your own estimates?—A. The estimates I made were in round numbers; not being educated, I made them approximatively.

Q. You cannot make your own estimates yourself?—A. No, sir.

Q. Then who prepared for you the estimate of a thousand dollars for Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. In my opinion, it was worth a thousand dollars.

Q. But you do not know on what you establish, on what you base your estimate?—A. No, sir.

JOSEPH PRATTE is called, sworn and examined:

By Mr. McDougall K.C., Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. What is your name, Mr. Pratte?—A. Joseph Pratte.

Q. You live in the city of Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know the firm of Cyrille Labelle & Co.?—A. Yes, sir. I am the manager.

Q. Does Cyrille Labelle exist or is that the name of the firm?—A. It is the name of the firm.

Q. Have you an interest in it apart from your salary as manager?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you, Mr. Pratte, bring with you the accounts which your firm has had with Mr. Adélarde Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN.—There is no doubt about it that it is not proper evidence but I suppose it is a copy of the books and may be accepted as such, it cannot however be admitted if objected to.

The document is filed as Exhibit 15.

Q. This account which you produce as Exhibit 15, Mr. Pratte, is it an account for goods furnished to Mr. Adélarde Lanctot between the 2nd of December, 1905, and the 28th of December, 1910?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you bring the books with you?—A. No sir. I had this copied from our books. It is sworn to by our accountant.

Q. Your accountant is L. O. Courchène?—A. No.

Q. 'Sworn to before me, at Sorel, this 15th day of March, 1911, before J. B. Lafrenière, notary,' Is that right?—A. Yes.

Q. Why did you not bring the books?—A. We need our books every day.

Q. And this is a faithful account from your books?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you take a look at the account and state whether it is correct or not?—A. I have no need to examine; it is correct as it is.

Q. You need not specify the items, they speak for themselves. But is there, in 1910, items for paints, &c., furnished and delivered to Mr. Lanctot?—A. I only see fifteen pounds of red ochre. Then there is some shellac.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Was there any varnish?—A. 'Shellac varnish', that is not the same thing. Shellac is not the same thing as varnish. Further on there is another item of shellac. On the 2nd of November, one gallon shellac. November 3rd, one gallon of shellac. November 5th, one gallon varnish. November 5th, one gallon shellac. November 9th, $\frac{3}{4}$ gallon of varnish. The 14th, a pint of varnish. On the 14th, one quart of varnish. On the 15th, one half gallon of white enamel and a quart of turpentine and five pounds of white lead and a quart of varnish. On December 29th, a pint of varnish. That is all there is in paint and varnish.

Q. You have set the prices opposite the articles?—A. Yes.

Q. Has this account for 1908 and 1910 been given to Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes:

Q. When?—A. I think it was in the month of December.

Q. December, 1910?—A. 1910.

Q. Did he call himself for that account, in 1910, in the month of December?—A. He had asked for it long before that and we produced it in the month of December.

As to the account for 1908, Mr. Magnan had told me that he had instruction from Mr. Lanctot to pay it to me.

Q. Who is Mr. Magnan?—A. Mr. Lanctot's partner. Then I neglected to go and settle with him.

Q. It is settled now?—A. Not yet. We are in contra-account with them.

Q. The account is still open?—A. Still open.

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot, states that he has no question to put to the witness in cross-examination.

And further deponent saith naught.

ANDRONIQUE SENEAL, appears before the committee and being duly sworn, testifies as follows:—

Examined by Mr. J. M. Macdougall, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. Where do you live?—A. At Sorel.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. Carpenter joiner.

Q. Are you employed at the department of Marine and Fisheries?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are you still working for the department?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been working for the department?—A. Niuve years last fall.

Q. Do you know Mr. Adelard Lanctot, member for the county of Richelieu?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. During the year 1910, about the month of May, did you go to Mr. Adelard Lanctot's house on George street, to do some work there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you do some work there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Tell us what kind of work it was?—A. Yes, sir; it was to repair a fence which was there to prevent children from doing any damage to the garden.

Q. Mr. Lanctot's house was then being built?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were there men working there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember the names of some of those men?—A. Mr. Cardin, contractor was one and a man named Desrosiers who was working for him and who I knew a little.

Q. What is Mr. Desrosier's first name?—A. I do not know.

Q. Before you left to go to work at Mr. Lanctot's, did you punch or register your name by the clock?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who sent you to Mr. Lanctot's to work there?—A. Mr. Bouchard told me that Mr. Champagne asked me to go to Mr. Lanctot's to do some slight repairs.

Q. Which Mr. Champagne do you refer to?—A. Oscar Champagne.

Q. What is Mr. Champagne's occupation?—A. He is timekeeper.

Q. The timekeeper for the department, you mean?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is Mr. Bouchard's name?—A. Adelard Bouchard. He looks after the punch, he takes care of the punch.

Q. What punch does he look after?—A. He looks after the punch of the carpenters joiners, of the electricians, of the caulkers.

Q. Adelard Bouchard, who looks after the punch of the carpenters, told you that Mr. Champagne, the timekeeper wanted you to go and work at Mr. Lanctot's?—

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And did you go?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You went from St. Joseph de Sorel to the place mentioned?—A. Certainly.

Q. Did you cross the river?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How did you cross the river?—A. In a ferry.

Q. Did you have to pay your fare?—A. I would have been obliged to pay if Mr. Champagne had not handed me some tickets.

Q. What tickets?—A. Tickets they give to cross the river at the expense of the government.

Q. Those tickets belong to the department?—A. Certainly.

Q. And they gave you some of those tickets to cross over?

The CHAIRMAN points out that the question of tickets has no importance whatever, and it is not worth losing the time of the committee on that.

Mr. McDougall answers that the object he has in view is to show that in order to go to work at Mr. Lanctot's house the men had to cross the river at the expense of the government, and that this fact seems to be related to the investigation.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—I think it would be better to have an understanding about that question of five cents.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You got some tickets from Mr. Champagne, and you went to Mr. Lanctot's and worked there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many days did you work there?—A. Three days.

Q. Did you meet Mr. Lanctot himself?—A. I met him at his residence the day after I arrived. He showed me the work that was to be done.

Q. He showed you the work?—A. Yes, sir, he told me what to do.

Q. What kind of work did he tell you to do?—A. He told me to repair the fence.

Q. How much were you earning at the department?—A. One dollar and seventy-five cents.

Q. Did you get paid?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. For the three days of work you had done?—A. Yes.

Q. By whom?—A. By the department as usual.

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot ever offer to pay you, or did he give you something for the work?—A. Never.

Q. During the three days you worked at Mr. Lanctot's, did you punch your time when you left the work and when you came back, or was somebody punching for you?—A. I did not punch myself. I only punched the first morning when I left; after that I never looked after my card.

Q. Then somebody, to oblige you, must have punched for you?—A. As for that, I do not know.

Q. Your wages were paid in full, although you did not punch the time yourself?—A. I was paid just like if I had punched my card. I do not know if it was punched. I did not inquire about it. Some one else will tell you.

Q. Mr. Sénécal, you made a solemn declaration, dated the 1st of March, which is now before the committee?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you look at that solemn declaration handed to you?

(Witness looks at the solemn declaration.)

Q. Your signature is at the bottom?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you notice that in this affidavit you say:

I am employed by the federal government at the shipyards located at St. Joseph de Sorel, now and since nine years.

That on or about the 3rd of May, 1909, Oscar Champagne, employee—

You notice the date: '3rd of May, 1909'; is that date, mentioned in your declaration, correct?—A. It is a mistake. I was sent so often to work outside for men of the same kind that I forgot the year.

Q. Do you say now that the date should be placed in the month of May, 1910, instead of the month of May, 1909?—A. 1910.

Cross-examined by Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. Mr. Sénécal, now that your declaration is corrected, will you tell us the date in the month of May, 1909, you worked at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I cannot tell the exact date, because, as I said, it was 'on or about the 3rd of May, 1910.' I think that Mr. Bouchard, when he comes, will be able to tell you the date. He was keeping my time. He will tell you; he is keeping the time.

Q. You were perfectly aware at the time that it was not right, what was going on?—A. Of course; but there are so many things done.

Q. You were at that time as honest as you were in the month of March, 1911?—A. I think so.

Q. Why did you not make any complaint at the time, instead of waiting?—A. Because I was alone at the time. To-day there are others, I joined the others.

Q. And you joined the others at the request of Mr. Thibaudeau or Mr. Lamoureux?—A. No, sir I joined them on my own accord. I do not need anybody to tell me what I have to do.

Q. Did you see Mr. Lamoureux before you signed that declaration of the 1st of March?—A. I went to see him for that purpose.

Q. How long before the 1st of March was it when you saw Mr. Lamoureux?—

WITNESS.—Which Mr. Lamoureux?

COUNSEL.—Lamoureux whose name I just mentioned. You say that you went to see him with that object in view?—A. Not Lamoureux. I understood Thibaudeau. If I said Lamoureux, I beg your pardon. Which Lamoureux? I do not know which Lamoureux you mean.

Q. Do you know Mr. Oscar Lamoureux?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, listen to me well. I ask you if you saw Mr. Lamoureux about that declaration of the 1st of March, either before or after the 1st of March?—A. I did not see Mr. Lamoureux before I made my declaration, not at all.

Q. But did you see him after?—A. After, I saw him a couple of times. I do not know him intimately.

Q. Now, for what purpose did you go and see Mr. Lamoureux after you had signed that declaration?—A. Because we met together some of us... Mr. Lamoureux, Mr. Thibaudeau, the other ones you have before you.

Q. And you used to discuss on the declarations?—A. Of course, you spoke of them somewhat.

Q. Now, sir, do you know that there is no garden at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. There is no garden, but there are some fruit trees and previously it was a garden. It was in order to protect his fruit trees who make a garden, just the same.

Q. Out of the three days, the first day you worked there did you see Mr. Lanctot?—A. Not at all.

Q. You saw him only the second day?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In the afternoon?—A. I think it was in the afternoon, about nine o'clock, I suppose.

Q. Had you taken a drink, that same morning?—

WITNESS.—That same morning?

COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. I cannot remember if I had drank that same morning but very little anyway if I had taken any. It is not my habit to take too much.

Q. And Mr. Lanctot told you to get out?—A. No.

Q. He said you were under the influence of liquor?—A. No, he did not say anything to me about that.

Q. Did he not tell you that you were not needed?—A. No, sir, never.

Q. Did you owe some money to Mr. Lanctot at the time?—A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. Do you forget easily what you owe?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you not owe him a sum of thirty-seven dollars and ninety-six cents?—A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. You have forgotten that altogether?—No, sir; I have not forgotten.

Q. Did you see a man named Dumais?—A. I did.

Q. Who was representing you as attorney?—A. Mr. Lanctot was supposed to represent me, but it was Mr. Mafrau who did the work.

Q. You won your case?—A. I did.

Q. But they were unable to collect from Dumais?—A. That I do not know.

Q. At any rate, the costs of Lanctot and Mafrau aggregated \$37.96?—A. I never heard anything about it.

Q. At anyrate, you know you have not paid one cent of these costs?

Mr. McDUGALL objects to this evidence, as the debt due to Lanctot and Mafrau is not the debt due to Lanctot.

Mr. LAFLAMME withdraws the question.

Q. Have you a son in Sorel?—A. I have.

Q. How old is he?—A. I have one who is eighteen years old, and I have two others who are a little younger.

Q. Did you ask Mr. Lanctot to have your son appointed?—A. I did.

Q. When?—A. It was after the first election of Mr. Lanctot; I cannot tell the date. I am not very much educated.

Q. He did not succeed in getting him appointed?—A. No, sir.

Q. He could have, if he had desired it?—A. I think so.

Q. And then, knowing that, you were dissatisfied?—A. I was not in a very good humour, no.

Q. And then you expressed your dissatisfaction to Adélarde Bouchard?

The WITNESS.—At what time?

The COUNSEL.—No matter what time.

Mr. McDUGALL.—You must limit your question to the time which is in question in this inquiry.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—You are right.

Q. Did you not express to Mr. Bouchard your dissatisfaction about it being impossible to get your son appointed before you signed your statement?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. What did you tell him?

The WITNESS.—To Bouchard?

The COUNSEL.—Yes?

—A. I told him so many things, I spoke to him so many times, that I may have forgotten; but tell me the facts and I will tell you if it is true or if it is not.

Q. Did you not tell Bouchard that Lanctot would regret it?—A. I do not remember that, sir. I did not say it.

Q. Do you swear that you did not say it?—A. I do.

Q. What did you say?—A. You know, sometimes we have a conversation between us. Bouchard is a man who works with me, and we spoke between us, as we often do. But I am not a shorthand writer, so that I do not write everything I say. Tell me what you pretend that I have said, and I will tell you if I said so. You are there to put to me some questions, and I am here to answer.

Q. Witness, do you remember what you told Bouchard, or do you not?—A. Not everything; but if you tell me I will know if I said so or if I did not.

Q. Tell us what you remember?—A.

Q. When you don't remember everything, you remember something. That is the something that I am interested in. Tell it to me?—A. Bouchard will come and he will tell you what I said to him.

Q. Never mind Bouchard. He might not come at all?—A. I do not recollect upon what subject, upon what point.

Q. About the position your son could not get?—A. If you wish me to tell you why he did not get the position I shall tell you.

Q. No, that is not it. What is it you said to Bouchard? Now, let us start in a hurry?—A. If you wish me to tell you what I told Bouchard, I will tell you; but I will tell you as it is. If you wish me to tell you, I will tell you all the conversation we had on this subject.

Q. Did you not tell Adélard Bouchard that if Lanctot did not get your son appointed, he would regret it?

Mr. McDougall objects to the question unless time, place and circumstances are mentioned.

The CHAIRMAN allows the question.

Q. Did you not tell him, during the last week, that if your son did not get his job, there would be a row?—A. Mr. Baril offered me a job for my son, and I refused it. I said: 'I am going to stay in Montreal; I do not want any more job.' Not only for one, for three.

Q. Did you not tell Bouchard, during the last week, that if you had signed the statement of March 1st, 1911, the reason was that your son had not been appointed?—A. I do not remember that, because I signed statements a long time before that; in the month of January, I think, if I am not mistaken, or February.

Re-examined by Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C., of Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. When you speak of Mr. Baril in your cross-questions, which Baril do you mean?—A. Mr. Alfred Baril, who is in the Marine Department.

Q. The accountant?—A. The accountant in Sorel.

And further deponent sayeth not.

NAPOLÉON LAROCHE appeared before the committee, and being duly sworn, deposed as follows:—

Examined by Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C., of Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. You live in the city of Sorel, Mr. Laroche?—A. At St. Joseph de Sorel.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. I am a painter.

Q. Are you in the employ of the Marine and Fisheries Department?—A. No, sir.

Q. You have been?—A. I have been.

Q. When did you cease being there?—A. I left last fall.

Q. How long did you work for the Department?—A. I worked for four years.

Q. Do you know Mr. Adélard Lanctot, the member for the county of Richelieu?—A. I do.

Q. During the year 1910, did you do any work at Mr. Lanctot's house, then in course of erection, or did you see other men in the employ of the department working there?—A. I did not do any work there myself, but I saw men who went to work there, to my knowledge.

Q. Who are those men?—A. There is one Mr. Douaire.

Q. Alfred Douaire?—A. Yes, sir. There is one Mr. Brault.

Q. What is his first name?—A. Edmond Brault, Adélard Ally, Alberic Letendre, Adélard Letendre, Théodore Emond, Louis Paul, Arthur Trempe, Omer Pagé.

Q. Were these men painters?—A. They were.

Q. During what months of the year did they work at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. To my knowledge, they began in the commencement of the summer and they worked until the cold weather in the fall.

Q. Were they men who were with you at St. Joseph de Sorel?—A. They were.

Q. Did you see them leave to go and work?—A. The Sorel ones, I did not see them go, I saw them when they came to get paid.

Q. While they were at Lanctot's house, you did not see them on the work at St. Joseph de Sorel?—A. Not at all; except Omer Pagé. As to Omer Pagé he lived at

St. Joseph de Sorel, and, in the morning, before he went, he would get his card 'punched' and then he would go to Sorel—at noon, he would come back to dinner at St. Joseph, and he would get a 'punch' again, and in the evening when he came back, he would get 'punched' again.

Q. The other men that you have mentioned did not live at St. Joseph, did they?
—A. No, in Sorel.

Q. Usually, the men who do not live in St. Joseph de Sorel came from Sorel in the morning, they get their card 'punched' and then they work; and, in the evening, they go back to their home—A. These did not come to get 'punched', their cards were 'punched'.

Q. So, those men, besides Omer Pagé, were staying in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir, they were not coming to punch. Those of Sorel, they were not coming to punch.

Q. Whilst working at Mr. Lanctot's house, they were not coming at St. Joseph-de-Sorel to punch?—A. Not at all.

Q. Were they paid, those men?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. By Mr. Lanctot, or by whom?—A. By the government.

Q. Have you seen them, on pay-days?—A. Yes, I saw them myself getting paid with me.

Q. How do you receive your pay? By cheque or in cash?—A. In cash.

Q. You get your pay in cash, not by cheque?—A. In cash, not by cheque.

Q. Who was the pay-master?—A. Mr. Désiré Champagne.

Cross questioned by Mr. Laflamme, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. Mr. Laroche, when you found out that state of things, you knew that it was not regular, that it was not right?

WITNESS.—How say you, not right for painters to do outside work?

COUNSEL.—Yes, and to get paid by the government.

A. I found that it was not right.

Q. That it was dishonest?—A. For my part, I thought that dishonest.

Q. Why did you wait until the first of March, 1911 before complaining?—A. I did not wait until the first of March.

Q. Why have you not immediately complained to Mr. Papineau, during the summer, immediately after you had discovered that?—A. I had no business to complain to Mr. Papineau.

Q. If you had no business to complain during the summer, what business had you to complain on the first of March?—A. It is because, at the time, I was working for the government.

Q. And now, you don't work any longer for the government?—A. I don't work any more.

Q. Now, who asked you to prepare that declaration?—A. It is Mr. Villard and Mr. Bourgeois.

Q. Have you seen Mr. Lamoureux with regard to that?—A. No.

Q. Neither before nor after?—A. No.

Q. You are sure?—A. Sure.

Q. Mr. Villiard, that is Mr. Villiard, the attorney?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was there anybody else present, besides Mr. Bourgeois, notary, and Mr. Villiard, when your declaration was signed?—A. There was only myself.

Q. Who was the first to ask you to prepare a declaration?—A. It is Mr. Villiard.

Q. What did he say to you?—A. He asked me if I knew anything with regard to the work going on at Mr. Lanctot's on George street.

Q. You are sure that you have never seen Mr. Lamoureux with regard to that?—A. Yes, sure.

Q. Nor, Thibaudeau?—A. Thibaudeau, I only saw him a moment and that is all; I never mentioned anything to him, never.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

HERMENEGILDE LAMBERT, appears before the committee, and after being sworn deposed as follows:

By Mr. J. M. Macdougall, Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. What is your name sir?—A. Hermenegilde Lambert.

Q. You live in Sorel?—A. At St. Joseph de Sorel.

Q. Are you actually, or have you already been in the employ of the department?—A. I have already been in the employ of the government.

Q. How long were you in the employ of the department?—A. I am not sure if it will be ten years next spring, or if it was ten years last spring.

Q. What was your work at St. Joseph de Sorel?—A. During the first four years I worked as caulker, and in the last years I was foreman of the day labourers.

Q. Who was the next immediately above you in authority?—A. Mr. Gendron.

Q. What is Mr. Gendron's first name? Is it Alexander Gendron?—A. Alex. Gendron.

Q. During the year 1910, were not some men who were working under you sent to work at Mr. Lanctot's and if so under the orders of whom?—A. I have a man who has been sent to work at Mr. Lanctot's.

Q. Under the orders of whom?—A. Mr. Champagne came to Mr. Gendron's office and he asked Mr. Joubert, his clerk, in what gang was working Ovila Gouin. Mr. Joubert answered him that Gouin was attached to my gang.

Q. Who is that Mr. Champagne?—A. Mr. Oscar Champagne.

Q. Oscar Champagne, the time-keeper?—A. Yes, the time-keeper.

Q. Your answer was that Avila Gouin was in your gang?—A. I told him that Avila Gouin was in my gang.

Q. I see in exhibit No. 2 produced in this affair, and which is now shown you, an entry in the name of Avila Gouin, for a day's work, at the rate of \$1.35 per day, for having worked at Mr. Lanctot's house, in September. Do you mean to say that this is the same Avila Gouin?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then, what was it that happened when Mr. Champagne came to ask after Avila Gouin, to Mr. Joubert, Alex. Gendron's clerk?—A. Mr. Champagne said to me; 'since he belongs to your gang, send him along to Mr. Lanctot, to help in the moving at Mr. Lanctot's.

Q. And then, was Avila Gouin sent from your gang at Sorel, to help Mr. Lanctot in his moving?—A. It was myself who sent him.

Q. Did he go there?—A. I presume he did, because every time I have sent him somewhere, I never heard that he had failed to go.

Q. Did he punch before going?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many days did he give to the moving?—A. As for me, I have sent him away two days.

Q. To assist in the moving?—A. I could not say if he has assisted in the moving during the two days, or if he has worked at something else; all I know is that I sent him away two days.

Q. He has punched the two days?—A. He has punched the two days; that is to say he has punched in the morning; at noon, I could not say if he did the punching himself, or if Mr. Joubert had been authorized to punch his card.

Q. Has he been paid for the two days?—A. He did not tell me that he had any time missing. If his time had not been all right, he would have come to me, saying: 'I have not my time put down right.'

Q. Did you see him come with the others to get paid?—A. We always went together to get paid.

Q. You went to get paid with Ovila Gouin?—A. Gouin as the others. We went all together to get paid.

Q. He was there at the appointed time, I suppose? He was always there on every pay-day?—A. He had to take his turn to get paid. On pay-days, we always go there together.

Q. What were the wages of Ovila Gouin?—A. Same as other labourers, \$1.35.

Q. When you say that he was sent to assist Mr. Lanctot in his moving, what moving was it?—A. I suppose it must have been his furniture.

Q. His furniture moved from what place to what place?—A. I took no information about that, sir.

Q. Do you know that Mr. Lanctot, before leaving his George street house, used to live on Ray street, at Sorel?—A. I know that Mr. Lanctot has lived on Ray street.

Q. And when you speak of that moving, do you mean moving from Ray street to George street?—A. I could not say where Mr. Lanctot's household effects were.

Q. Do you know if Mr. Lanctot has moved more than once, several times?—A. That is a thing I could not swear to.

Cross questioned by Mr. Laflamme, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot:—

Q. Do you remember the date when Gouin has done that work?—A. No, sir; I never noticed any date.

Q. You are not in a position to swear that he had worked two days?—A. I am in a position to swear that I sent him to Sorel on two different days.

Q. But you do not know if he has worked there one day or two?—A. I know that I sent him to Mr. Lanctot's on two different days.

Q. And that is all you know?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not follow him?—A. No, sir, because I had some other men to look after in the ship yard.

Q. You have been discharged from the department on the 28th of December, have you not?—A. On the 28th of December.

Q. Who discharged you?—A. Mr. Papineau. That is, Mr. Papineau suspended me.

Q. It is the same Mr. Papineau you acknowledge being an honest man in the declaration you sign on the 18th of February?—A. The declaration I signed on the 18th of February is nothing.

Q. You mean it is worth nothing?—A. The declaration I made on the 18th of February, it is because they came at my place—They did not tell me it was an affidavit. Mr. Villiard came to my house and asked me if I was willing to give him some notes; that he had been informed I could give him some information about the investigation. I said: 'If the government starts an investigation I can give you some notes;' but I did not tell him it was an affidavit.

Q. And then, what did you do?—A. I gave Mr. Villiard some notes. Then when it appeared in *La Patrie*, I went to one of my uncle's and looking over *La Patrie* I found out that there were too many notes for what I had given.

Q. It means that in the report published by *La Patrie*, there were many things which were not true, which you had never said?

Mr. McDougall.—If you mention *La Patrie* I would like the newspaper to be produced before the committee, in order to be able to follow intelligently the evidence given.

Mr. Laflamme.—You are right.

Q. Go on. What did you do after you had read the newspaper?—A. I went to see Mr. Villiard to tell him that it was not what I had said to him, that I wanted it to be corrected.

Q. Go on. Then Mr. Lambert, what happened?—A. Make the questions yourself, if you please.

Q. What happened then? What is the answer Mr. Villiard gave you?—A. Mr. Villiard told me that it would be corrected.

Q. He did not correct it?—A. Yes, sir. I have in my pocket a copy I signed on the 9th of March.

Q. But the first declaration you had signed it on the 18th of February?—A. I did not notice the date.

Q. It was in the month of February?—A. It was in the month of February.

Q. Then, the first declaration you had not sworn it?

Mr. McDUGALL objects to that question on the ground that the certificate of oath which appears at the bottom of the declaration of witness is a genuine writing against which there can be no evidence given by witness.

Mr. LAFLAMME withdraws his question.

Q. Is it your signature which appears at the bottom of that declaration of the 17th of February?—A. Yes, sir; but I did not know it was made under oath.

Q. You found out later on that you had been speaking under oath?—A. It is because when it was published in *La Patrie*, I saw at the bottom of my declaration, it was said that.....I thought I was.....I could not repeat it as it was.

Q. I see what you mean. When you read in *La Patrie* the following words: 'And I make that solemn declaration believing it to be conscientiously true and knowing it has the same strength and the same effect as if it had been made under oath according to the Act of the Proof of Canada.'

(A discussion takes place and witness does not answer.)

Q. Can you read?—A. Yes sir, a little.

Q. Will you, if you please, look at the declaration I put in your hands, read it and then you will tell us if that declaration is right or wrong?

(Witness reads the declaration.)

A. Some parts are right but it contains many things I never said.

Q. Then, nobody read the declaration to you before you signed it?—A. Yes, sir; but I insisted to have some things struck off.

Q. And they did not do it?—A. I had a copy given to me. They told me: 'We are going to correct it.' They did not correct it before they sent it here. When I went to see them, after it had been published in *La Patrie*, they told me: 'We are going to correct it.' I asked them for a copy, and the copy I have it in my pocket.

By the Chairman:

Q. When you speak of 'those who corrected it,' who do you mean?—A. Mr. Villiard or Mr. Bourgeois. At all events, Mr. Villiard was the one to correct it.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. At all events, there is a sure thing, it is that you called Mr. Villiard's or Mr. Bourgeois' attention to the fact that the declaration was not right, on the day you signed it?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What in your declaration is not right?—A.

Q. The Chairman asks you to show him gradually as you read which paragraphs and parts of paragraphs are not accurate?—A. The words which are not accurate, as long as they have the same meaning, I have nothing to say about that.

Q. Yes?

Mr. McDUGALL.—You are requested to mention what is not true.

A. That, here, it must not have been understood as... 'He was using the horse and the rig, property of the government....'

The CHAIRMAN.—These words are crossed out?

A. Paragraph 6: 'That every time there had been time and material stolen like that, some pressing work at the department was delayed.' I never said those things.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—Did you say anythin which was in your declaration instead of that paragraph 6?

A. No, sir.

Q. Please read paragraphs 7 and 8 of the declaration, and tell us if you have something you would like to strike off?—A. Paragraph 7. I never said anything of the kind. He tried to induce me to say it, but I told him that I knew nothing about that.

Paragraph 7: 'That, if to the losses mentioned above, are added the losses made by the department of wood, iron, cement works, etc., I can say that the amount of the thefts is enormous.'

Q. Please read paragraph 8, the last one, and tell us if it is accurate in some parts and wrong in others?

Mr. McDOUGALL objects to that question.

A. In paragraph 8, that part here is accurate; I said it. But for the rest, I never said it.

Q. Read what is accurate and what is not accurate?—A. 'That I know Mr. Papineau, head of the department, to be an honest man.'

Q. That part is accurate?—A. That part is accurate. That is all I said, for my part.

'But I would add that either from lack of strictness...'

Q. The rest of the paragraph is not accurate?—A. The rest of the paragraph, I did not say that: 'But I would add that either from lack of strictness of character or some other reason, he is unable to maintain on the right path some subordinates who have no scruples in the manipulation of the punch; that, without the benefit of an investigation to find out the guilty parties, the country will keep on making some considerable losses.'

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. What you say to-day is the truth?

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to that question on the ground it is illegal.

Question withdrawn.

The meeting is adjourned.

Mr. L. G. PAPINEAU, called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. McDougall:

Mr. Papineau, you are employed by the Department of Marine and Fisheries, are you?—A. Yes.

Q. What is your official title, or capacity?—A. I am director.

Q. Director of what?—A. Director of the shipyard.

Q. Where?—A. At Sorel.

Q. And as such, I suppose you have the control of the archives, the documents, books and other things?—A. Yes.

Mr. McDOUGALL.—Now, Mr. Chairman, I renew the application I made before; I cannot go on with the examination of Mr. Papineau without the production of the papers asked for; in that connection perhaps I might ask Mr. Papineau if they are here.

The CHAIRMAN.—It has been suggested that he might read the resolution and then he can tell us whether or not the papers are here.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Mr. Papineau, in your official capacity are the following documents under your control at Sorel:—all books, documents, contracts, agreements, letters, correspondence, telegrams, receipts and vouchers, pay lists, punch cards, dials, sheets and records for registering the time and hours of labour of employees of the Department at Sorel, and St. Joseph de Sorel, the whole touching the work and supplies furnished

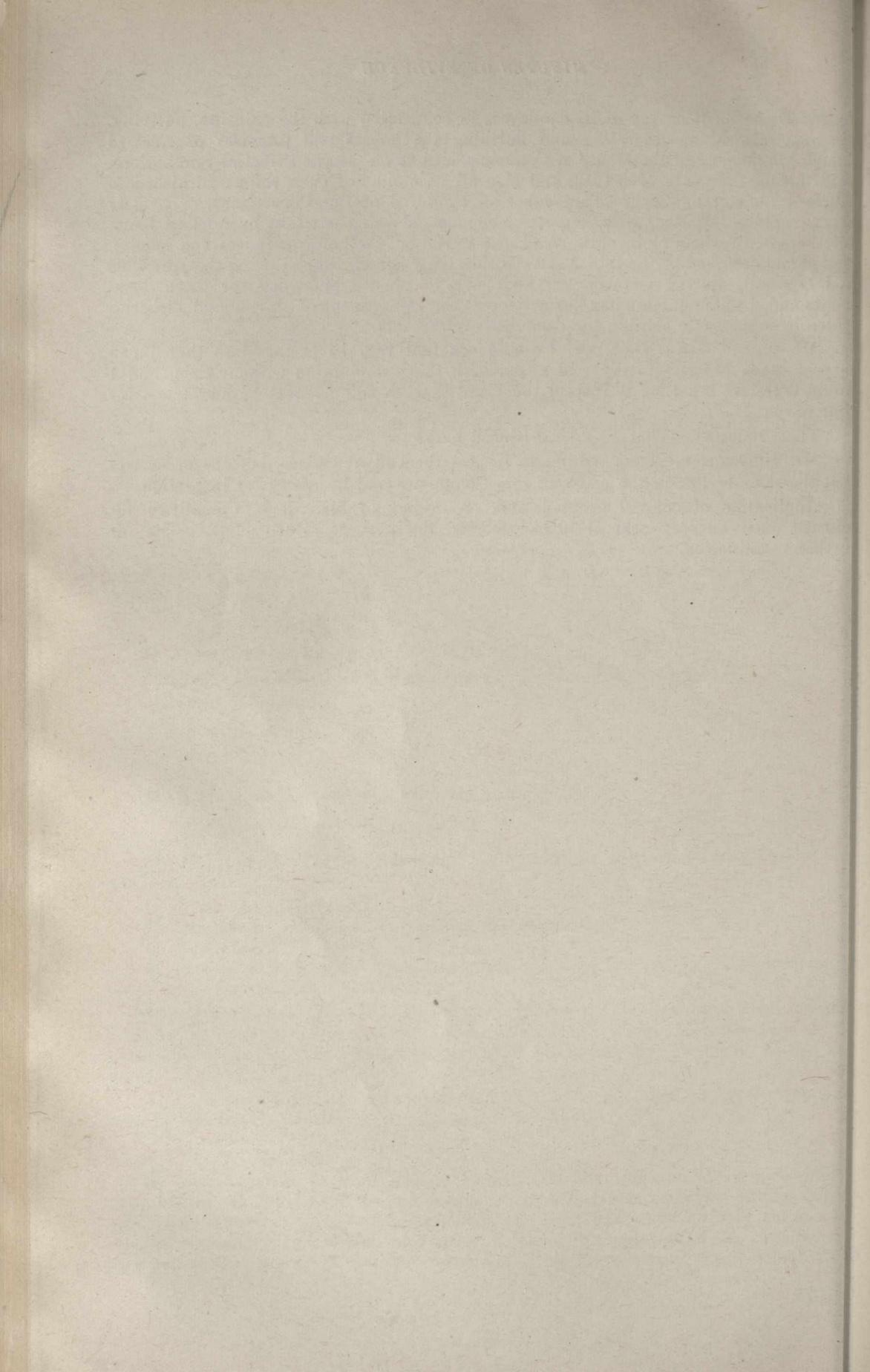
by the Department or any of its employees in connection with the painting, puttying, tinting, varnishing, decorating and finishing the houses and premises of Adelard Lanctot, a member of the House of Commons, situate on George Street at Sorel, aforesaid during the years 1909-1910, and also all accounts for such things furnished to Adelard Lanctot by Oscar Champagne, an employee of the Department, or by any other employee, together with receipts or vouchers showing payment by Adelard Lanctot therefor in whole or in part. And also touching the house premises and lodging rented and occupied by the said A. Lanctot on King Street, Sorel, during the year 1908 and especially during October 1908?—A. We telephoned yesterday for those documents and, I understand, a box has arrived at the Department of Marine and Fisheries which is supposed to contain the documents referred to.

Mr. McDougall.—Then, sir, I would ask that they be produced so that I can inspect them. I cannot very well go on with this examination without them and I would therefore ask time to inspect them and that an adjournment be now taken for that purpose.

The Chairman.—That they be produced here?

Mr. McDougall.—I am willing to inspect them at any place, but the order was that the same be left in the hands of this Committee and its officer for inspection.

Application of counsel granted, and, on motion of Mr. Monk, Committee adjourned until Tuesday next at 10 o'clock, Mr. Papineau to return on that date for further examination.



3
7
10/11
7
1

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

CHARGES PREFERRED BY P. F. BLONDIN, M.P.,
AGAINST A. LANCTOT, M.P., RICHELIEU.

No. 4



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY C. H. PARMELEE, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1911

PROLOGUE

THE STANFORD COMMITTEE

THE STANFORD COMMITTEE

THE STANFORD COMMITTEE

THE STANFORD COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1911.

The Committee met at 10 o'clock, a.m.

PRESENT.—MESSRS. German (Chairman), Baker, Brodeur, Bureau, Chisholm, (Antigonish), Crothers, Demers, Devlin, Doherty, Dubeau, Geoffrion, Gervais, Kyte, Lancaster, Lapointe, McColl, Major, Monk, Rivet, Roy (Montmagny) and Warburton.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

L. G. PAPINEAU was called and identified certain papers produced by the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

ULRIC LATRAVERSE was sworn and examined.

The examination of L. G. Papineau was resumed and concluded.

During his examination the following letters, &c., were produced and marked as exhibits, viz.—

Exhibit No. 16—Letter (original) A. Lanctot to L. G. Papineau, dated November 22, 1910, inclosing cheque for \$375.62.

Exhibit No. 17—Cheque for \$375.62 payable to order of Molson's Bank credit Receiver General being for refund from A. Lanctot for labour supplied.

Exhibit No. 18—Letter L. G. Papineau to Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries, dated January 12, 1911, inclosing certificate of deposit of the Receiver General for \$375.62.

Exhibit No. 19—Letter Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries to L. G. Papineau, dated January 16, 1911, acknowledging receipt of foregoing and requesting statement of labour.

Exhibit No. 20—Account amounting to \$81.30 handed L. G. Papineau by O. Champagne being for putty, paint, &c., supplied by Marine Department for A. Lanctot's house.

Exhibit No. 21—L. G. Papineau's cheque for \$82.60 and made payable to the order of T. Lamontagne.

Exhibit No. 22—Account (receipted) Mount Royal Color & Varnish Co., Limited, amounting to \$81.62 for paint, &c., supplied Department of Marine for A. Lanctot's house.

At the request of Mr. McDougall, K.C., it was ordered—That H. A. Terreault be summoned and required to appear and give evidence before the Committee.

At one o'clock the Committee took recess.

Three o'clock, p.m.

AUGUSTUS PAYETTE sworn and examined and discharged from further attendance.

JEAN BAPTISTE PAGÉ sworn and examined.

During his examination the following was produced, viz.

Exhibit No. 23—Memo. Book of J. B. Page containing entries of the time of Government employees (Painters) who worked on A. Lanctot's house.

Further examination of last-mentioned witness postponed until to-morrow.

The Committee then adjourned until to-morrow (Wednesday) at 10 o'clock, a.m.

W. M. GERMAN,
Chairman.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

ROOM 32, HOUSE OF COMMONS,

TUESDAY, March 21, 1911.

Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections met at 10 o'clock, a.m., the Chairman, Mr. German, presiding.

Mr. McDougall.—The Order made by the Committee for the production of documents was a very general one and after adjournment on Thursday last we went into the Clerk's office and examined a trunk of papers and books that was produced, but they did not fill the requirements of the Order. On Friday I requested the Clerk to give me a reminder if any further books or documents had come, but none came. On Saturday I repeated the request but none had come. Yesterday afternoon at about half past three a second trunk containing books and documents was sent in for inspection, but the contents of the trunk were so voluminous that I have not been able to fully inspect them. Even yet, however, the papers that were required, have not been furnished. For instance, the papers furnished yesterday are punched cards, which I did not touch at all but left intact so that the Committee might see them. In addition to the cards there were some small time books. I looked at them as hurriedly as I could but could not find the papers I need and I would ask the Chairman, or the Minister of Marine, if they are to be produced this morning. For instance, there are the files and vouchers showing the men's time and what they did during the months of May, June, July, August, September, October and November, 1910. Then I also want the records showing the paints and other things supplied to Mr. Lanctot and which he replaced in December. I want the books or sheets showing where the men mentioned in Exhibit No. 2 were distributed, the work they did and where they performed that work. Records of these things must have been kept, but so far I have not been able to find them among the papers produced. I took the liberty of asking the Clerk of this Committee to summon some of the witnesses by telegraph yesterday so that those of the witnesses having the required papers in their possession might produce them. I will go on as far as I can with Mr. Papineau this morning and I would like if possible to terminate the inquiry this week. With reference to some of the papers required, I may have to ask the Committee to send witnesses back to Sorel for them.

The CHAIRMAN.—Can you go on with this witness?

Mr. McDougall.—Yes, I can go on with Mr. Papineau.

Hon. Mr. Brodeur.—I do not think the Department of Marine and Fisheries has yet supplied my Honourable friend with the correspondence which has been exchanged between Mr. Lanctot and myself in connection with this investigation. I suppose my Honourable friend would also like to see those papers.

Mr. McDougall.—Yes, if it relates to this investigation.

Hon. Mr. Brodeur.—I mean the correspondence and the affidavits of the 30th November.

Mr. McDougall.—We will require them and the papers will come in regular order when we examine the witnesses concerned.

The Examination of Mr. L. G. Papineau continued.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You were asked, just before the Committee rose on Thursday, if you had in your official capacity under your inspection and control the books mentioned in the last question to you. Your reply was: 'We telephoned yesterday for those documents and, I understand, a box has arrived at the Department of Marine and Fisheries which is supposed to contain the documents referred to.' You were present when the box was opened?—A. Yes.

Q. And an inventory was made of the contents of that box in your presence?—A. Yes, a list of the contents.

Q. If you will allow me to read that inventory we will identify it. The inventory was also made in the presence of the Solicitor General, Mr. Bureau?—A. Yes.

Q. I will now read the inventory: First, letter-book No. 31, running from the 4th April, 1910, to 29th June, 1910. Just identify it please.

The CHAIRMAN.—Do you want that all put on the record?

Mr. McDougall.—Not necessarily. I will read the list to Mr. Papineau and he will identify its contents.

Q. First, there was letter-book No. 31?—A. (After referring to book). From 4th of April, 1910, to 29th of June, 1910.

Q. Letter-book No. 33, from 8th October, 1910, to December 28, 1910?—A. (After examining book). 8th of October, 1910—

Q. Till December 28?—A. December 28, yes.

Q. Then, letter-book No. 34?—A. 34, yes. Begins December 28, 1910, and ends March—

Q. March 13?—A. 13th of March, 1911.

Q. Also a cheque book running from 21st of June, 1910, to March 10, 1911, that book shows the stubs of cheques?—A. It is a cheque book running from 21st of June, 1910, till March 10, 1911, with the stubs and a lot of cheques not used.

Q. Also an account book?—A. No, that is the bank book.

Q. No, the account book would be from 31st of December, 1905, to January, 1911?—A. Here it is (producing book), yes, January, 1911.

Q. There is also another account book or cash book showing the amounts received and amounts paid by cheque, &c., from July 21, 1905, to March 10, 1911?—A. This is it (producing book). It begins in July, 1905, and ends March, 1911.

Q. You also have a general ledger running from April 30, 1907. That is a big book?—A. Yes, it is in the other room.

Q. Also an envelope containing a summary of the time charged to Lanctot, and time sheets and cheque for \$375 to the Receiver General?—A. Yes, a summary.

Q. Then a file of letters exchanged on the subject from the 22nd November, 1910, to the 18th January, 1911?—A. Yes, there is our letter file containing the letters exchanged (producing file). There was a letter from Mr. Lanctot and my answer.

Q. That is all I have, Mr. Papineau?—A. Well, there is that pass-book (producing pass-book).

Q. Yes, the bank book?—A. This is my deposit book at Molson's Bank.

Q. In the joint name of L. G. Papineau and A. Baril, from August 14, 1908, to March 11?—A. August 14, 1908, to March 11, 1911.

Q. Now, since these papers were produced, Mr. Papineau, have you forwarded any other papers?

Mr. Laflamme.—You say since these papers were produced. You do not mean before the Committee?

Mr. McDougall.—No, before the clerk.

The WITNESS.—Yes, another box has been forwarded and must have arrived yesterday, I think.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You were not here yesterday when it was opened?—A. No, sir.

Q. You do not know the contents of that trunk?—A. I have an idea, but I could not say off-hand.

Q. You do not know, in other words?—A. No.

Q. In 1908 and in 1910 the department, particularly the shipyard at Sorel, of which you are the director, had a system of bookkeeping, and keeping the men's time, and so forth?—A. Yes.

Q. It was the same in both these years?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You were the manager or director of these works?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Under you, did you have a number of foremen?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you name some of them? For instance, if you will allow me, there is Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. Jean Baptiste Pagé is one of the foremen. He has charge of the painters.

Q. Was Oscar Champagne one of your officers?—A. He is one of the officers, he is the timekeeper.

Q. Is Cuthbert Champagne one of your officers?—A. Yes, he is one of the painters, if I remember rightly.

Q. Has he any particular occupation?—A. Well, he attends to one of the clocks.

Q. He looks after one of the punches for the men's time?—A. Yes.

Q. In what particular department does he look after the punch?—A. He takes care of the clock where the painters check their time.

Q. Who is Désiré Champagne?—A. He is the paymaster.

Q. Generally in the ship-yard?—A. Yes.

Q. Who is Norman Masse?—A. Store-keeper.

Q. What do you mean by store-keeper?—A. He sees that we get the proper stock of goods.

Q. Of supplies?—A. Of supplies.

Q. Paints, oils and varnishes?—A. All kinds of supplies, yes, and he sees to the general distribution of the same.

Q. I suppose the requisition is forwarded to you and on that requisition he sends out the supplies, does he?—A. Yes. Well part of the requisitions are sent direct to the foreman of the paint shops sometimes, and some are sent right through to the saw mill.

Q. To the saw mill? That is with respect to wood?—A. Yes, but they are under the general supervision of the store room.

Q. Of the store-keeper?—A. Of the store-keeper.

Q. That is Norman Massé?—A. Yes.

Q. For instance, if Jean Baptiste Pagé, foreman of the painters, requires some paint for some particular work. To whom would he apply to obtain the paint. A. He would apply to Massé.

Q. To Norman Massé Who is Ulric Latraverse?—A. He is in charge of the Cost Department.

Q. Of the Cost Department?—A. Yes, of the Cost Department.

Q. Will you explain what the Cost Department is?—A. The Cost Department is a branch of the service there to distribute the cost of each piece of work, of each construction which is done in the ship yard.

Q. Well, I suppose that this Cost Department could show the number of men, with the names of the men employed on that particular piece of work and the quantity of paints, and other materials or supplies sent in connection with it?—A. Yes, the time applied to each—

Q. Piece of work?—A. Each particular job is rendered to the Cost Department.

Q. I suppose the overseer of the Cost Department keeps books of accounts showing these things?—A. Yes.

Q. Any requisition which may be sent to Norman Massé would be sent in writing, would it not?—A. Yes.

Mr. McDUGALL.—Now, I would like to ask the Clerk if he has any books or accounts sent in from the Cost Department—from Ulric Latraverse's Department or Massé's Department.

The CLERK. There is nothing of that sort.

Mr. McDUGALL.—Now, Mr. Chairman, comes the difficulty that I have pointed out. I have gone with Mr. Papineau as far as I can go at present but I would like to examine him on these accounts that are lacking.

The CHAIRMAN.—Do you think the accounts are quite covered by this Order? I do not suppose there is any objection to producing these accounts, but the Order of Reference confines the production of accounts to what has been done at Mr. Adeland Lanctot's house on George St., Sorel, during the year 1909-10 and also touching the premises and lodgings rented by him on King St., Sorel, during the year 1908 and especially during October of that year.

Mr. McDUGALL.—Well, during 1910. We want to see the accounts of the paint that went to Lanctot's house.

The CHAIRMAN.—Any accounts touching that will have to be produced.

Mr. McDUGALL.—Yes, during the year 1910, from May to November.

Now has Ulric Latraverse been summoned.

The CLERK.—Yes, and he is present.

Mr. McDUGALL.—And Norman Massé also?

The CLERK.—No sir.

Mr. McDUGALL.—If you will allow me, Mr. Chairman, I will put Mr. Latraverse into the box now and ask him if he has the papers. If not the Committee will take under advisement the request I will make that he be sent to get them.

The examination of M. L. G. Papineau was resumed and afterwards suspended.

ULRIC LATRAVERSE appears before the committee and after being sworn, deposed as follows:—

Examined by Mr. J. M. McDUGALL, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin.

Q. You are in the employ of the Department of Marine and Fisheries at Sorel, in the 'cost' department?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your official title?—A. Clerk for the estimate of the work done in the government shipyard at Sorel.

Q. You do some bookkeeping?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Books or sheets?—A. Yes, sir, books.

Q. Are the names of the men in those books?—A. The names of the men are entered for the work done in the government shipyards.

Q. Is the material, as paint and other material, entered in those books?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you keep those books?—A. No, sir, but I have the management of them.

Q. Who keeps those books in your department?—A. It is a young man, named Prudhomme.

Q. What is his first name?—A. Albert Prudhomme.

Q. He is under you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. The books and the accounts are in your care?—A. Yes, sir. I look over them after him, and I know them just as well as he.

Q. You see that he makes the entries?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you in your possession some book or account of your department showing the names of the men who have worked at building or painting Mr. Lanctot's house, the member for Richelieu?—A. No, sir, it is not entered in my books.

Q. Have you a book or statement of the department showing the quantity of paint or material supplied and delivered to Mr. Lanctot for the painting of his house in 1910?—A. No, sir.

Q. You have not got them with you here but at Sorel, in your department, do such accounts exist?—A. No, no.

Q.—Have I to understand you to say that you have no account, you have no book, no sheets showing that some men have worked at Mr. Lanctot's or that some paint or other material has been supplied during the year 1910 for the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. No, sir, I have nothing of the kind in my department.

Q. Is there another department where those accounts should be kept, either in some books or on some sheets?—A. They might be direct charges coming from the chief accountant.

Q. Who is the chief accountant?—A. Mr. Alfred Baril.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. Are you working under Mr. Baril?—A. Under Mr. Baril.

Q. You are under Mr. Baril?—A. I am under Mr. Baril.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. To fix the cost of a piece of work made in the government shipyards should the accounts, even if they had been authorized by Mr. Alfred Baril, the chief accountant, necessarily pass into your hands, in the 'cost' department?—A. No, sir, I am supposed to have only the cost of the work done for the Marine Department in the shipyards.

Q. Then you have no account of the work done for Mr. Lanctot, either in reference to paint supplied or to men or the time of men?—A. No, sir.

Q. Have you ever received any information as to the work going on at Mr. Lanctot's during the year 1910?—A. No, sir.

Q. Then, there is no open account in your department mentioning the painting done or the time of the men who have worked at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. No, sir.

Cross-examined by Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. Mr. Latraverse, you keep an account of the material used actually either for the repairs to the government boats or the building of the boats or any other work done for the government?—A. For building or repairs in the government shipyards, only.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. In the accounts you keep in that way for the work done at the government shipyards, do you receive from time to time from Jean-Baptiste Page, foreman of the painting department, the time of the men and the material supplied?—A. I receive that when they work on a boat or on any other structure, he gives me the amount of paint used and the time of the men.

Q. It is the ordinary practice, the usual practice: Jean-Baptiste Page sends you the time of the men?—A. Every day he gives me the time of the men and he enters in his book the amount of paint used, he gives me the book and I take from his book the amount of paint used.

Q. Have you ever received from Jean-Baptiste Page an account for the time of the men or for the paint supplied in order to paint Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. No, sir.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Mr. Latraverse, what you said about the distribution of the cost of material applies also to the hand labour for the government works?—A. Yes, sir. I enter only the work done for the department, the hand labour as well as the material used.

Q. So that if to-morrow I was going to the department store to borrow, say, fifty pounds of paint and two gallons of oil or varnish, to put them back afterwards, you would have nothing to do with it, yourself?—A. I have nothing to do with it.

Q. And the same answer, I suppose, would apply to the borrowing of men, of painters, for instance, to do some work and I would pay them?—A. It is the same thing. They cannot report that to me except when it is some work for the government.

Q. Then, in that case, if you had no notice of it, who would be the officer of the department at Sorel who would have to keep track of that loan of material and of day labourers or painters, who would take note of it?—A. For the workmen, it can be the one who keeps the time of the men, for instance, and for the material those who look after the store, the one who has charge of the store.

Q. Who would be those two persons?—A. Mr. Champagne, to keep the time of his men.

Q. Oscar Champagne?—A. Oscar Champagne; and for the store, Mr. Norman Massé is the man.

Q. Is it not a fact that Mr. Page, as head of the painting department, has always a big stock of paint on hand, of which he gives an account from time to time, so as to allow you to make your accounts?—A. He always has a big stock on hand because he cannot go and get it by small quantities at the store.

And further deponent saith naught.

Examination of Mr. PAPINEAU, resumed.

By Mr. McDougall.

Q. In June 1910 were you at Sorel throughout the month?—A. Most of the time, yes.

Q. Can you speak a little more precisely, Mr. Papineau? Were you not in Sorel during the whole month of June, 1910?—A. Well, I was away once or twice during the month.

Q. Do you remember the dates of your absence?—A. I remember that I was away on the Thursday, that was a holiday, and I remember being in Montreal when there was the demonstration at the Dollard Monument or rather the Maisonneuve Monument. I think it was the last day of May.

Q. The 31st of May?—A. That was a Sunday, and I think I was there the Saturday previous.

Q. In May? On the Saturday and Sunday the last two days of May you were in Montreal?—A. Yes.

Q. During the month of June you were in Sorel?—A. Most of the time. Now and then I came to Montreal or Ottawa.

Q. Did you know that men from the Department with materials supplied from the Department, such as paints, oils, and so forth, were working at Adelard Lanctot's house during June and July?—A. No sir.

Q. In the course of the year 1910?—A. No sir.

Q. Were you ever informed of this by anybody?—A. I was informed of it in November.

Q. If men's time or materials of the Department were borrowed for any outside operations other than those of the Government itself at Sorel to whom would the application for these be made?

Mr. LAFLAMME objected to the question, on the ground that it was too general.

Mr. McDougall asked the Stenographer to repeat the question, and reframed it as follows:—

Q. If men's time or materials of the Department were borrowed during 1910 for painting at Mr. Lanctot's house, to whom would the application for these be made?—A. I would expect it to be made to the Director, if he was there.

Q. The Director is yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. Have any of your sub-officials or foremen the right to farm out paints or men's time to others than the Department itself?

Mr. LAFLAMME objected to the question.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that question is all right.

Question repeated.

WITNESS: I would consider the Assistant-Director could do the same, could use the same powers as I use.

Q. Who do you call the Assistant Director?—A. Mr. Terrault.

Q. What is his first name?—A. H. A. Terrault.

Q. With the exception of yourself and Terrault aforesaid have any of your men—Jean Baptiste Pagé, or Oscar Champagne or Albert Baril, or any other the right without your permission to give paint or deliver paint to Mr. Lanctot or anybody else or to give to Mr. Lanctot or anybody else men's time for the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house or any body else's property in Sorel?—A. I consider they should advise the authority.

Q. Who is yourself or the assistant?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you ever advised during the year 1910 of what was being done at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. As I said before, I was advised in November after the work was done.

Q. Do you know if Mr. Terrault was ever advised?—A. I don't expect so, not to my knowledge.

Q. If your Assistant, Mr. Terrault, had been so advised would you not have known of it?

The CHAIRMAN.—That is hardly a proper question. Mr. Terrault can be called to explain that himself.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Would it have been Terrault's duty to refer such a matter to you?—A. We generally have knowledge of what the other does. Of course in the press of business sometimes a thing will not be reported.

Mr. GEOFFRION objected that the investigation was taking too wide a range, contending that they were not there to investigate the administration of the Department.

The CHAIRMAN.—I think we are just about on the verge of that already.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Mr. Terrault would act only in your absence, if you were present the authority would have to come from you?—A. Well, he might order a thing when I am not there, or even when I am there.

Q. In a matter which would extend over four or five months, such as the furnishing of supplies and men for the painting of Lanctot's house, would it be the duty of Mr. Terrault to report that to you if the instructions had been given by him?—A. I do not think Mr. Terrault had anything to do with that particular piece of work.

Q. The question is if he had would he not for an operation extending over several months, say from June to November, give you some information of it?—A. That is a question of opinion.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—The same objection.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Now, in November you were informed that painting had been done for Mr. Lanctot. Who gave you the information?—A. Mr. Oscar Champagne told me one day. He said, 'Have you heard from Mr. Lanctot?' I told him 'Nothing in particular.' I asked why. 'Well,' he said, 'if you have not, you will receive a letter from him because we have rendered an account to Mr. Lanctot, an account for work done,' and a day or two after I received a letter from Mr. Lanctot.

Q. Have you got the letter, Mr. Papineau? Will you look at the letter now shown you, marked Exhibit '16' and say if that is the letter you refer to?—A. That is the letter I refer to.

Q. Will you read it, please?

WITNESS read letter in French.

The CHAIRMAN.—Read it now in English, please.

WITNESS reads:—

EXHIBIT NO. 16.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

OTTAWA, NOVEMBER 22, 1910.

MR. L. G. PAPINEAU, Director of the Ship yards at St. Joseph de Sorel.

DEAR SIR.—I am sending you herewith my cheque to the amount of \$375.62 in payment of your account for wages of men supplied by the Department of Marine & Fisheries who have worked at my house. Please accept my sincere thanks.

Your devoted servant,

ADELARD LANCTOT.

Q. Look at that exhibit and say if it is the cheque you received?—A. That is the cheque alluded to.

Q. When you received that cheque had you the account?—A. Yes.

Q. Who gave you the account?—A. The account was with the letter.

Q. The account was enclosed in the letter?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you look at Exhibit No. 2 and say if that is the account or a duplicate of it?—A. Well, it is the same account, the same figures; yes, that is the account.

Q. You had not seen that account before you received it with the enclosure of the cheque. You had not seen that cheque at all until you received it from Mr. Lanctot?—A. No.

Q. Mr. Champagne had not shown it to you?—A. No.

Q. From what books or records could that account have been taken?—A. From the time-books of the time-keeper.

Q. Oscar Champagne is the time-keeper?—A. Yes.

Q. You replied to that letter on 2nd December, Mr. Papineau?—A. Yes sir.

Q. Was there any reason that you can give for replying on 2nd December instead of at once?—A. Well, it required a little time to be sure where we were standing with it.

Q. Where what?—A. How we were standing.

Q. While you made your enquiry from the 22nd November to the 2nd December?

A. I replied on the 2nd December, I think.

Q. Look at Exhibit No. 12 and say if that is the reply to the letter enclosing Mr. Lanctot's cheque which you received?—A. Yes sir.

Q. That is the date, the 2nd December?—A. Yes sir.

Q. Now then, the question is between 22nd November and the 2nd December you made enquiries with respect to what went to make up the cheque of \$375?—A. I enquired to know that the time was correct, and then I answered Mr. Lanctot and acknowledged receipt of his letter and cheque.

Q. To be applied as he requested. He requested you to apply it to the payment of the account?—A. Yes sir.

Q. To whom did you enquire as to the time, Oscar Champagne?—A. Yes.

Q. Anybody else?—A. He would refer to Pagé of course.

Q. Pagé of course was not the timekeeper. Pagé was the foreman of the painters?—A. Yes, but he had the men under his orders.

Q. The men who did the work. Whose hand-writing is that account in, Mr. Papineau?—A. The account?

Q. Yes, Exhibit "2"?—A. I believe it is Champagne's.

Q. And was the cheque filled out in full just as you see it today when you received it?—A. Yes, this is the cheque as I received it.

Q. Or was it signed really by Mr. Lanctot and filled in?—A. No, no.

Q. Received as it is?—A. Yes.

Q. When you received that cheque you did not apply it at once as required by Mr. Lanctot, did you, Mr. Papineau?—A. Well, the moment I had acknowledged receipt of course I was responsible for the amount. Then in the course of another month I sent it to the bank, toward the end of the month.

Q. Will you look at your bank-book and tell us how the account is kept in the bank? It is kept in your name and Mr. Barill's, the accountant, jointly?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you look at the entry of January 11, 1911?—A. Yes.

Q. State if you find the deposit of the cheque there to your credit?—A. Yes, January 11, \$375.62.

Q. You made the deposit that day?—A. The cheque was cashed on that day by the bank, because I see it is marked paid on the 11th. It had been sent at the end of the month.

By the Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. Which month?—A. December. Now, I had first endorsed for the deposit to our credit at Molson's Bank. That is the way we generally endorse a cheque when it is made in the joint names of Papineau and Baril. The cheque is made to the Department of Marine and Fisheries. It was not sufficient, so I had it returned.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Returned to whom?—A. To me, and endorsed by the Marine and Fisheries Department, Sorel.

Q. The Bank returned it to you, you mean?—A. So as to make it complete.

Q. Well, it had been sent into the Bank at the end of December but not at the end of November. It was received in November?—A. The end of December. I got it at the beginning. I had it, you see on the 22nd December, and I kept it a whole month.

Q. Were you making inquiries during this month to see whether the cheque would be accepted or retained by the Department, or is there any other explanation you wish to offer?—A. There is no explanation to offer.

Q. Well, it is not quite in the ordinary course to keep a cheque a month. I want to know if there is any particular reason why.—There is no reason beyond the one you offer?—A. No.

Q. All right. That amount was placed to your credit and you drew I think a deposit receipt. It went to the Receiver General?—A. Yes sir.

Q. Will you show us that transaction, please. Will you look at Exhibit '17'?

Witness shown Exhibit 17.

A. Yes.

Q. And say what it is?—A. Well, that is a cheque drawing on our deposit with the Bank so as to have a draft to the credit of the Receiver General.

Q. That is, a deposit receipt or a cheque?—A. That is a cheque on the funds we had to our name.

Q. That is a cheque paid by the two of you, Papineau and Baril, for \$375.62 to be put to the credit of the Receiver General?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it on the face of the cheque?—A. 'Refund from A. Lanctot for labour supplied'.

Q. After you got the deposit receipt did you forward it to the Receiver General? You sent it to the Deputy Minister, Mr. Johnston, didn't you?—A. Yes.

Q. There was some correspondence which ensued between you and Mr. Johnston. Will you read Exhibit '18'?

Exhibit '18' produced.

A. The first is my letter dated January 12, 1911, to the Deputy Minister, saying:—

SIR.—I beg to forward herewith, certificate of deposit No. 10 to the credit of the Receiver General, of a sum of \$375.62, being amount of refund re labour supplied to Mr. A. Lanctot, Sorel. I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) L. G. PAPINEAU,
Director of Ship Yard.

Q. Now, would you read the reply?—A. (Reads Exhibit No. 19).

OTTAWA, JANUARY 16, 1911.

SIR.—I have received from you, as per your letter of the 12th inst., receipt No. 10, to the credit of the Receiver General, for the sum of \$375.62, being amount of refund re labour supplied to Mr. A. Lanctot, Sorel. Before this can be sent over to the Auditor General, a statement of this labour is required. Kindly see that this is sent here immediately. I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) A. JOHNSTON,
Deputy Minister of Marine & Fisheries.

Q. You did not forward the account with the cheque?—A. No.

Q. You later, in reply to the Deputy Minister, sent the account?—A. Sent the account.

Q. Is that contained in that file?—A. There is a copy of it.

Q. Will you look at that and see if it is a copy of what you sent?—A. It is not the copy I sent. You see, this is my file at Sorel.

Q. That is an exact duplicate of what you sent to the Deputy Minister?—A. Probably the Deputy Minister has the exact counter-part.

Q. That is the copy retained by you?—A. Yes sir.

Q. You furnished the account and the account is there?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you look at account Exhibit '2'; compare it with the account sent to the Deputy Minister. You see in the account, Exhibit "2", the dates are not in consecutive order. In the account furnished to the Deputy Minister the dates are in consecutive order—the months. Allow me to point out to you that June, July, August, September, October, November, are all in consecutive order in the account furnished to the Deputy Minister?—A. Yes.

Q. But in the account furnished by Champagne the dates are not, sometimes; July is put after August and September after November?—A. Don't you like it better in the logical order?

Q. I prefer it in consecutive order, but I am anxious to know why?—A. I wanted to put it in logical order. The amount is the same.

By Mr. Brodeur:

Q. The amounts opposite each name are the same?—A. Yes.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. In sending the account to the Deputy Minister, was the account made in your Department, or was a fresh one made by Mr. Champagne?—A. No, I think it was made in my Department.

Q. Well, you have Exhibit 2, the account. Can you tell us from the books which are now here or from any records in your Department at what particular dates or date, July, August, September, October and November, the various men whose names are written there worked at Adelard Lanctot's house and at what other dates in those said months they worked for the Department, specifying where, and giving their job numbers, if there is such a thing?—A. No, I could not find those readily in the books.

Q. Where can the information be got?—A. I do not keep the books myself.

Q. Who would keep track of it?—A. The time-book is kept by Oscar Champagne.

Q. Will he be in a position from the papers we have here to tell this?—A. I think so.

Time-book produced.

Q. Will you take communication of the book now shown to you containing the headline, 'Department Marine and Fisheries, Canada. Government Ship Yard, Sorel, Que., River St. Lawrence Ship Channel, 1910. Pay List No. 144,' and say what it is?

—A. Well, it is the—

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. What date is that?

Mr. McDougall—I will identify it.

A. It is a copy of the pay list, the pay roll of the yard, for the half month from the first of June to the 15th.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. From what date?—A. From the 1st of June to the 15th of June, 1910.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. And it is a book showing what? Referring to what?—A. To the time the men have been employed.

Q. Of the employees of the Department?—A. The employees of the Department.

Q. At what work?—A. Well, all work.

Q. It is a record of the time the men put in?—A. Yes.

Q. On the St. Lawrence Ship Channel?—A. It is a record of the time they put in at the ship yard.

Q. At the ship yard in connection with the River St. Lawrence Ship Channel, is it?—A. Yes.

Q. That shows where the men work, doesn't it?—A. It shows that they were paid; that they gave so much time and that they were paid for it.

Q. That they gave so much time to what? What does that record show?—A. It shows the time the men have worked for the Department.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. The time the department would be responsible for them, isn't that it?

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. That is the pay list showing the time the men have worked at some particular place?—A. Well, they worked at Sorel for the ship yard.

Q. But does not that particular record refer to the St. Lawrence Ship Channel?—A. Well, all our work over there is marked under that heading.

Q. Oh, that is a general heading, is it?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there anything in this pay list to show where these particular men whose names are down there worked?—A. Not on the pay list, no.

Q. Not on the pay list. At page 331 is found the name of Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. Yes.

Q. Foreman?—A. Yes.

Q. Number of man 276. Will you explain what the man's number is?—A. Well, each man has a number for reference.

- Q. For reference?—A. For reference, either for payment or for any other purpose.
- Q. So 276 is Jean Baptiste Pagé's 'man number', let us call it?—A. Yes.
- Q. Do you find the name Adel. Alley?—A. Yes, 279.
- Q. His number is 279. Do you find Henri Proulx there?—A. Yes.
- Q. Number 283?—A. 283.
- Q. Do you find Henri Paul's name?—A. Yes, 287.
- Q. 287, do you find Alberie Letendre?—A. 292.
- Q. Do you find Alfred Douaire?—A. Yes.
- Q. 295—A. 295.
- Q. Do you find Napoleon Laroche?—A. Yes.
- Q. 299?—A. 299.
- Q. Do you find Octave Lafreniere?—A. Yes.
- Q. 301?—A. Yes.
- Q. Do you find Arthur Lavallee?—A. Yes.
- Q. 304?—A. 304.
- Q. Do you find Louis Paul?—A. Yes.
- Q. 306?—A. 306.
- Q. Do you find Joseph Kane?—A. Yes.
- Q. No. 310?—A. Yes.
- Q. Do you find Theodore Heimond?—A. Yes, 314.
- Q. His number is 314?—A. Yes.
- Q. Do you find Arthur Trempe?—A. Yes.
- Q. 320?—A. Yes.
- Q. Do you find Edmond Brault?—A. Yes.
- Q. His number is 321?—A. 321.
- Q. Do you find Adelard Letendre?—A. 330.
- Q. Do you find Omer Page?—A. Yes.
- Q. No. 342?—A. Yes 342.
- Q. At the end of this pay list, No. 144, do you find a certificate?—A. Yes.
- Q. Signed by D. Champagne, paymaster to the following effect: 'I certify that the above men have been paid at the dates recorded'. A. Yes.
- Q. Is it countersigned by anybody?—A. Not this.
- Q. This one is not countersigned?—A. No, the copy we send to the Department is countersigned.
- Q. Who would it be countersigned by?—A. I countersign it; that (indicating exhibit) is the record that we keep at the yard.
- Q. Well then we will have to get the original. Is it not countersigned by Oscar Champagne, the timekeeper, also?—A. Yes.
- Q. But this one in particular has not been countersigned by him?—A. Well, this book need not be countersigned.
- Q. Well now, I have read you the names and the numbers of certain men who worked?—A. Yes.
- Q. The amounts placed on this pay list opposite the names showing the number of days' labour they made during that half month of June, with the amounts paid to them?—A. Yes.
- Q. And the rate of the wages they are paid is entered here?—A. Yes.
- Q. So that we can make up from the names of those men the amounts paid to them and the time each man gave?—A. Yes.
- Q. The original of this book is in the Department at Ottawa?—A. Yes.
- Mr. McDougall.—I will try, Mr. Chairman, to shorten this up, and with that object I will ask a general question, I do not want to go into all the details.

By Mr. McDougall:

- Q. Will you look at Pay Sheet No. 145?—A. Yes.
- Q. Pay lists 145, 146, 147 and down to 157 inclusive cover the whole period—no,

down to 156, it should be, I do not want to go beyond the date of the account. A. This is the first half of December.

Q. This is the first half of December?—A. Yes.

Q. It will be down to No. 155, inclusively, then? 155 is the last; will you look at pay lists 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, and 155 inclusively—will you just take a hurried look at the certificates and say if these are all—A. These are copies of the pay lists.

Q. Pay rolls of the same nature as No. 144?—A. Yes.

Q. And the names of these men I have been reading are in there?—A. They are in the employ of the Department and were paid according to the amount shown opposite their names.

Q. And their numbers?—A. And their numbers.

Q. Now apart from the numbers which the workmen have is there a number put upon the job or upon each particular piece of work? Is each job numbered also?—A. They are not shown on the pay list.

Q. It is not shown on the pay list, but is there such a thing?—A. Yes, every job is numbered.

Q. Where can we find the evidence of the job number?—A. Well, the job numbers are kept in the assistant director's office.

Q. In the assistant director's office, Mr. A. Terrault's office?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, after you received this—you had no knowledge of anything that was going on at Mr. Adelard Lanctot's until November 10, and then on receiving his cheque you made inquiries about it?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you inquire whether this work had been done?—A. Well, I got a statement of the time given.

Q. From whom?—A. From Mr. Champagne.

Q. Is it here?—A. And after it had been checked—

Q. Now this time which you obtained there, is this time which you obtained from Oscar Champagne contained in the detailed summary, the summary with details in the papers now shown to you. (Document produced.)—A. Well, there is no signature to this, so I cannot say—it seems to have the time shown in the account.

Q. Well, these are the papers that were sent up to us, of course I want accurate information?—A. I do not know any further about that, myself—

Q. For instance you see—A. The account is signed but this is not.

Q. The account is signed?—A. Yes.

Q. But the particulars, or the apparent particulars covering June, July, August, September, October and November, with a whole lot of slips apparently showing how many days' work the men put in are not signed by anybody?—A. I do not see any signatures.

Q. You do not know anything about this yourself?—A. I have not prepared them myself?

Q. How did you verify Mr. Lanctot's cheque for \$375?

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. Is it usual for Mr. Champagne to sign these time slips?—A. No.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Mr. Champagne furnished you that account?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he give you the details, the days and the dates that each man worked in the months of June, July, August and September?—A. Yes, the account is there.

Q. The account simply says they worked in June so many days, in general, but does not show on what days in June; for instance Octave Lafreniere worked 16 days in June?—A. Well, he must have taken that from his time book.

Q. Annexed to that statement is a number of slips there?—A. Yes, that has not been certified by anybody.

Q. You will not swear as to the correctness of this?—A. I have not compared it myself.

Q. Whose handwriting is it in, Mr. Papineau. I want to get information as to the times and dates. You do not know whose handwriting the particulars are in?—A. I am not positive, no.

Q. Is it in Mr. Champagne's handwriting?—A. No.

Q. Is it in Mr. Emery's?—A. I do not think so.

By the Chairman:

Q. Whose handwriting do you think it is in? Some person in your office?—A. Well, if I knew I would be able to swear.

Q. You might not be able to swear positively, but tell us whose handwriting you think it is in and then we can call him and find out whether that is the man or not?—A. I believe it has been made in the accountant's department.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. In Mr. Baril's Department?—A. Yes.

Q. I want to know how it is made up if I can get the particulars?—A. I think it was taken from the time book showing the dates, the details.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. Do you know by whom these time sheets were supplied?—A. Well, they are on the regular form of the Department.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Here is one, for instance, which tells that Octave Laferriere, whose man number is 301, 'charge account of Lanctot,' who apparently worked on the 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th, six days; then again in June he apparently worked on the 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th of June, 10 days—what I want to ascertain is who kept these particulars?—A. Well, they were kept with the time book, by the checker.

Q. By the time checker, that is Champagne?—A. Yes.

Q. When you made inquiries about Mr. Lanctot's check and the work that had been done for him, did you get the job number that was allotted to him in the Government account?—A. I don't think so.

Q. Do you know if there was a job number allotted to Mr. Lanctot?—A. I do not believe there was one.

Q. You would know, you are the controlling director?—A. Well, we issue about 6,000 job numbers in the year.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. How many?—A. 6,000, I suppose.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Can you tell us whether there is any account at all kept with Mr. Lanctot in the Government books. There must be a letter, journal or something?—A. Yes, well the accountant has that.

Q. After November, and after receiving the check, on or about December 12th, 1910, did you receive an account for the paints and other things supplied to Adalard Lanctot in connection with his house on George St.?—A. Yes, the same week that I got the check I got a detailed account of the material supplied for the work at Mr. Lanctot's.

Q. From whom did you get this?—A. I got that, I think it was prepared by Mr. Champagne too.

Q. By Oscar Champagne?—A. Yes, the handwriting is Mr. Champagne's but it was prepared from the memorandum of Mr. Page.

Q. What has Mr. Champagne to do with it? He is only the men's timekeeper?—A. Well, he could do writing anyway.

Q. Yes, all right, but can you?—A. The account is here, here is the certificate of Mr. Page.

Q. Have you the account here?
(Account filed).

EXHIBIT NO. 20.

MONS. A. LANCTOT

Dr. to Marine & Fisheries Dept.

1910. P.O. Address, Sorel. 16 Novembre, 1910.

| | | |
|----------|---|---------|
| Jun 3 | 150 lbs. de Mastic at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents | \$ 3 00 |
| " 3 | 6 Paquets pointe a vitre at 5 cents | 0 30 |
| Sept. 19 | 200 lbs. peinture picpaici at 11 cents | 22 00 |
| " 19 | 4 galls. huile at \$.100 | 4 00 |
| Oct. 13 | 300 lbs. peinture jaune at 11 cents | 33 00 |
| " 14 | 6 galls. rubbing varnish at \$2.75 | 16 50 |
| " 27 | 2 galls. peinture grise at \$1.25 | 2 50 |
| | | \$81 30 |

Work performed, materials delivered, measured by

Foreman,

J. B. PAGE,

Certified prices fair and just.

Resident Engineer.

Received from the Department of Marine & Fisheries, in full of the above account, the sum of

.....Dollars.....day of.....191 ..
.....

Q. You produce that as the account which was given to you by Oscar Champagne was it, or was it by Page?—A. It was handed me I think by Mr. Champagne.

Q. Are you not sure, can you not tell us positively whether it was Page gave it to you or Champagne?—A. I think it was handed me by Mr. Champagne.

Q. By Champagne, yes; at what time now?—A. Well, in the same week; that was on the 2nd December—well it was during that week.

Q. Some time after the 2nd December?—A. Yes.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. When did you get the account—from Mr. Champagne, was it? Was it when you got the cheque from Mr. Lanctot or after that?—A. The account was with Mr. Lanctot's cheque.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Now, you received the cheque, if I remember aright, about the 21st or 22nd November?—A. Well, about that time.

Q. And you answered it on the 2nd December?—A. Yes.

Q. This account you have just produced, Exhibit 20, was given you between these two dates or after 2nd of December?—A. After.

Q. After 2nd of December?—A. Yes.

Q. This was given you by Mr. Champagne or by Mr. Page, you think Mr. Champagne, as being the quantity of paints and other things furnished to Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes.

Q. For the painting of his house?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you see Mr. Lanctot in connection with this account, Exhibit No. 20?—A. Well, I saw him—at the time of receiving the letter I expected to see him within a few days and then I acknowledged the receipt; when I saw he was not

turning up in Sorel I acknowledged the receipt of the letter, and a few days afterwards I had occasion to see him in Sorel and I mentioned the account.

Q. The account; which account, the account Mr. Champagne had given you?—
A. The account for material. I told him I thought the best plan would be to have the same quantities of material returned to the department. He was quite willing that I have that done for him.

Q. That was the last communication you had with him on that subject?—A. I do not recall any other.

Q. Well, in writing you, for instance, enclosing the cheque to pay for the mens' time, did not he also tell you there would be an account for material, for paints? Did he say anything about that?—A. I do not think he said anything but I knew it about the same time.

Q. Then you knew it from Mr. Champagne? Well then he agreed to return the materials to the department?—A. Yes.

Q. Well how were the materials got?—A. About the same time; about that time there was the manager of the Mount Royal Paint and Varnish Company—

Q. Mr. Lamontagne?—A. Mr. Lamontagne—happened to be in Sorel and as he was one of the men supplying material for the department at one time and another, I gave him a list of what we required; you see the list was according to that memoranda.

Q. The memoranda of Mr. Champagne? Exhibit No. 20?—A. Yes. Mr. Page, so that Mr. Lamontagne agreed to send the goods to the department, and I gave him my personal cheque.

Q. Have you any cheque with you, Mr. Papineau?—A. Yes. Then at the next—

Q. Will you exhibit your cheque?—A. Yes I will—and the next time Mr. Lanctot called I showed him a copy of the receipt of Mr. Lamontagne and he paid me back the money I had disbursed. (After making search). I had it this morning.

THE CHAIRMAN.—You will find it and produce it later on.

The WITNESS.—Yes.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You gave Mr. Lamontagne—A. Oh, here it is I think. (After examining document). No.

The CHAIRMAN.—The cheque of Mr. Papineau to the paint firm will be marked Exhibit No. 21.

(EXHIBIT No. 21).

Montreal, 12th December, 1910.

La Banque d'Epargne la Cite et du District de Montreal.

| | |
|---|---|
| Payes à l'ordre de T. Lamontagne | 60 |
| Quatre-vingt deux | 100 |
| | <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> |
| \$82.60 | |
| <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0; margin-right: auto;"/> | |
| 100 | |

L. G. PAPINEAU.

Endorsed: 'Je, soussigné, certifie que le montant du present cheque est Quatre-Vingt deux, 60 dollars.

E. LAMONTAGNE.
T. LAMONTAGNE.

Also endorsed:

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You gave your cheque to Mr. Lamontagne, the agent of the Mount Royal Colour and Varnish Company?—A. Yes.

Q. And that is reported to Montreal, or by correspondence, as for goods supplied on or about December 12, paints and materials, to correspond, I suppose, with Exhibit 20?—A. Yes.

Q. You will look at Exhibit No. 13 and say if that is the—A. Yes, I have got the receipt from Lamontagne, you see. (Producing document).

(EXHIBIT No. 22).

Mount Royal Colour and Varnish Co., Ltd.

Montreal, Que., Dec. 12, 1910.

Vender a Department of Marine and Fisheries.

— Sorel, P. Q.

A/c Director.

| | | | |
|------|---------------------------------------|------|-------|
| 5740 | 150 lbs. putty | 0 02 | 3 00 |
| | 6 packs. glazier paint | 0 10 | 0 60 |
| | 200 lbs. R. M. paint, green | 0 11 | 22 00 |
| | 4 gals. D.B. linseed oil | 1 00 | 4 00 |
| | 300 lbs. yellow paint | 0 11 | 33 00 |
| | 6 gals. rubbing varnish | 2 75 | 16 50 |
| | 2 grey paint | 1 25 | 2 50 |

\$81 60

Mount Royal Colour and Varnish Co., Limited.

Paid, Dec. 13, 1910.

Per Choquette.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You gave your cheque in advance on December 11 to Mr. Lamontagne?—A. Yes.

Q. On December 12 the goods were sent on to the department as shown by Exhibit No. 13, and Lamontagne, or his house, sent you a receipt which bears the imprint, 'December 13'?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Which you produced as Exhibit No. 22?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now that was a personal transaction between you and Mr. Lanctot, and your personal cheque went for the payment of the goods and Mr. Lanctot paid you back \$81.60 personally, did he not?—A. Yes.

Q. Nothing of that went through the government's books, there were no entries of that transaction at all?—A. Well, except that the goods were checked when they came in.

Q. The goods were checked when they came in?—A. Yes.

Q. And on the face of Exhibit No. 13 appears the counter-signature of Arthur Lavallee?—A. Yes, he checked the goods when they came back.

Q. That is to say you turned the goods into the department for which you had paid by your personal cheque?—A. Yes. You notice that this is marked 'no charge.'

Q. I do not know what that means?—A. That means the department has nothing to pay for them.

Q. The department never paid for those goods?—A. No.

Q. It was yourself?—A. Mr. Lanctot paid for them.

Q. That is he refunded the amount to you?—A. Yes.

Q. But you paid for these goods?—A. Yes.

Q. As an act of friendship for Mr. Lanctot, I suppose?—A. Well, just as a matter of Mr. Lanctot not being there, you see.

Q. Yes?—A. I did the transaction with Lamontagne for Lanctot.

Q. And he reimbursed you?—A. Yes.

Q. He also paid a little more than \$81.60, there was some freight paid for?—A. There was freight, yes, he paid a dollar odd.

Q. There are no entries of this transaction in the government books?—A. No.

Q. Have you a purchasing agent or a contract agent in the department at Sorel?—A. Not at Sorel, sir.

Q. Well, at Ottawa?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who deals with supplies required for Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is his name?—A. Mr. Cecil Doutre.

Q. Did he have anything to do with supplies at Lanctot's house?—A. No, sir.

Q. Was he required to get them in any way?—A. No, sir.

Q. When supplies are required for the department who is requested to obtain them, is it not the purchasing agent, Mr. Doutre?—A. Well, we make requisitions.

Q. You make requisitions?—A. Yes.

Q. And they are sent to Ottawa?—A. Yes.

Q. Sent to Mr. Roy at Ottawa, are they?—A. The requisitions are sent to Mr. Doutre.

Q. Directly to Mr. Doutre?—A. Yes.

Q. And on these requisitions he goes out and makes the contracts and purchases?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was there ever a requisition sent to Mr. Doutre to purchase supplies for Mr. Lanctot?—A. No, sir.

Q. Now in reference to these pay lists, Mr. Desire Champagne pays them out of moneys which are supplied to him on your cheque, or on the cheque of you and Mr. Baril, and you obtain these moneys on application to the Department, do you not?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. For instance, I want to put one general question: I find that from your cheque book you handed to Desire Champagne for different pay rolls amounts varying from fifteen and sixteen to seventeen and eighteen thousand dollars. A. Yes.

Q. That is to say with moneys obtained from the department at Ottawa?—A. Yes, they put—

Q. I do not want to go through all the letter books, I have made a summary of them because I do not want to lose the time of the Committee.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. Explain, Mr. Papineau, how these payments are made?—A. When a pay roll, for instance, is made and ready, the Department issue a cheque in our favor—in favor of L. G. Papineau and A. Baril.

Q. Do you send the requisition yourself for the amount of money you require, or how is it done?—A. Yes.

Q. Or do you send a pay list and ask for the money?—A. We send the pay list.

Q. You send the pay list to the Department?—A. Send the pay list to the Department. The Department issue a cheque in favor of L. G. Papineau and A. Baril. The cheque is deposited to our joint account, to our credit at the Bank. Then we make a cheque to draw from that amount. We make the cheque to draw according to the pay for the half month.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. And that amount is handed to Desire Champagne?—A. The cheque is made in favor of Desire Champagne, the paymaster.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. It is made payable to the order of somebody else? But do you mention on the cheque the pay list which you intend to pay? How is the cheque drawn. A. Well, it is drawn in favour of Desire Champagne, the paymaster, and it is signed by both of us.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. So Desire Champagne is put in possession of the money. A. He is put in possession of the money.

Q. He is put in possession of the actual cash and pays the men?—A. He pays the men.

Q. And shows at the foot of the pay roll the amount that he had on that?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know G. A. Payette, contracting painter in Sorel?—A. I can't say that I know him personally.

Q. You did not meet him in the course of the month of July last?—A. Payette?

Q. Yes. Let me see, perhaps I am making a mistake. (After referring to notes.) No, G. A. Payette, of Sorel, Contracting or Decorating Painter. Did you see him in the course of the month of July last and did he complain to you about the painters being at work from the Department at Lanctot's house?—A. Payette? It is possible.

Q. Do you remember if he did or not?—A. Well, sometimes there are complaints that our men go out and do work.

Q. Yes.—A. You see, and then come back and get their job again with us. Very often complaints have been made of that sort: people complaining that some of our men will leave their job with us, go out in Sorel, take work for a certain time and come back to our work after that.

Q. Yes?—A. Well, that is the source of complaint.

Q. Do you remember Mr. Payette meeting you at the end of July, 1910, and complaining to you that men employed—actually employed in the department—were working on Lanctot's house, and that you told him you would put a stop to it.—A. I didn't understand it that way.

Q. You didn't understand it that way? Then did he report to you about a fortnight or so afterwards and tell you that no stop had been put to it, that the men continued working for Lanctot, and you told him that your orders had not been obeyed?—A. I don't recollect that.

By the Chairman:

Q. If he had spoken to you in that particular way you say you didn't so understand it?—A. I would have understood that some of our men had left their work, you see, to go elsewhere and taken the work off the hands of the local men.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Who were not actually employed by the department?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember telling him?—A. I had complaints of that sort.

Q. That if they were working on Lanctot's house you knew nothing about it?—A. I beg your pardon.

Q. Do you remember telling him in July last, towards the end of July, that if men were working on Lanctot's house, men from the department, you knew nothing about it?—A. I don't remember the conversation we had.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. You know that man Payette?—A. Well, I know the name, I have seen him once or twice.

The CHAIRMAN.—Is the man here?

MR. MCDUGALL.—Yes, he is here.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. I find among your cheque stubs, Mr. Papineau, the stub of a cheque dated November 18, 1910, in favour of Henry Proulx for three days at \$1.80, \$5.40. 'Ship-yard pay roll, 1st to 15th November, refd.'—A. Yes.

Q. Can you, by examining the pay roll, tell us what this payment to Henry Proulx was?—A. It must have been a balance, it must have been a payment in advance, as Proulx was leaving. He had been paid for the fortnight previous and there was a balance of \$3 that would have been due to him at the end of the month you see. So we gave him a cheque and he gave his receipt.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. What is the date of that cheque?—A. It is dated November 18.

Q. For what amount?—A. \$5.40.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. And the word 'refd,' means 'refund.'—A. Yes, 'refund.' That means that the paymaster got the receipt of Proulx, you see. At the time we gave that cheque to Proulx he signed a receipt. The receipt goes to the paymaster, and the paymaster instead of paying the money to Proulx you see, hands it back and it is re-deposited to our credit.

MR. MCDUGALL.—All right, I have nothing more to ask.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Mr. Papineau, you say you were in Montreal on the 29th May.—A. On the 30th of May and I think I was there the day before.

Q. You recollect that was a Sunday?—A. Yes, it was Sunday, and I believe I was there the day before.

Q. So you were absent from Sorel on the 29th of May?—A. I think so.

Q. What time did you leave on the 29th of May?

MR. MCDUGALL.—He has not said the 29th.

MR. LAFLAMME.—He says so now. He says he left the day before.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. What time did you leave on the 29th, Mr. Papineau?—A. I could have left either on Friday at four or at 3.25 I think, or else Saturday morning.

Q. What time in the morning?—A. The train leaves at 7.30.

Q. So there is no doubt about it, Mr. Papineau, that on the 29th of May from 7.30 in the forenoon until the 30th of May in the evening you were away from Sorel?—A. As far as I can recollect I was.

Q. Of course if you were away on the 29th of May you cannot swear whether or not your assistant, Mr. Terrault, was present in Sorel?—A. No.

Q. He might have been absent also?—A. He might.

Q. Who would attend to the ship yard then in the absence of both of you?—A. Well, for pressing orders they would go to the different foremen or the timekeeper.

Q. So that it would not be out of the ordinary that a person might apply to Mr. Champagne or Mr. Page in case both the director and his assistant were absent?—A. Well, possibly.

Q. When does navigation close? When did it close in 1910?—A. Well, about the 25th of November.

Q. From what date?—A. About the 25th of November.

Q. So that the week of the 22nd November would be a very busy one?—A. Yes.

Q. In what respect?—A. Well, all vessels turn in and give their reports; talk about what they have done in the season, give a report of what they want to be done to their vessels in the way of repairs, and so on.

Q. There would be ships coming into the river for the winter?—A. Yes, the dredges and tugs coming back from the work.

Q. Crews are discharged?—A. Crews are discharged.

Q. And paid?—A. And paid.

Q. Reports are made?—A. Yes.

Q. And so on? So that the week in which navigation closes is the most busy week that you have at the ship yard?—A. Yes, and when they go out in the spring.

Q. The opening and the closing of navigation?—A. Yes.

Q. Would that not be an additional reason why you didn't acknowledge the receipt of the cheque of the 21st November until 2nd December?—A. Yes, that would certainly cause—might cause a delay in answering the letter.

Q. Well now, you did not notice when you got this cheque of Mr. Lanctot's that it was made out payable to the order of the Department of Marine and Fisheries?—A. Well, I didn't make—I suppose I didn't pay particular attention to that.

The CHAIRMAN.—He has already said it was endorsed.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—I want to show that was by oversight, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN.—That is what he has already said, Mr. Laflamme. Here you are (handing cheque to Counsel).

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. You say you didn't notice it at first?—A. That it was made payable to the Department?

Q. Yes.—A. Well, I did not pay any particular attention. I signed it in the usual way I endorse cheques.

Q. Well, the fact that you in the first place endorsed it L. G. Papineau and got it endorsed by Mr. Baril would indicate that you didn't notice that the payee was the Department of Marine and Fisheries?—A. It simply shows that at the moment of endorsing I did not have my attention turned to that point.

Q. Now do you remember when you sent the cheque first to the deposit of Papineau and Baril, how long after the 2nd of December?—A. I believe it was—we had prepared several refunds in that way and I think we sent all of them at the end of the month, on the 29th.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. You sent your refunds at the end of the month?—A. I sent several refunds you see, because we have a few. (Referring to documents). You see we have one refund there of the 27th December. We have another of the 29th you see. We have another of the 29th again. We have another of the 29th again. Another here, 29th of December. Then the refund No. 10 is dated—it is the same date you see, so I expect it was turned in along with the other refunds.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. On the 29th?—A. On the 29th.

Q. Very well. Now will you give us the reasons why you held these cheques until the latter part of the month for refund? You make a refund to the department?—A. Every deposit, yes. That was the date of the deposit.

Q. In the bank?—A. The bank.

Q. Will you explain why you will hold a cheque for some time until the end of the month for refund?—A. Well, it is more a matter of habit than anything else, I suppose.

Q. Well, is it a habit?—A. Yes, as a rule we make them once a month.

Q. Once a month, and you will make them at the end of the month?—A. Well, there is no particular date for it.

Q. No particular date for it? Now, when did the cheque return from the bank

for proper endorsation?—A. I think I got it—I must have got it I suppose, after the recess. We were stopped for ten days you see. We closed----

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. When was it?—A. We closed on the Thursday, the last Thursday in December until the 10th of January.

Q. Oh, I see?—A. The shops were closed for putting things in order, repairs and cleaning the boilers and engines and things like that. Then we started work again on the Monday after the Epiphany. That was the 10th, I think, of January, or the 11th.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. It was then that you got this cheque from the bank?—A. I think so.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. You said you closed on Thursday before the first of January?—A. Yes, Thursday evening.

Q. Then the Thursday in that case would have been the 29th of December, because the 1st day of January, 1911, was on Sunday?—A. 1911, yes.

Q. So on the 29th you deposited your money and closed the shops. On what day did you reopen the shops?—A. On the 10th. The 10th must be the second Monday in January.

Q. No, the 10th would be the second Tuesday?—A. Tuesday.

Q. Yes. The 9th would be the second Monday?—A. Well, it was the 9th.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. Perhaps Monday was a holiday?—A. No, the 6th.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. Mr. Papineau, you are the officer in charge of the yards at Sorel, Chief Director?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. The first you heard about this matter, as I understand you, was about the 21st or 22nd of November, 1910, when Mr. Champagne spoke to you?—A. Yes.

Q. He asked you if you had heard from Lanctot?—A. Yes.

Q. You wanted to know why, and he said what?—A. He said 'because you are likely to have a letter from Mr. Lanctot because we have sent him an account.'

Q. Then a letter from Mr. Lanctot did come immediately after Champagne spoke to you?—A. Yes, within a couple of days.

Q. When you got that letter and the account and the cheque you did not act upon them immediately?—A. No, not exactly.

Q. Why?—A. Because I wanted to have time to look over it.

Q. Only that?—A. Well, I am sometimes serious enough.

Q. Did you think it was your duty to make investigation or inquiry as to the correctness of this?—A. Well, that is what I said.

Q. That is what you meant?—A. I said so before. That I had----

Q. Never mind what you said before. I am asking you now: you wanted to look into it?—A. Yes.

Q. It was an irregular proceeding, wasn't it?—A. That is a matter of opinion.

Q. I ask you, wasn't it irregular the doing of this thing, or was it regular?—I do not care which way you put it?—A. It is an exception, yes.

Q. An exception?—A. It is exceptional.

Q. You would not consider it irregular for you, as director of that establishment, to supply labour for Lanctot's and pay for the labour for a gentleman, whether he was a Member of Parliament or not, a person in no way connected with the Government—you would not consider that irregular?

Hon. JACQUES BUREAU objected to the question, stating that the witness was not on trial, and that the investigation had only reference to the regularity of Mr. Lanctot's proceeding.

Mr. BARKER: I want to ascertain if he made an investigation, and if not why not.

The CHAIRMAN: He said so.

WITNESS: I said so before.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. Tell me what the investigation was you made?—A. I said so before.

Q. What was the investigation as to the correctness of this proceeding?—A. I went to the man with the account and asked him to check his time and see that it was correct.

Q. That was Champagne, was it?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you yourself check the time charged from June to November to see whether they were charging all that Mr. Lanctot ought to have paid?—A. No, I did not check that myself.

Q. Did you tell anybody to do so?—A. Well, the two men concerned, Pagé and Champagne, went over the figures.

Q. Did you tel them to do so?—A. Yes.

Q. You did?—A. I asked them to see that the account was correct.

Q. In what respect. It was in the account made out by Champagne?—A. The account must be correct with respect to time.

Q. You had before you in a letter Champagne's own account of thsi work?—A. Yes.

Q. What object had you in asking him to check his own account?—A. Well, it is my duty to be sure that a thing like that is correct when it goes to the Department.

Q. I think you got that account made out by him running over several months?

Hon. JACQUES BUREAU: He did not say he got it made by him.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. The account supposed to have been made up by Champagne?—A. Would you rather have me send an account like that without looking into it at all.

Q. I do not think you did look at it, that is the reason I am asking. You had in that letter from Mr. Lanctot an account for \$375 or something of that kind. You simply asked Mr. Champagne to look into it?—A. Yes.

Q. And Mr. Pagé?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not yourself?—A. No.

Q. I think it was the account sent in by these men to Mr. Lanctot. As Chief of the Department you made no inquiry or investigation?—A. That is what Mr. Barker says.

Q. You have assented?

Mr. DEVLIN (Wright).—He has not.

WITNESS.—I hear what you say. What is it?

By Mr. Barker:

Q. Did you, beyond asking Champagne or Page, to look into that account and see if it was correct, make an inquiry yourself?—A. There was no other means of knowing.

Q. I did not ask you that?

Mr. DEVLIN.—I appeal for the protection of the witness.

THE CHAIRMAN.—He has said several times that the inquiry he made was for Page and Champagne to go over the account.

Mr. BARKER.—I want to ask whether he himself made an inquiry.

HON. JACQUES BUREAU.—He says he did, and asked the men to do it.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. Did you make any inquiry yourself beyond asking Page or Champagne?—A. There was no other means of finding out.

Q. And, therefore, I suppose you did not do it? Now, Mr. Douaire was a witness here. I want to ask you about Mr. Albert Douaire. He is charged in this account for his work, or Mr. Lanctot is charged for fifteen days?—A. Yes.

Q. Douaire says he worked eight weeks. Were you here when he said that?—A. No, sir. I was not here.

Q. Well, that is in this testimony. He says he worked eight weeks. How many days would that mean?—A. Eight weeks.

Q. Eight weeks?—A. Deduct Sundays and holidays and you will find out.

Q. What would it be? Six days a week would be forty-eight days?—A. That is arithmetic, yes.

Q. Do they work six days? You understand, sir, what I mean. How many days do the men usually work in the week?—A. If they do not get on a drunk they work six days.

Q. He means then when he says he worked eight weeks, that he worked forty-eight days?—A. I am not Douaire, I do not know what he means.

Q. There are only charged by the government for that man's work fifteen days. That would mean thirty-three days uncharged at \$2 a day; that would be \$66 apparently charged for that man. Have you made any inquiry recently as to that fact?—A. Recently?

Q. Recently?—A. No.

Q. Have you directed any inquiry to be made?—A. No.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. As director of the Sorel ship yard, did you verify the correctness of the account produced before you in connection with Lanctot's house?—A. I was satisfied that the account was correct.

Q. And you verified them in the usual way that accounts are verified in connection with the administration of the ship yard at Sorel?—A. Yes, it was the usual manner.

By Mr. Doherty:

Q. I understood you to say, in answer to Mr. Laflamme that if you were absent and Mr. Terrault was absent, people on matters of pressing business might address themselves to Mr. Champagne?—A. Yes.

Q. Do I understand from that that in your absence, or whether you were absent or not, Mr. Champagne was in a position to agree with people to hire out the men of the department and to furnish the material?—A. No, I did not mean that.

Q. I understand he would not have any authority of that kind?—A. In a very pressing thing he might let a man go out and do certain work for perhaps a day or so.

Q. But to agree to furnish people to paint a house?—A. No, he had no authority like that.

Q. If you had been present yourself, and an application had been made to you to enter into an agreement to furnish painters and materials for the painting of a house, would you have agreed to do it on behalf of the department?

HON. JACQUES BUREAU.—That is not a fair question to put. This man is not on trial.

MR. DOHERTY.—I submit my question.

THE CHAIRMAN.—I think the witness may answer the question.

By Mr. Doherty:

Q. Will you be good enough to answer the question?—A. Try Sorel and I will let you know.

Q. I want an answer here in Ottawa?—A. I would require to have good reasons to do it.

Q. Will you indicate what you would understand by good reasons?—A. Well, cases of urgency or cases of necessity, things like that. In the ordinary course of things I would not do it.

Q. In the ordinary course of things you would not do it?—A. I would not do it.

Q. And I think no subordinate of yours would have the right to do what you consider you would not have a right to do yourself?—A. Exactly.

Q. Now, I understood as to these dates, that the way you fixed them was that the way you fixed them was that you were in Montreal on the last Sunday in May on the occasion of the Dollard Monument celebration. The way you fixed the Saturday was that it was the day preceding that?—A. Yes.

Q. So that if last year the Sunday was the 29th May, then you were not absent from Sorel on the Monday and Tuesday following. It would be the 28th and 29th, the 29th being Sunday, that you were absent?—A. I did not mean the day after.

Q. No, the day before?—A. The day before.

Q. In saying that you were away on the 29th, it was on the basis that Sunday was the 30th?—A. I recollect having been in Montreal on the occasion of that celebration or that demonstration.

Q. That was on Sunday?—A. On a Sunday.

Q. And you were in Montreal on the day before?—A. The day before.

Q. So, whether you were absent on the 29th or not depends on whether the Sunday was on the 30th?—A. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN.—That is self-evident.

Witness retired.

AUGUSTIN PAYETTE, sworn, examined by Mr. McDougall, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Blondin.

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Payette?—A. At Sorel.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. Ornamental painter.

Q. How old are you?—A. Thirty years old.

Q. How long have you worked as ornamental painter?—A. Twelve years.

Q. In 1908 you were employed by the Department of Marine and Fisheries at Sorel?—A. In 1908, yes, sir, I was.

Q. About the month of October 1908, were you sent to do some painting at Mr. Lanctot's, when he was living in some premises he had rented on Roy Street?—A. I do not remember which month it was or which date but I know perfectly well that I went there to do some papering, one day or two, I think, only papering; but I do not remember who paid me; I do not know if Mr. Lanctot paid me; I am not positive it was not Mr. Lanctot. It must have been Mr. Pagé or the Government. I cannot swear as to that.

Q. Who sent you to work there?—A. Mr. Pagé.

Q. Do you mean Mr. Jean-Baptiste Pagé?—A. Jean-Baptiste Pagé, yes.

Q. The foreman of the painters for the government?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you working under him?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know a man by the name of Alfred Douaire, painter?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When you went to work at Mr. Lanctot's house on Roy Street, did you see Mr. Douaire?—A. When I went in the house to do the papering, Mr. Alfred Douaire was leaving, in the afternoon; he was leaving to go back to the government; he had finished the painting.

Q. Now, let us come to the year 1910. Do you know, Mr. Payette, the residence beonging to Mr. Lanctot on George street and which was painted by him that same year?—A. Yes, sir, I know it very well.

Q. Have you seen employees of the government working at the painting of that house?—A. Yes, sir, I saw employees of the government working there.

Q. Did you see, amongst trem, in the month of July or August, Mr. Alfred Douaire, we spoke of a moment ago, working at Mr. Adelard Lanctot's house on George street.

The WITNESS.—In July or August?

The COUNSEL. Yes.—A. I cannot tell if he has worked there al the time, but I saw Mr. Douaire working there in the month of July or August.

Q. I am not asking you if he worked there during the whole month of July or the whole month of August but in the course of these two months have you seen him working at the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir, I was working past the church and I passed there every day and I could see Mr. Doua'ire there.

Q. How far is the church you were working at from Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. The church is a few acres further than Mr. Lanctot's, but the same street.

Q. You saw Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, I saw it.

Q. That house is well painted?—A. Oh, yes, from what I have seen outside, always—and I went inside once.

Q. In the month of May and in June, and also in July, you were a painter-decorator in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were you then in the employ of the government?—A. In 1910.

Q. Yes.—A. No, sir.

Q. Before Mr. Lanctot got his house painted, were you in a position to take up the contract of the painting of that house?—A. Yes, the job could have been done. That was in the beginning of spring, and times were dull.

Q. Did you ask to Mr. Lanctot to give you the job of the painting of his house on George street?—A. In March, I think, I had occasion to meet Mr. Lanctot, one night, about nine o'clock. He was going in the direction of the Richelieu Hotel. I told him: 'You won't forget me for the painting.' He went on, walking, and he told me: 'I will think it over.'

Q. You were then in a position to take up the job as soon as the house would have been ready?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. After that, did Mr. Lanctot ask you to do the painting of his house?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did he ever mention that afterwards to you?—A. No, never.

Q. When he began to get his house painted, have you offered again your services to him; did you ask him once more to give you the job of his house?—A. I went there, but the men were working at the plastering. I asked them who had the job, and they told me: 'It must be the government people.' That is all they answered me.

Q. Who were the men you saw working at the painting of the house? Can you name them?—A. I don't think I can remember them all, but I can name several of them. I remember having seen Adelard Aly.

Q. And who, besides?—A. Mr. Douain, Mr. Edmond Brault, Mr. Pagé.

Q. Omer or Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. Omer, I don't remember the names of the others.

Q. Now, you have seen Mr. Lanctot's house. What value do you put to the paint-work which has been done there, material and labour, all included?—A. It is very hard to guess that. Generally, in figuring up a house for a contract, you must see the house or see the place. I only went once in Mr. Lanctot's house, and I didn't go everywhere. I don't know how many rooms there are. The outside, I have seen it while passing. I don't know the size, nothing.

Q. Did you see, judging by the outside, what had been done?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What kind of a house is it? Is it a brick or a frame house?—A. A frame house.

Q. Clapboarded on the outside?—A. Clapboarded, yes.

Q. Judging from your experience as a painter, how much would it be worth for the contract of painting Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. For the outside, as far as I can see, without knowing the size, but my having painted other houses about the same—Mr. Lanctot's house is very well painted on the outside—I estimate the outside, for the material and labour, the time of the men, at two hundred dollars?

Q. For which part of the work?—A. The outside.

Q. Two hundred dollars, only for the outside?—A. For the outside.

Q. And what about the inside-work?—A. Generally, the inside, that is polishing work. From what I have been able to see, its polishing which has been done in the inside. On the walls, it's plain painting. There are several sorts of polishing, from fine to coarse. Generally, we figure by the yard, and the polishing is figured at a dollar a yard for pretty good work—not the best—material and time included.

Q. Admitting as true that the inside work for polishing has been well done, what value would you put for the total price?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to that question as being useless, because witness has declared that he had not sufficient information to allow him to form an opinion on the value of the work.

Question is allowed.

Q. Supposing that the inside polishing had been well done, how much would you charge for the job?—A. It is very hard to figure that way. I only saw all that a moment, by the way. If there are many rooms the polishing is a much longer work, if there are many doors. I cannot figure that exactly, but it must be about six hundred dollars for a job like that.

Q. Do you say six hundred dollars for the whole or six hundred dollars for the inside?—A. Six hundred dollars for the inside. But if there are many doors, it is more expensive; if the doors are not many, it is less expensive.

Q. Do you say that you could have taken the contract for eight hundred dollars?—A. Without having seen the place, yes, I would have taken the contract for eight hundred dollars.

Q. And in that amount, how much would you put for the material, the oil, the paint, &c., and how much for the labour?—A. For inside work, materials are pretty expensive; and the labour is also expensive. Polishing is much longer. The material, for the inside, I estimate about two hundred or two hundred and fifty dollars, and the rest is for the labour.

Q. Now, how much would you put for the paint and the other materials for outside work?—A. For the outside, the material might come to about seventy-five or eighty dollars.

Q. Will you take communication of Exhibits Nos. 13 and 30, which are now shown you?

(Witness takes communication of the two exhibits.)

Q. You have taken communication of them?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. After having taken communication of Exhibits Nos. 13 and 30, and having seen the quantity of painting, of oil and other materials entered in those accounts to the amount of \$81.60, do you say that it was sufficient for the painting of Mr. Adelard Lanctot's house?—A. Does that cover all the paint which has got into Mr. Lanctot's house?

Q. If it is all?—A. It could not be sufficient.

Q. You don't believe it to be sufficient?—A. No, sir.

Q. Take a look at Exhibit No. 15, which is an account of Cyrille Labelle & Co., and beginning with item of May 24, 1910, as far as the end, and adding those items which you see entered in this account to the \$81.60 carried to the other exhibit, do you

say then that there was a sufficient quantity of paint and other material for the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. No, there was not enough.

Mr. Geoffrion, M.P., makes the observation that the above evidence seems to him useless, as witness has already declared that he does not know the size of the house, the number of rooms or the size of those rooms, and that the committee is uselessly losing time in seeking to elicit information from the witness about the value to be put on that work.

The Chairman says that, considering that witness has already declared that he does not know the size of the house, nor in what way the work has been done, it seems to him that his estimation has absolutely no value, and that in fact it is a loss of time for the committee to question witness upon the value of that work.

Q Among the materials required for the painting, you don't include the nails, or the iron, or nothing of that kind?—A. No, sir, only the painting.

Q You would not include the nails, nor the iron, or nothing of the kind with the painting?—A. No.

Cross-examined by Mr. Laflamme, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. How long have you worked at paper-hanging, in the house on Roy street?—A. I am not sure, about a day or a day and a half.

Q. You know nothing about the arrangements entered into about that work by Mr. Pagé and Mr. Lanctot?—A. No, I don't remember.

Q. Now, how can you be so sure about the person who has paid you for that work, either Mr. Lanctot, Mr. Pagé or the department?—A. It is because, during those intervals, I often worked, at evenings or in the afternoon, for Mr. Pagé; I used to do some paper-hanging, or something like that. He sent me to Mr. Lanctot to do some ceiling work and some paper-hanging. Mr. Pagé was often paying me for outside work, and I don't remember if it was him who has paid me or the government.

Q. How much have you received for that work?—A. I don't remember. I don't know if the paper-hanging was by the roll or by day.

Q. You say that when you arrived at Mr. Lanctot's house, on King street, Mr. Douaire had got through with the painting?—A. Mr. Douaire was going from there, he had done the paint-work.

Q. But you have not seen him at all at work at his painting?—A. No, not at all. Mr. Douaire was just leaving with his brushes and his things.

Q. What makes you remember that in July, 1910, you saw Douaire working at the house on George street?—A. I was working a little farther than the church, at the Cornviller, and I was passing there three times a day.

Q. At what date did you begin working at Cornviller?—A. I cannot remember—about the middle of July, I suppose.

Q. In what way do you remember having begun to work at Cornviller in the middle of July?—A. In what way?

Q. Yes, what makes you remember that?—A. I have men who have worked, and I remember that the men have worked in the month of July.

Q. What makes you remember that they have worked there on the fifteenth of July?—A. I don't know what you mean by that, what makes me remember, you say?

Q. To the best of your knowledge?—A. I know that in July I have worked at the Carnviller.

Q. I know, but what makes you remember that it was July rather than in August?—A. I have worked in August and in July.

Q. What makes you remember that, that it is in July and not in another month?—A. It is very hard to say, what makes me remember it.

Q. Now, how many times have you seen Mr. Douaire at Mr. Lanctot's house doing some paint-work, during the month of July, 1910?—A. I cannot tell the number of days. I used to pass that way, and Mr. Douaire saluted me.

Q. You don't remember neither how many times you have seen him in August?
—A. No.

Q. Do you know when the woodwork was finished at the house?—A. Mr. Lanctot's house?

Q. Yes?—A. I cannot say. I know that the painters have worked outside, but I cannot say at what time.

Q. Do you remember when the house was ready to be painted?—A. When Mr. Lanctot's house was ready?

Q. Yes?—A. About the middle of June, I think. I am not sure of that.

Q. You are not sure?—A. I took no notice of that. When I saw that I could not net the painting, I took no more mention of it.

Q. You did not renew your application for that work, because you had some other work to do?—A. Extra work can always be taken.

Q. For instance, you had work at Mr. Brunet?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you worked for Mr. Brunet?—A. I think I have three men who have worked there during three weeks, I suppose.

Q. And after that you got another job for Mr. Falardeau?—A. After Mr. Brunet, yes, three men have worked at Mr. Falardeau, during a week, I think.

Q. After that, you took a job for Mr. Amable Lussier?—A. No, sir, I took no job for Mr. Lussier.

Q. You are sure?—A. —

Q. Did Mr. Lussier ask you to do some work for him?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. About what time?—A. I do not remember that.

Q. In the course of the summer?—A. In the course of the summer.

Q. What is he doing, this Mr. Amable Lussier. What is his occupation?—A. He keeps a store.

Q. A big store?—A. Yes.

Q. Is he a good payer?—A. I rather think so. I never worked for him.

Q. Then why did you not agree to do some work for him?—A. Why I did not agree to do work for Mr. Lussier? The house he had was an old house, and it was to do some paperhanging, and at that time I had no men to do that kind of work.

Q. Is it not true that you agreed to do it in the first place and that afterwards you delayed until he gave up the idea of giving you the job?—A. I called upon Mr. Lussier and told him I had no men to do paperhanging and that if he could find other people to do the work he might take them.

Q. Did not Mr. Falardeau also complain of the quality of the work?—A. No, sir, very

Q. And he told you so?—A. Yes, he told me so.

Q. He was wrong; your work was well done?—A. The work was well done; but he wanted us to get through very quick, and we could not hurry the work as much as that

Q. The consequence was he was obliged to have the work done over by others?—A. He had it done twice after that.

Q. By whom?—A. By Mr. Busted, of the Richelieu company. Then he still considered that it was not well done and he had it done over again by the men of Mr. Arcand, of Montreal.

Q. He was hard to please?—A. It looks like that. Pretty hard to please. I do not know whether he is whimsical or not.

Q. You were also unlucky with the job you did for Mr. Falardeau?—A. Mr. Falardeau thought we were charging too high; he had painters from the government. He went and got them.

Q. How much per day did you charge Mr. Falardeau?—A. I do not remember how much I charged him on these occasions. I usually charge \$2.50 a day and \$2 or \$2.25 for the men.

Q. Two dollars and a half for yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. Did not Mr. Falardeau also complain of the quality of the work?—A. No, sir he complained of the men who were not quick enough.

Q. As a painter, what would you do in order to establish the price of your bid before accepting a job of painting?—A. What would I do if—?

Q. Before fixing the price of your tender?—A. I would try and see the work, to see how big a job it was.

Q. Explain that in a few words, Mr. Payette; what means would you take?—A. In the first place, I would ask the owner about what quality of paint he wanted to have.

Q. Then?—A. Then, for the inside, I would figure that by the yard. I generally figure by the yard for such work. I would find out the number of yards and charge so much per yard.

Q. And for the outside you would take the size of the house?—A. Certainly.

Q. In order to have an idea of the quality and quantity of paint required for the job?—A. Certainly. See the work there is to be done, the men's time and the materials.

Q. Now, unless he proceeds in that manner, a contractor would be foolish to try and form an idea of the value of a job unless he had that information?—A. It is always possible to form an idea of the work by comparing with other houses which one has painted. In the course of twelve years a man has time to paint several houses, and to paint all kinds of houses. A man can always make a rough guess. It often happens that a man does not take the trouble to measure all the rooms. Measures are taken to find out the number of yards,

Q. Will you take cognizance of this account, dated August 20, 1910, between Mr. Lanctot and Mr. Joseph Rivet, and tell us whether, by adding the quantity of materials charged in this account to the quantity furnished by the department, and to that charged in Mr. Labelle's account, you would consider that these quantities put together would be sufficient for the work done at Mr. Lanctot's house?

Mr. Laflamme withdraws his question.

Q. You know nothing of the quality of the paint that has been used there?—A. Yes, I know the quality of the paint. I often saw the painters going by with the paint. Mr. Paul, a fellow well known to me. I saw the mixed paint that he was carrying, especially the yellow paint. It was paint of first quality.

Q. When you take a job of painting at a fixed price and you furnish the materials and the work, how much profit do you calculate to make? How much per cent?—A. It depends. When the men work hard we make more money; when paint can be bought cheap. Usually when I take a job, it is three coats of paint; an ordinary house, to scrape the wood and put putty in is worth 20 cents a yard. Then there is graining, and graining may be done at 60 cents a yard. It all depends.

Q. You have not answered my question. How much per cent profit do you calculate on a contract, when you find the materials and the work in Sorel?—A. What profit do I calculate?

Q. Yes.—A. I do not understand very well what you mean?

Q. You have been in that business for twelve years, you ought to know. When you take a contract, you expect to realize a profit?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the average profit that you realize in Sorel when you furnish the work and the paint?—A. Sometimes profits are good. Sometimes they are very poor.

Q. On an average?—A. On an average, from 20 to 25 per cent.

Q. When you buy paint wholesale, you also realize a profit on that?—A. Yes, a profit.

Q. How much?—A. We realize very little. At Mr. Labelle's they sell us that—about two or three cents per hundred; white lead, oil, about the same thing.

Q. You do not buy your paint wholesale, do you?—A. No, sir.

Q. The estimate you gave is based upon the supposition that you would buy the

paint at retail price?—A. Yes, yes. At Mr. Labelle's the painters buy paint cheaper than anywhere else.

Q. Retail?—A. Retail.

Q. Supposing that house had been yours, Mr. Payette, and that you had done the work, for yourself, the painting, both inside and outside, are you prepared to swear that it would have cost you more than \$457?—A. As to the inside of the house, I cannot see how much it may have cost, as I said a while ago. I only saw a little of it, downstairs.

Q. You have given a rough estimate of the value of the inside work when you answered my learned friend, Mr. Macdougall?—A. I told him I had not seen that, from the houses, and from what I may surmise, the number of rooms there may be—the doors also.

Q. Is it not true Mr. Payette, that if that house had been yours, you might have done that work for \$457?—A. Only the work?

Q. The work and the paint?—A.

Q. Think of it, when a man is working for himself he always works cheaper?—A. Yes. Not with the inside work.

Q. You know what there is inside?—A. If it is all like what I have seen.

Q. You have not seen the inside work, you only saw the outside?—A. I saw the inside. Not the whole, only part of it. I saw the polishing.

Q. Did any one ask you to make the estimate you are giving here to-day?—A. Yes, Mr. Thibaudeau met me two or three weeks ago, I think, and he asked me if I could estimate that house.

Q. What was your answer?—A. I answered him that I could not estimate that, because I had only seen a small part of the inside and the outside. I did not know the size, nor nothing.

Q. And you are not in a better position to-day?—A. I am not in a better position.

Q. You are not in a better position to-day to make this estimate than you were at that time, when Mr. Thibaudeau asked you to do it?—A. As to the inside, I cannot estimate that.

Re-examined by Mr. McDougall, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. When you speak of polishing, what is used to make the polishing?—A. The polishing that was done at Mr. Lanctot's, I believe that. at first they dyed the wood and then they put a coat of shellack.

Q. Is pumice stone used? Is steel wire used? Is sand paper used, or any such thing?—A. Yes, these things are used, pumice stone and steel wire, that is steel wire and pumice stone, both are used; and then sand paper, for the first polishing.

Q. In the account for \$81.60, do you see any of these items?—A. In the account of the government?

Q. Yes.—A. No.

Q. In Sorel, what is the price charged generally for painters, with respect to their wages?—A. I charge two dollars and a half per day, the men are two dollars.

Q. Generally in Sorel, what is the price?—A. A. Two dollars usually, not a man for polishing, an ordinary man.

Q. And men for polishing?—A. Two dollars and a half.

Q. After examining this account, will you tell us if this account is not very low?—A. It is not very high.

Q. You spoke to us in your cross-examination of work done for Mr. Pagé in the evening. When you worked in 1908 at the house rented from Mr. Lanctot, was that day or night work?—A. At Mr. Lanctot's, that was in the day time, but often I used to work for Mr. Pagé in the evening.

Q. But not at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. No, no.

And further deponent saith not.

JEAN BAPTISTE PAGÉ appeared, and after being duly sworn, deposed as follows:—

Examined by Mr. McDougall, K.C., of Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. You live in Sorel, Mr. Pagé?—A. I do.

Q. You are in the employ of the Marine and Fisheries Department?—A. I am.

Q. What is your occupation there?—A. I am a painter, sir.

Q. Are you a foreman or simply a painter?—A. A foreman.

Q. At what place in Sorel do you work for the department?—A. At St. Joseph de Sorel.

Q. Take communication of Exhibit '2' and say if you know any of the men whose names are written in that exhibit?—A. I do.

Q. Do you know all these men?—A. I do.

Q. Do you know who prepared that account, Exhibit No. 2?—A. That account was prepared by me.

Q. Is it in your handwriting?—A. It is very much like mine.

Q. Did you prepare an account like this one or a duplicate of that one?—A. I prepared one account.

Q. Did you, perchance, give it to Mr. Lanctot, the member?—A. I gave it to Mr. Champagne.

Q. Who is this Mr. Champagne?—A. He is the timekeeper in Sorel; it is he who keeps the time.

Q. What is his first name?—A. Oscar Champagne.

Q. If you have prepared this account, or an account similar to this one, which you gave to Mr. Champagne, Oscar, where did you take the particulars to make the account?—A. I took the particulars from the account I had kept myself.

Q. From a book?—A. From a book and a time sheet.

Q. Where is the book and where are the time sheets?—A. The time sheets I gave them to Mr. Champagne.

Q. And the book?—A. I have it here; it is a book which I kept for myself.

Q. What is the name of that book?—A. It is a little pocket-book that I was keeping for myself.

Q. Was it for the service of the government?—A. It was for my own justification, don't you know. To have the detail of the time I was putting in, to have the copy.

Q. You are not the timekeeper, nor the one who keeps the time of the men?—A. I keep the time of the men, of the painters for my department.

Q. Oscar Champagne, what does he do?—A. Oscar Champagne takes the time which is given him, from each department.

Q. You kept the sheets at the same time as you kept your book?—A. I gave the sheets, and this is the same time as the sheets which I have given away.

Q. Why did you not give away the book also?—A. Because I have not been asked for it.

Q. And in that book that you are now showing us, what is entered?—A. There are certain small things for myself.

Q. Is there any time for Mr. Lanctot's house in that book?—A. This is the time which I kept for. . . . Yes, yes, that is the time.

Q. That book contains certain particulars of the work, of the men at Mr. Adélar Lanctot's house for the month of June to the month of November?—A. Yes, sir, it is the same time.

Q. You began here, to make entries for the paint work of Mr. Lanctot, in 1910, in the month of June? In your book, in the printed part, for instance, I find the words: June, Friday, the 30th. Is that the place where you began the account of Mr. Lanctot? Is that the first entry on the first page?—A. It is.

Q. Before that, what is there entered in your book? These are details about something else?—A. They are details about something else.

Q. Is the last entry for the time of the men who worked at Mr. Lanctot's, dated the 21st of November, 1910, and is it on the page which is headed in print: July, Tuesday the 18th?—A. The heading, I never went by the heading of the pages.

Q. The last entry is of the month of November, is it not?—A. It is.

Q. Now, all the entries in that book are made consecutively, from the month of June to the month of November?—A. From the month of June, all the entries which have been made were made for Mr. Lanctot.

Q. But there entries made after those in that book, which are about other things before the month of November?—A. That is a memorandum, sir——

Q. I am not asking you for details. Please look after the month of November and before the month of November, if there are not entries made in that book for transactions made before the month of November?—A. I see none, sir.

Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to the filing of that memorandum book, inasmuch as the witness has already stated—as it appears in the book itself—that that book contains entries relating to matters which have no connection with the object of this investigation.

The CHAIRMAN.—I hold that the parts of the book which relate to the work done at Lanctot's house can be put in, but only those parts. The rest is a sealed book, the part put in begins on the page dated Friday, June the 30th, and it terminates on the page dated Tuesday, July the 18th.

The book in question is filed as exhibit 23.

Q. The book is now marked with your signature on each page, from the month of June until the month of November?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you use that book beyond the folios which are marked by your signature in red, for other matters?—A. I used it for myself, for my own business.

Q. Is there in that book any entries, beyond the month of November, for your own business which took place before the month of November?—A. Well, I made some entries for paints which I was receiving. Whenever I received paints from the government, I would take copies of the entries to keep them for myself, for my own satisfaction.

Q. Can you show us the entries which relate to paint for the service of the government, and which may have been made in that book after the month of November, but concerning dates prior to the month of November?—A. Not after the month of November, sir.

Q. Look at the book?—A. There is none, sure.

Witness examined the book.

The preceding question is again read to the witness, as follows:—

Q. Can you show us the entries which relate to paint for the service of the government, and which may have been made in that book after the month of November, but concerning dates prior to the month of November? Is there entries for the service of the government?—A. There is some before the month of November.

Q. Where are they, and on which dates?—A. I believe the dates are there.

Q. It is a memorandum which you keep?—A. For myself.

Q. To remember the dates and particulars?—A. Yes, for myself. It was in order to keep a copy.

The Chairman:

Q. Have you made the entries for the work which was done at Mr. Lanctot's, from day to day, or did you do that in one block?—A. Every evening.

Q. How could you know in order to keep the time of these men, that they were working there?—A. I passed there three times a day: morning, noon and evening.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You passed where?—A. At Mr. Lanctot's house.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. In the morning when your men went did you know where they went to work? Did you know whether they went to work at Mr. Lanctot's or at government jobs?—
A. At Mr. Lanctot's.

Q. Did you know that they went there?—A. Yes, yes.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Where are, in this book, the entries for paints and other things belonging to the government, apart from the men's time, and what are the dates of the entries. (The witness shows the page.)

A. This is a copy of the entries for paint received by me from the government.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. What date?—A. July 9, 1910.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. And these entries are at the page in the book under the printed heading: 'February, Wednesday, the 22nd'?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are these paints connected with Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Not at all.

Q. You made these entries on the 9th of July?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is that book? What do you generally use it for?—A. For my own satisfaction.

Q. How does it happen that in that book you made entries on the 9th of July, before the entries of the month of June, with regard to the men's work at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. That is a copy of an order I gave.

Q. That you gave on the 9th of July?—A. No, no. It is the copy I took, to keep that for my own satisfaction.

Q. But you took the copy on the 9th of July?—A. No, sir, I took the copy later on, but I entered it on the same date as I had given the order.

Q. Did you or did you not enter at the date of July 9 this account or this copy which begins with the words '50 lbs. of orange chrome'?—A. No, sir, I entered that in the month of January; because when an order for paint is to be given, I take the copies to see at which date I have given my orders.

Q. You see at the next page of your book, an entry dated the 29th beginning with the items '100 lbs. of royal blue'?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was that entry made?—A. It was made a few days after I had given the order, to keep a copy, to the government.

Q. When did you give the order? On November 29?—A. Yes, sir. That is for the government. It is not for myself.

Q. Then there are a number of blank pages, with some entries before coming to the page which relates to the work done at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You made the entries every day, every evening, for the time the men who were working at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. If Mr. Laferrière, for instance, worked to-day, you entered his time in the evening?—A. In the evening.

Q. And so on, all along until the month of November?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you now look at the account, Paint work for Mr. Lanctot, 1910, June?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is that the first entry?—A. On the 3rd.

Q. Octave Laferrière?—A. Yes, sir; one day.

Q. The next item is on the 4th of June? Octave Laferrière, one day?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And on the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 20th, &c.?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Going as far as the 23rd of June?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. On the next page, we have the month of July?—A. July.

Q. Is Octave Laferrière there?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. On what day?—A. On the 4th of July.

Q. Only on the 4th?—A. He is there on the fourth and then goes on. On the 4th, there is another one on the 5th, it continues.

Q. On the 4th of July you have R. Octarien Lafernière, one day. Here below that there is Omer Pagé, one day, I think. Then, it begins again: Octavien Lafernière, on the 5th. On the same day, Omer Pagé, one day. Then it continues. On the sixth, both the same, each one day. On the seventh and eighth, and so on.

Q. You prepared the account Exhibit 2 from that book?—A. I prepared one. I do not know if it is the one you have in hand.

Q. Well, examine it again and say if that is the account or if it is an account similar or identical which you prepared?—A. This one has been prepared from mine which I gave to Mr. Champagne.

Q. Look at it to see if it is like yours?—A. You ask me if there are the same entries as on mine,

Q. Yes.—A. It is the same thing.

Q. You are the foreman of painters; you are not the foreman of labourers?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you see an entry in this account about four labourers who worked at the house of Mr. Lanctot. Look at the four last names.—A. The labourers are entered there—three labourers are entered up. They do not belong to my gang.

Q. Where are these journeymen carried in your book, Exhibit 23?—A. I have not those names in my book. I have the names of my painters.

Q. Do I understand that you have not in your book Exhibit 23 the names of Pierre Ethier, sr., Adelard Desorey and Adelard Cain?—A. No, sir; I have not that.

Q. If you prepared an account similar to this one or identical with it, where did you take the particulars to make the account as to these four journeymen?—A. I submitted my sheet to Mr. Champagne for all the painters generally.

Q. Then, you have no account?—A. I have nothing with that, sir.

Q. Who is the foreman of the journeymen?—A. Mr. Gendron.

Q. Did you apply to Mr. Gendron to get the particulars in order to make the account?—A. No, sir.

Q. If you only gave Mr. Champagne the particulars for the painters, then who was it who paid for the account, Exhibit No. 2?—A. I wish to be well understood, Mr. McDougall; I prepared my account for the painters which I gave to Mr. Champagne myself; then Mr. Champagne made his copy, and he must have added the names of the journeymen.

Q. As to the painters, who sent them to work at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. It was Mr. Champagne.

Q. Oscar Champagne?—A. Oscar Champagne.

Q. Did he come to you to ask you to set them free from your work?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. At whose request? Who asked to send men to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I suppose it was Mr. Lanctot.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—Do not suppose anything.

The WITNESS.—Mr. Lanctot had an interview with Mr. Papineau.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Do you know this, sir?—A. I do not know.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Continue your answer?—A. —

Q. You say: 'Mr. Champagne came to ask for men.' Under what circumstances did he go to ask you that?—A. He came to see me at the shop, and he gave me orders to send men to Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. And then?—A. —

Q. Did you send any?—A. I sent some, yes. After that, whenever he wanted some, I would send some.

Q. Mr. Lanctot, in all this, had he not asked you for the same thing?—A. He had spoken of it to me some time before.

Q. When?—A. I think it was in the course of the month of May.

Q. At what time in the month of May?—A. I think it was about the twentieth.

Q. About the twentieth of May?—A. Yes.

Q. Had Mr. Champagne spoken to you in the month of May of sending men to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Mr. Champagne spoke to me of Mr. Lanctot on the 2nd of June.

Q. That was the first time that Mr. Champagne asked you to send men to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was Mr. Lanctot present?—A. I did not see him, sir.

Q. At what place did Champagne make you that request?—A. At the shop.

Q. At the government's shop?—A. Yes.

Q. Was Mr. Papineau, the director, present?—A. Oh, I do not know if he was there at the time.

Q. On the 2nd of June, did you on that day send men to work at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. The next day, sir.

Q. On the 3rd of June?—A. Yes.

Q. You had not seen Mr. Lanctot between the 20th of May and the 3rd of June about sending men to his house?—A. I saw him once.

Q. For the same purpose?—A. He was coming out of the office, I think. I was going to the office myself and I met him. He asked me if I could let him have some men. I told him, yes, if Mr. Papineau was willing, if he was consenting.

Q. That was a few days before the 3rd of June?—A. Yes, a few days before—

Q. Was it before Mr. Champagne asked you to send some men?—A. Two or three days before—

Q. When you told Mr. Lanctot that you would send men, if Mr. Papineau would consent to you so doing, what did he answer you?—A. Mr. Lanctot told me that he would see Mr. Papineau.

Q. When you sent men, on the 3rd of June, had Mr. Lanctot seen Mr. Papineau?—A. I cannot say.

Q. You did not see Mr. Lanctot after that?—A. No, sir.

Q. When Champagne came to ask you to send men to Lanctot, did he tell you that Papineau had consented to send the men?—A. He did not speak of it to me at all.

Q. Had you yourself spoken to Mr. Papineau; had you asked him if he consented to send men to Mr. Lanctot?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you remember who is the first man you sent to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who is he?—A. Octavien Lefrenière.

Q. Does his name appear in your book?—A. It does appear.

Q. When you sent these men to work at Mr. Lanctot's house, did you see that their names were punched?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who was the keeper of the punch at your shop?—A. Mr. Cuthbert Champagne.

Q. Whilst these men were working at Mr. Lanctot's house, did you tell Cuthbert Champagne to punch their names, whether they were present or not?—A. Yes, sir; I told them.

Q. You know that it is the duty of the men to get punched in the morning, when they go out, and when they return at night?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you go to see Cuthbert Champagne to know which men had been punched and which men had not, in order to make easy the entries in your book?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And he would give you the details, did he not?—A. He would give me the details at the punching booth, and I would verify at Mr. Lanctot's house, if the men had gone there.

Q. Then you went to Mr. Lanctot's house often during that time?—A. I would go morning, noon and in the evening.

Q. Every day?—A. Every day.

Q. During what space of time?—A. Whilst the painters were working.

Q. That would cover what space of time? June, July, August, October?—A. The months that are marked on my sheets.

Q. In the course of your calls to the house, three times a day, you saw Mr. Lanctot?—A. During all the time the work lasted, I saw Mr. Lanctot about seven or eight times.

Q. There on the work?—A. At the house?

Q. You had some paint and material also sent, Mr. Pagé—A. Yes, sir.

Q. At whose request?—A. Mr. Lanctot had asked me if it was not possible to get the material at Mr. Labelle's store, that we could borrow some from the government and that he would recoup it as soon as his work was done.

Q. When did you so meet Mr. Lanctot, and when did he tell you that?—A. I think it was in the beginning of the job.

Q. But not after you had sent men to work for him?—A. I cannot say, if it was after or before, but I remember all the same that he spoke to me about that.

Q. Did you ever go to Cyrille Labelle & Co. to get some paint and other material?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you take communication of the account of Cyrille Labelle & Co., Exhibit No. 15, as to what concerns the painting of Adelard Lanctot's house, in the year 1910, and say if there are in that account any painters' materials which have been asked by you, and tell us which.

(Witness examines account with Mr. McDougall and mentions the following items).

A. The first item is that of July 8: 2 dozen of sand paper; July 9, $\frac{1}{8}$ gal. shellac; July 19, panes of glass; July 20, panes of glass; July 27, sand paper; August 9, 12, 15 and 27, all the window panes and the shellac are carried to those dates, but not the brads.

August 23, 2 lbs. isinglass; August 27, $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. bone-black; August 29, 35 lbs. putty; Sept. 10 and 27, sand paper; Oct. 17, sand paper; Oct. 18, $\frac{1}{16}$ alcoal; Oct. 18, sheets of paper; Oct. 26, sheets of paper; Nov. 12, 1 gal. shellac and $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. sand paper; Nov. 3, 1 gal. shellac; Nov. 5, 1 gal. varnish; Nov. 5, 1 gal. shellac; Nov. 9, $\frac{1}{2}$ gal. varnish; Nov. 14, $\frac{1}{4}$ gal. varnish; Nov. 15, $\frac{1}{2}$ gal. white enamel; Nov. 15, $\frac{1}{4}$ gal. turpentine; Nov. 15, 5 lbs. white; Nov. 15, $\frac{1}{4}$ gal. varnish; Nov. 17, $\frac{1}{3}$ gal. linseed oil and 1 box green.

Q. Is the item of Dec. 28 besides that?—A. It is besides.

Q. Those are all the items you got from Labelle & Co., for the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. All the other paints and materials have therefore come from the government's shops?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. For the paints and materials supplied by the government's shops, will you look at Exhibit No. 20, and tell us if it is your signature which appears there at the bottom of the page?

(Witness takes communication of exhibit).

A. It is my signature, sir, and that is the amount.

Q. Who has put up that account, \$81.30?—A. I believe I put up that account myself.

Q. And what is that exhibit account No. 20? Is it a bill for what?—A. Paints, putty, window panes, varnish.

Q. Where did you take the details for that account?—A. I had a little memorandum book in my shop, and I took note of everything I delivered.

Q. You were the painter's foreman, and you had therefore the charge of certain paints and certain materials?—A. Yes.

Q. You have a clerk under you?—A. No, sir, I do the clerk myself.

Q. Does not Arthur Lavallée work with you?—A. He prepares the paints.

Q. When you wanted to get paints you had in stock, to whom did you go to?—A. I make a requisition, I send it to the office, and they send for the paint in the stock.

Q. You make a requisition in writing?—A. Yes.

Q. And to whom do you send that requisition?—A. I send that to the department's store.

Q. Massé, who is in charge of the store?—A. It is Mr. Coté, or Mr. Massé who receive these requisitions.

Q. And in answer to your requisitions, they send you the paints required?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You only send requisitions for what is necessary, I suppose?—A. For that which is needed.

Q. Did you send a requisition to Mr. Massé for the paint which you needed for Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. No, sir.

Q. Why?—A. I prepared the paint, and it was put aside. It was a separate paint, apart from ours.

Q. Then, if I understand right, you used paint which you had already obtained from Mr. Massé, by means of requisitions for other works and you prepared that for Mr. Lanctot, in tubs which you had set aside. Is that it?—A. We took paint that we had in stock and prepared it for Mr. Lanctot.

Q. That you had in stock for other works?—A. Yes, yes, for our works.

Q. Under what authority did you use that paint?—A. I had examined the premises, the buildings, inside, and I had found that paint could not be prepared in the house; there were only the single floors. There was nothing finished. Only the walls were completed. There being at Mr. Lanctot's house no vessels large enough to prepare the paint, I prepared the paint in the shop.

Q. The question I put to you is this: Did you ask Mr. Papineau, or Mr. Perreault, or to any one in authority, leave to use these paints?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you weigh or measure these paints?—A. It is weighed.

Q. Where?—A. It is weighed by myself.

Q. Where?—A. At the shop.

Q. On scales which are in the middle of the shop?—A. In the shop. On scales we have there.

Q. Scales that are attached to the floor. Are they not?—A. Portable scales which we have.

The Committee then adjourned till to-morrow, the 22nd of March, 1911, at 10 o'clock, a.m.

3
7
10/11
7

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

CHARGES PREFERRED BY P. F. BLONDIN, M.P.,
AGAINST A. LANCTOT, M.P., RICHELIEU.

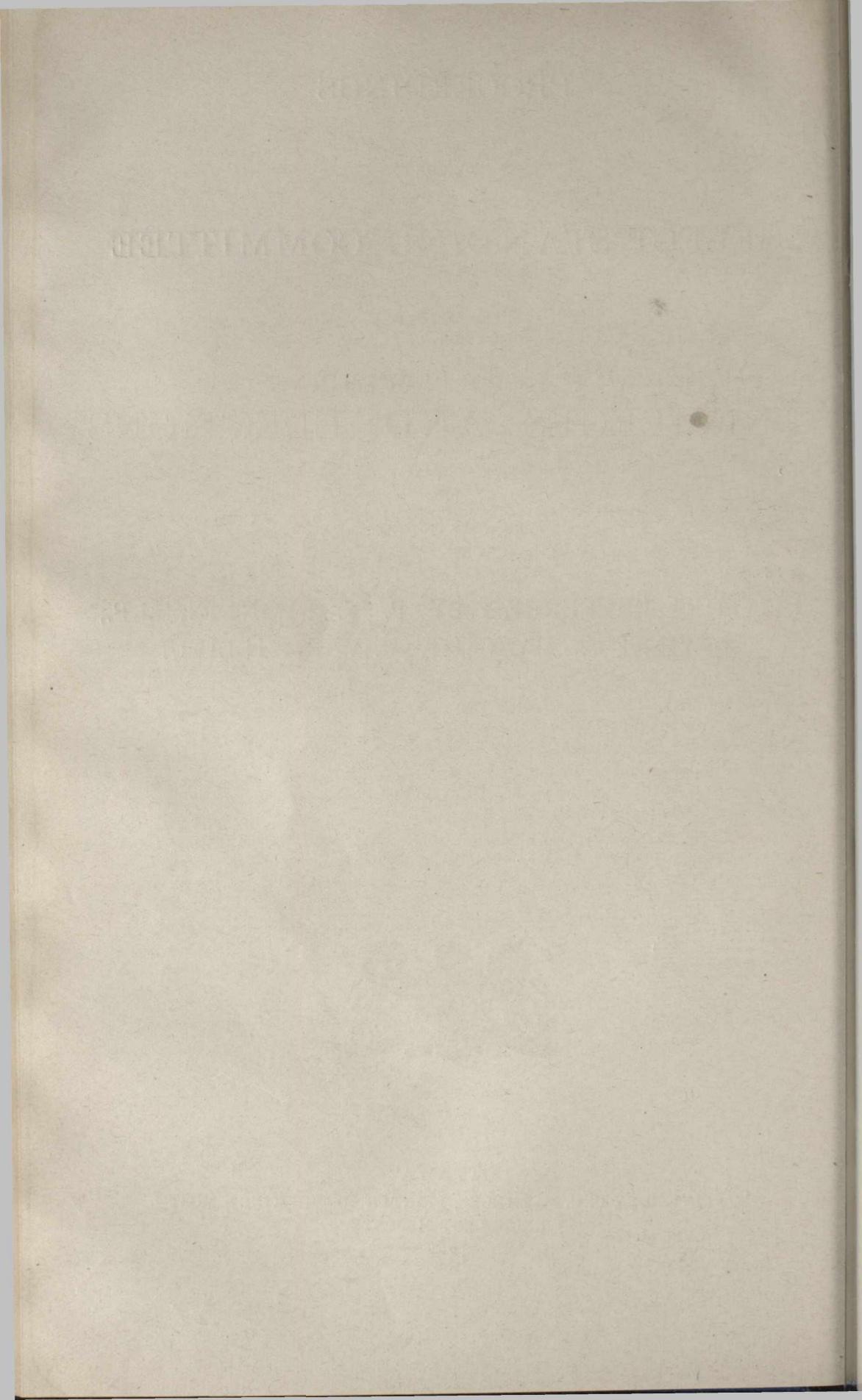
No. 5



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY C. H. PARMELEE, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY

1911



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

WEDNESDAY, March 22, 1911.

The Committee met at 10 o'clock a.m.

PRESENT.—Messrs. German, Chairman; Barker, Barnard, Brodeur, Bureau, Devlin, Dubeau, Geoffrion, Gervais, Haggart (Winnipeg), Lapointe, Lennox, Maddin, Major, Monk, Rhodes, Roy (Montmagny), Warburton.—(17).

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

J B. Pagé called and further examination postponed until witness, who was requested to prepare a statement of the actual number of days painters were employed in painting A. Lanctot's house, furnished statement in question.

At one o'clock the Committee took recess.

3.30 p.m.

Arthur Lavallée was sworn and examined and discharged from further attendance.

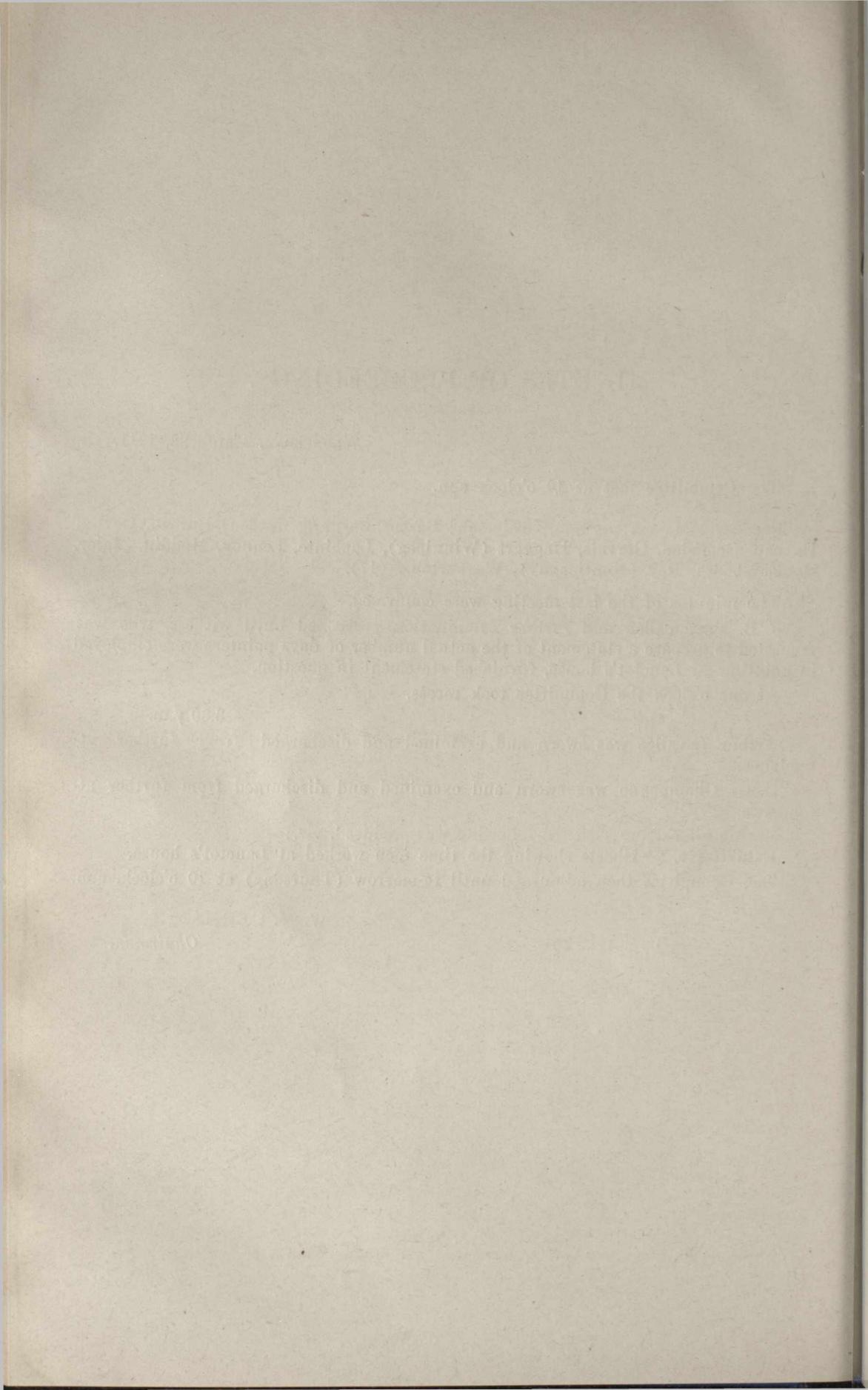
Oscar Champagne was sworn and examined and discharged from further attendance.

During his examination the following was produced, viz.:—

Exhibit No. 24 Sheets showing the time men worked at Lanctot's house.

The Committee then adjourned until to-morrow (Thursday) at 10 o'clock, a.m.

W. M. GERMAN,
Chairman.



MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

ROOM No. 30,

WEDNESDAY, March 22, 1911.

The Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections met at 10 a.m. and proceeded to inquire into the charges preferred against Mr. Adelard Lanctot, M.P., such as referred to in the Order of Reference to the committee.

JEAN BAPTISTE PAGÉ appeared and his examination was resumed as follows:

By Mr. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. About the paint sent at Mr. Lanctot's, how many trips were made or how many times did you send some paint?—A. I did not notice the trips.

Q. You had to keep an account of them?—A. The paint was weighed 'en bloc' for Mr. Lanctot and when men came to get some for Mr. Lanctot, my man would give it to them.

Q. And you say the same thing happened for the putty, the oil, and so forth?—A. The paint, it was paint prepared 'en bloc' specially for Mr. Lanctot.

Q. What do you mean? Do you mean to say that you prepared it yourself?—A. Myself.

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot ask you to do that?—A. I do not know if Mr. Lanctot had an agreement with Mr. Papineau, but I prepared that myself in the shop because it was more convenient for ourselves and we had the paint there with us.

Q. If I understand correctly, some one told you to go to Cyrille Labelle & Co., to get the necessary quantity of paint for Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir. I asked for certain things and they did not keep them.

Q. What could not you have at Labelle's?—A. I asked for a special varnish, some dyes and some yellow paint they did not keep. That day I went there and they had not that in stock.

Q. I see in the account you have prepared for the paint, Exhibit No. 20, which is now shown to you, that you have an entry of 200 pounds of a certain sort of paint—some green paint, I think—and 300 pounds of another paint, yellow, I think; was that mixed once for all?—A. No, sir.

Q. Please give us the details. When did you prepare the 200 pounds of yellow and when did you prepare the 300 pounds of green?—A. The account shows the dates.

Q. Is it the account you call rough copy and you mentioned yesterday?—A. No, sir. The rough copy was a little note-book I kept in my copy, for my own satisfaction, to keep track of what was delivered.

Q. Where is that rough copy?—A. I looked for it in the shop and could not find it. It was in some books I had in the shop.

Q. Were the entries made in the books of the department for the 200 pounds of paint and the 300 pounds of paint mixed for Mr. Lanctot?—A. I told you a moment ago, it is a rough copy I had in the books of the shop, outside the government books. That was apart; it was not to be entered in the government books; it was for Mr. Lanctot specially.

Q. And you have not got that rough copy with you and you cannot find it in the shop?—A. I do not know if it was mislaid with some other papers I had.

Q. Then, if I understand correctly, no entry was made, in any of the government books, for the paint supplied for Mr. Lanctot?—A. No, sir.

Q. Then, how did you manage to make the account now produced as Exhibit No. 20?—A. I made it up from the rough copy I had, the first entries I made. As soon as the paint had been prepared and as soon as some left the shop. The first day we delivered some, I made a note of it that same day.

Q. You did not do that on each occasion?—A. No, no; I entered the first delivery we made. It was understood that the paint had been weighed for Mr. Lanctot and it was not to be used for any other person; it was intended for him.

Q. You had to make special colours, you said?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who asked you to make those special colours?—A. —

Q. Somebody must have asked you to prepare those special colours? Who?—A. Mr. Lanctot talked to me about preparing some colours, but the order was not coming from him, I did not receive any order from Mr. Lanctot. All I know about Mr. Lanctot is that he told me that all I could not find in Sorel, in the stores, I should borrow it from the government. I suppose he had an interview with Mr. Papineau and there was an understanding to that effect. I understood that Mr. Papineau authorized him to do that. And, for my part, I prepared the paint in the shades he asked for.

Q. But you did not dream of those special shades you prepared; somebody must have asked you for them. Is it Mr. Lanctot?—A. No, I did not dream of them; Mr. Lanctot had asked me to prepare those shades for his house.

Q. And you did so?—A. I did so.

Q. In the rough copies you made, are the dates when you made that mixing of paint also the days you sent men, entered?—A. No, sir. I want to be well understood: the paint was weighed when it was prepared and it was understood that it was not to go any place else but to Mr. Lanctot's. When a quantity of paint is weighed for a building or any other work, it is no use measuring it every minute, every time you use some. The weight was there and it was delivered like that.

Q. Do you want us to understand that you measured and weighed beforehand the quantity of paint to be used at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I prepared the paint and when it was prepared, specially the yellow—Every time I have prepared some paint—I prepared it on two different occasions, the yellow first then the green. When I prepared the yellow, I did weigh it and there was 300 pounds of paint ready to be used.

Q. Yellow?—A. Yellow.

Q. Then, it was prepared beforehand, before the paint was sent to Mr. Lanctot's?—A. It was prepared the day that work was started.

Q. Can you say what day it was when you began?

(Witness refers to an account.)

A. We began on the 13th of October for this work.

Q. I am speaking to you of the paint which was used for the house of Mr. Lanctot. And you had not had paint carried to Mr. Lanctot's house before the 13th October, 1910?—A. Yes, sir; we sent some.

Q. Let us understand one another. You said a moment ago that you mixed the paint when you began to work at Mr. Lanctot's house, which was the 13th of October. Now you say you sent paint before that?—A. I am speaking about that paint, the yellow paint which we prepared.

Q. Then, tell us about the green paint; when did you send green paint for the first time?—A. Green paint, it was in September.

Q. Will you swear that you did not send some green paint to Mr. Lanctot's house before the month of September?—A. I did not send any green paint before that time, that I swear.

Q. Do you remember the names of the men who brought the paint to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who are they?—A. The one who brought paint the oftenest was Omer Pagé.

Q. Who beside him?—A. Henri Paul.

Q. Is Henri Paul a painter?—A. No, he is a man whom we keep at the shop to
g. on messages.

Q. Beside these two, are there others who helped in carrying paint?—A. No, sir;
not one.

Q. Henri Proulx did not help in carrying paint?—A. No, sir.

Q. Not to your knowledge, I suppose?—A. I never gave orders to Henri Proulx
to carry paint to Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. Did you ever see him carry some?—A. I never saw him.

Q. Now, during the month of August or July, did not Henri Paul and Omer
Pagé carry paint to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. In the month of July Omer Pagé
carried some.

Q. Assisted by Henri Paul?—A. I do not recollect.

Q. Did others than Omer Pagé carry some in the month of July?—A. No, sir.

Q. Now, does the name of Henri Paul appear in the account of the time of the
men which you gave, Exhibit No. 2, and which you say you have prepared?—A. No,
sir.

Q. Why did you not keep trace of his time?—A. It was because the paint was
being carried between half past twelve and one o'clock.

Q. Do you not know that the men who were working at Mr. Lanctot's house often
had to wait for paint which was to come from the government shops?—A. The men
were carrying the paint between the work hours of the government.

Q. And Henri Paul always did the same?—A. It was he who took across the
operatives who were carrying the paint, and those who carried paint would punch his
card before leaving, and he was having to return in an hour.

Q. Now, Mr. Pagé, please look at the account, Exhibit No. 2.

(The witness takes communication of the account.)

Q. You see it is the account which yesterday you said you had prepared for the
work of the men, except the three journeymen whose names are at the foot of the bill?
—A. This one, it was not I who prepared it, but it was made from the one which I
prepared.

Q. The items are the same as the ones you furnished?—A. The one I prepared is
the same as this, except the last four names.

Q. At what date did you prepare this account?—A. When the job was over.

Q. When was it? Do you see that the account bears a date?—A. In the month of
November.

Q. Look at the heading?—A. That is it, it was on the 21st of November.

Q. Was the 21st of November the day on which you prepared this account for the
time of the men?—A. I prepared it right away as soon as the job was over, because I
had been asked for it.

Q. Who had asked you for it?—A. Mr. Champagne asked me for it.

Q. Oscar Champagne?—A. Oscar Champagne.

Q. Why was he asking you for this account? Had anybody asked him to supply
it?—A. He asked me to prepare it as soon as I could, as Mr. Lanctot had been asking
him for it two or three times.

Q. Now, if such is the case, will you say why you did not prepare at the same
time the account for the green paint which had been supplied to Mr. Lanctot, and
which is included in this account, Exhibit No. 2?—A. I do not know if the account
for paint has been made at the same time, but as soon as Mr. Champagne asked me to
prepare it, I prepared it for him.

Q. Was it Mr. Champagne who asked you to supply the account for paint?—A.
He asked me to produce both accounts so that Mr. Lanctot might have them.

Q. You produced the paint account only in December Mr. Pagé?—A. I do not
remember, sir.

Q. Now, under oath, to the best of your knowledge, when did you prepare the paint account?—A. I prepared it when Mr. Champagne asked me for it. I do not remember the date.

Q. Was it before December?—A. I think it was before December.

Q. Did you not know that there were complaints, affidavits and solemn statements at the time when you prepared the account for paint supplied to Mr. Lanctot?—A. I did not know there were some affidavits signed against Mr. Lanctot.

Q. When did you hear the first time about those affidavits?—A. I for the first time heard when the affidavits were. . . . I heard that at the shop, at our own shop.

Q. When?—A. It was a few days before there was any question of our coming here.

Q. Coming here as witnesses?—A. Yes, before. There were some discussions being held upon the subject. At the shop, between the men the discussions were never serious.

Q. You say that you never ordered Mr. Henri Proulx to carry paint to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you not know when Mr. Proulx went to the church. . . . You know that he went to the church? Did he not carry some paint with Mr. Paul and Omer Pagé?—A. I never gave Mr. Proulx any orders to carry paint to Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. I am asking you if, when Mr. Proulx went to the church he did not help Henri Paul and Omer Pagé to carry some paint to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I never gave Mr. Proulx any orders to go and work at the church.

Q. Will you look at the pay-list now before the Committee and say, if, for the first half of the month of August, 1910, in the pay-list No. 148, you find your name, Jean Baptiste Pagé, as a painter?—A. Yes, my name—I do not know if it appears on the list, in the heading of the list which the government was making—my name was supposed to disappear from our books; I did not do any punching, my name was disappearing.

Q. You find your name there?—A. Yes.

Q. And opposite your name you find No. 276?—A. That is my number.

Q. And opposite your name is the amount \$85, being the amount of your monthly wages, and for that half of the month of August, you received \$42.50?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You also find the name of Henri Proulx?—A. Yes, I see it there.

Q. No. 283?—A. Yes.

Q. He has received his pay for one half of the month of August \$22?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Henri Proulx works under you as foreman?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Look at the end of the month of August, being pay-list 149, being for the latter half of the month of August, 1910?—A. I find my name, No. 276.

Q. And you received your wages for that half month, \$42.50?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And do you find the name of Henri Proulx?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. He received his wages for that half month?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. He worked under your orders?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where was he working?—A. In the government shops.

Q. Where?—A. He was working in the buildings, I think; around the buildings, I think.

Q. As foreman, you ought to be able to locate this man?—A. At the time, we were painting the inside of the building, and we had some new buildings, which were going on at the time.

Q. This is not answering my question as to Henri. Do you say that he was working at those new buildings?—A. He may have worked there, and may also have worked at the buildings, the men were being changed.

Q. Can you not tell us as foreman of the painters, from this pay-list and from

other records in your possession where Henri Proulx was working during the month of August, 1910?—A. I told you, Mr. McDougall.

Q. You are the one who controls the work of these men?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You are the one who sends them to the special pieces of work which have to be done?—A. I am the one who sends them out; but, when you have sixty men to whom you have to give work every morning you cannot remember from one day to the other which one has worked at the buildings or at the new buildings.

Q. Do you swear that Henri Proulx, during August never went out of the government work to go to Sorel, at Mr. Lanctot's house or somewhere else, under your orders?—A. I swear that Henri Proulx never carried any paint under my orders to the house of Mr. Lanctot.

At the request of Mr. McDougall, the preceding question is read again to the witness as follows:—

Q. Do you swear that Henri Proulx, during August, never went out of the government work to go to Sorel, at Mr. Lanctot's house or somewhere else, under your orders?—A. I swear as to Mr. Lanctot's house; elsewhere, I did not follow Mr. Proulx.

Q. I am not asking you if you followed him, I am asking you if he went elsewhere under your orders?

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to this question.

The objection is maintained by the Chairman.

Q. When you prepared the account for paint, you are unable to say if it was before the month of December, or in the beginning of December?—A. I cannot say.

Q. Do you remember to whom you gave it?—A. To Mr. Oscar Champagne.

Q. Do you know if the paint has been refunded?—A. The paint has been returned. It is not I who received it.

Q. I am asking you if you know that it has been returned?—A. It has been returned.

Q. To whom was it returned?—A. It was returned to the shop, to my shop man who prepares the paint.

Q. Whose name is?—A. Arthur Lavalée.

Q. Is it not a fact that it was about the 10th of December that you gave the paint account either to Mr. Champagne or to Mr. Papineau?—A. I do not remember the date.

Q. Is it not possible that it may have been the 10th of December?—A. I cannot say.

Q. Was it a week or two weeks after you had made the account for the men?—A. I do not remember the date.

Q. Did you take the particulars from your private sheet or from the books of the department?—A. No, it was a memo for myself.

Q. Is there not to be found in your small book, Exhibit 23, a summary of that paint work?—A. I had entered it as a memorandum. There should be one.

Q. Is that the blotter of which you speak?—A. No, sir.

Q. Look at your book, Exhibit 23, and say if you do not find there two entries upon two different pages, containing a summary or a copy or a blotter of the paint supplied?—A. Yes sir, here it is.

Q. It is an entry made on the printed page, under the heading of 'July, Friday 28'?—A. Yes, but it was not in that month. That is the copy of the paint which I had delivered which had been added, upon which the account was made.

Q. That is your hand-writing?—A. It is my hand-writing. I kept that as a memorandum.

Q. Is it the only memorandum which you have kept as to this paint, in that book, Exhibit 23?—A. Here is the same copy here. I transcribed it in ink.

Q. You find another entry to the same effect made in lead pencil, two pages before the ink entry?—A. I transcribed it in ink on this side to better keep the memorandum.

Q. At what date did you make this entry. It is not so long ago, it is only two or three months ago?—A. I prepared that, sir, before I gave the account to Mr. Champagne, in order to keep a copy of it.

Q. Can you give us an idea of the size of Mr. Lanctot's house, of the quantity of paint required there, either by the yard or otherwise?—A. I have not measured it.

Q. You measured the house did you not? You were there three times a day, you say?—A. I was not the contractor, it was not my business to measure the house.

Q. Do you swear that you have no idea of the size of Mr. Lanctot's house, that you took no measurements in order that you might know what amount of paint was needed?—A. I never measured Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot ever give you the size of his house, either interiorly or exteriorly, the number of rooms, or the amount of paint that he needed?—A. No, sir.

Q. You never tried yourself to find that out?—A. No, sir. It was not my business either.

Q. Do you know by yourself the size of that house?—A. I did not know it at all.

Q. Will you allow me to read from your book, Exhibit 23 what follows: 'Size of the Lanctot house, length 38½ feet, breadth 27½ feet., Will you look at your book Exhibit 23, and tell us if that which I have just read is in your hand-writing?—A. I do not know if I understood right your question of a few minutes ago. You asked me, during the work, did I measure the building.

The Chairman:

Q. Is that book in your hand-writing?—A. Yes, it was I who made that; but not during the progress of the work.

Q. When did you make that entry?—A. I did not understand your question of a few minutes ago. I thought you asked me during the work which was performed at Mr. Lanctot's house, if I had not measured the work done on the building.

Q. You tell us now that the entry I just read in your book was not made during the time the work was going on at Lanctot's?—A. No.

Q. When?—A. It had been done two or three days before coming here.

Q. You took the care to do the measuring before coming here?—A. I took the measures on the plans. I got the plans and I measured.

Q. Do those plans correspond with your estimation at a glance when you were where the work was done?—A. I took the measures which were concerning me.

Q. What does that mean: as far as you were concerned?—A. For the painting, the number of yards of painting there could be inside and outside.

Q. If I understand correctly then, when the work was finished you went to the house, where, from the plans, you wanted to fix for yourself or some one else, the number of yards of painting?—A. It was in order to make up the amount, the number of yards of painting which had been done there, which had been painted, for me, for myself.

Q. And you found out how large was the house?—A. From the quantities given by the plans.

Q. Please look at that memorandum, Exhibit 23, on the page referring to the printed entry: 'July, Wednesday, 26,' and tell us if you find an entry to that effect: Memorandum of the number of yards to be painted at Lanctot's house:

Cornice, 50 yards, plain.

Gallery, 150 yards, plain.

Plinths of the frames, 120 yards.

Openings, 120 yards.

Woodwork and stairs, 45 yards.

Outside, square.

Tell us who wrote that entry, and when it was done?—A. I made that entry myself, sir.

Q. It has been made before the painting?—A. After.

Q. Why did you make that memorandum?—A. I thought I better measure all those things for my own satisfaction, in order that if other work of the same kind was done, I would be in a position to fix a price—to be able to make it more accurate.

Q. How long after the work was done did you make that entry?—A. I made it, I suppose, one month later. Two weeks later—two weeks.

Q. Was it before you handed your account for the paint or after?—A. I cannot tell.

Q. Look at the page of your book, Exhibit 23, under the printed heading: 'June, Monday, 26,' and tell us if you find an entry to the following effect: 'Number of yards of coating in Lanctot's house is 1,000 yards. The date of the lathing, 31st of May. The first coat was put on the 13th of June and the second, with the finishing touch to the walls, ended about the beginning of July.' Is that your writing?—A. Yes, yes. I made the measuring the same day.

Q. You have a good memory? You say, here, in the entry, Monday, 26th of June, that the date of the lathing at Mr. Lanctot's is the 31st of May. How can you tell us, if that entry was made after the work was done, that the date of the lathing is the 31st of May? Where does that come from?—A. At noon, when I was going to dine, I met the plasterers, those who did the coating, and I asked them the date and the number of yards there was in the building—all that between us.

Q. It happened after the work was done?—A. After the work was done.

Q. They were not employees of the government, were they?—A. No, sir.

Q. Whose plasterers were they, whose employees were they?—A. Those who worked are jobbers, they work for themselves.

Q. Name some of them?—A. M. Deguise.

Q. His first name?—A. Andre Deguise.

Q. And the coating was started on the 13th of June?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. The plastering started the 13th of June?—A. Yes.

Q. Who gave you that information?—A. Mr. Deguise.

Q. The same man?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. After all was done?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the finishing touch to the walls was all done about the beginning of July?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. From the notes I find in your book, there is in the inside of the house six rooms, including the bath room and leaving aside the hall. Downstairs: kitchen, office, diningroom, parlour, boudoir, passage. The measures are . . . I cannot read your writing; read them yourself, if you please.

(Witness reading from the book.)

A. 'Inside, there are six rooms, including bath room, passage. Downstairs: kitchen, office, diningroom, parlour, boudoir, passage. The measures are 12 x 13 and 9 x 13 inches.'

Q. Did the paymaster, Desire Champagne, know that some employees of the government were working at Adelard Lanctot's?—A. I cannot tell.

Q. Did you bring that to his attention, yourself?—A. Never, sir.

Q. In 1908—not in 1910—was there any painting done at the house Mr. Lanctot was occupying then and which was a house rented by him and if so, did any of the employees of the government work there?—A. I do remember that a man worked for Mr. Lanctot, doing the papering of the rooms.

Q. Who is that man?—A. Alfred Douaire.

Q. Is there a man named Payette who worked there?—A. No, sir.

Q. Was Payette in the employ of the government then?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you say that he did not work at Mr. Lanctot's, doing some painting?—

A. He worked at Mr. Lanctot's, yes.

Q. A last question, Mr. Pagé. Yesterday you said something about paint you

had in stock, you got that paint from Norman Massé?—A. Not directly from him. He is supposed to supply us with the goods.

Q. Are there any others than Norman Massé who supply you with those goods?—A. There is another one who comes and delivers the material.

Q. Yes, but coming from Massé's?—A. Our orders are given to Mr. Massé.

Q. And Mr. Massé sends you the goods by a messenger?—A. Yes, he sends them by somebody else.

Q. Then, that comes from Massé?—A. Yes, yes, it comes from Massé.

Q. Those orders are made for special workers, I suppose; when you make an order, it is not to have some material that you would keep in stock, it is for some special work?—A. We always have a stock of paint. If we need 500 pounds of paint or 2,000 pounds or 4,000 pounds we ask for in advance. We prepare the paint beforehand. We do not prepare only few pounds of paint at the same time, we prepare thousand pounds at the same time.

Q. That is for your special work?—A. It is for the works done for the government.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. When the paint was returned to the government, were any entries made in the government books showing that the paint had been returned?—A. The paint was checked at the shop.

Q. I am asking you if any entry had been made in the government books to show that the paint had been returned?—A. It must have been done, because the bill passed through the office.

Q. Where would that book be in which the entries have been made showing that the paint had been returned?—A. In the store.

Q. The store-keeper would then have that book?—A. Yes.

Q. When the goods left the department to go to Mr. Lanctot's house, were any entries made to show that those goods had been taken out?—A. The entry had been made in the book, in the small rough copy I had.

Q. Not in the government books?—A. No, sir.

Cross-examined by Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. Is it not a fact that when Mr. Lanctot talked to you about the work mentioned he told you: 'As to the material, you will go and get it at Cyrille Labelle & Co., where I have an open account'?—A. Yes, sir, he mentioned Cyrille Labelle to me.

Q. Did he tell you that he had an account at Cyrille Labelle's?—A. He told me to take from the government, to borrow from the government, all I could not find at Cyrille Labelle's.

Q. Is it not a fact that, on that occasion, you told him: 'For the kind of work you want to be done, you could perhaps have some difficulty to get the paint here'?—A. Yes, sir; I remember that very well.

Q. Did he not ask you then: 'Could one borrow some from the department'?—A. I think he spoke to me that way.

Q. Now, Mr. Pagé, did he not add the following words, or in substance the following words: 'If you can take some paint or material at the department, will you oblige me in keeping a separate account, and gradually I will replace the material borrowed'?—A. Mr. Lanctot told me that if I borrowed some material from the government I would have to keep an account of all I would take.

Q. Now, in what kind of receiver did you put aside the paint intended for Mr. Lanctot's house?

The WITNESS.—What kind of tub, you mean?

The COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. They are big tubs we had. There were none like that at Sorel, and, as we had some available at the government shops, I decided to take those tubs to put the paint for Mr. Lanctot apart from the other.

Q. So that as to the quantity of paint he was to borrow from the department, Mr. Lanctot relied absolutely upon you?—A. Yes, sir, he was to rely upon me.

Q. One thing certain, Mr. Pagé, is that you have not sent to Mr. Lanctot's house any other paint, putty or material, as oil and so forth, except the quantity you had put aside for that purpose?—A. No, sir.

Q. And not only that, Mr. Pagé, but I am informed that a certain quantity of paint was left in the tubs?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that quantity of paint was charged to Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes.

Mr. McDougall, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin, objects to that question or any other question referring to charges made to Mr. Lanctot, except if they are shown, what has not been done.

Question allowed by the Chairman.

Q. Is it not true, Mr. Page, that this quantity of unused paint, which remained in those tubs when the works were completed, was however, included in the statement prepared by you in order to recover the paint which had been borrowed?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. So that Mr. Lanctot paid for more paint than he had really received? It amounts to that, does it not?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. He paid for a little more paint than he had received?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, Mr. Pagé, you stated that on no occasion you gave orders to Henri Proulx to carry materials at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. Never, sir.

Q. You swore to that, that you never gave instructions to that effect?—A. I swore that I never gave Mr. Proulx any instructions to that effect.

Q. Did you ever tell Henri Proulx, or Henri Paul or Omer Pagé, in the presence of Henri Proulx, that while going from the government's shop to Mr. Lanctot's house, to take materials there, they should be careful not to be seen by Mr. Papineau, the superintendent of the yard?

Mr. McDougall, K.C., objects to that question as being illegal and irregular, and contrary to the rules on evidence inasmuch as it is not derived from the examination in chief.

The objection is dismissed by the Chairman.

—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever tell Henri Proulx, or Omer Pagé, or Henri Paul, in the presence of Proulx, that they must avoid been seen by the Sorel merchants?—A. No, sir.

Q. You have an idea of the value of paint, Mr. Pagé?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, would a sum of \$81 be a fair and reasonable value for the quantity of materials, either in paint or in putty, which was furnished for Mr. Lanctot's house?

—A. By the government?

Q. Yes. A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, do you know, that besides the painters whose names appear on Exhibit No. 2, no other painter in the employ of the government has worked at the Lanctot house, and has been paid by the government without the latter being reimbursed?—

A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. Now, why were you in the habit of going three times a day to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. It was because Mr. Lanctot had asked me, as a friend, to accept the job of supervising the works, as a favour to him, because he was away.

Q. So that, not only did Mr. Lanctot depend upon you as to the quantity of the materials furnished, but he also depended upon you altogether as to the quantity of work done?—A. He asked me to superintend the work for him, as a special favour.

Q. So that you might have charged him for more paint and more work than he

has received and he would not have noticed it?—A. I might have charged him more had I been so inclined.

Q. Now, you say Mr. Lanctot was absent. Was he absent during the months of July, August and September?—A. From the month of June until the last month in which we worked there, I saw Mr. Lanctot to speak to him, seven or eight times.

Q. Is it not true that on certain occasions he absented himself from Sorel for a week, or even two weeks, on one occasion?—A. It was even more than two weeks, I have been three weeks without seeing him.

Q. The notes you have prepared either as to the quantity of paint, or as to the amount of work were in order to inform the department and for the information of Mr. Lanctot as well?—A. Yes, sir, I did so in order that the government might be informed, and Mr. Lanctot as well.

Q. How many years have you been in the employ of the government at Sorel, Mr. Pagé?—A. Three years.

Q. What did you do before that?—A. I was a contractor.

Q. Where?—A. In the town of Sorel and in the surrounding country.

Q. Are you ready to swear, Mr. Pagé, that the government have not lost a cent, either through the materials supplied to the Lanctot house, or the work done at the Lanctot house, by the department, remembering that Mr. Lanctot has paid \$375.62 for the work and \$81 for the material?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. \$375 and \$81 amount to \$456 which were paid by Mr. Lanctot. If you were taking a contract for yourself, for your own house, would you do the work for that amount? Could you do it for that amount?—A. I would have taken the job for \$500, including 20 per cent.

Q. 20 per cent of profit?—A. 20 per cent of profit.

Q. That would make a profit of \$100. A. Yes.

Q. So that the cost price of such a job as that would be \$400—A. A man knowing something about the paint work which has been done at Mr. Lanctot's would have taken that work for much cheaper than four hundred dollars.

Q. Now, that list, Exhibit No. 2, so far nobody has complained about it, except Mr. Douaire. Now, Mr. Pagé, do you swear that Mr. Douaire has not worked at Mr. Lanctot's house any longer than already mentioned in this list, Exhibit No. 2?

Mr. McDougall, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin, objects to that question as being illegal, irregular and contrary to the rules of the evidence, in so far as it does not derive from the chief examination.

Objection is dismissed by the Chairman.

—A. I swear that the time entered for Mr. Douaire in my books, and entered also for him on this list, is correct.

Q. And those notes, you have taken them every day?—A. Every evening.

Q. For the express purpose of checking the time of all the men and of every man working there?—A. Certainly. Such was also my duty.

Q. Now, Mr. Pagé, will you briefly tell in what circumstances that man Douaire and that other man Payette went to Mr. Lanctot's house, on King street, in the fall of 1908, one to paper and the other to paint Mr. Lanctot's house on King street?—A. Payette never worked at Mr. Lanctot's house on King street, while Douaire was papering.

Q. Will you relate in what circumstances Mr. Douaire went to Mr. Lanctot's, on King street, to do some paper-hanging?—A. Mrs. Lanctot came to my house one day to ask me to do her the favour of papering three rooms which she had and were untidy. She told me that she expected visitors, and that if I could get those rooms papered I would render her a great service, while all the time being paid for same.

Q. Now, Mr. Pagé, we will try to reduce that incident to its natural proportions. At that time, were you keeping a store?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What kind of a store was it?—A. I was keeping paper-hangings.

Q. And I suppose that Mrs. Lanctot went to your store to give you that order in an ordinary way?—A. She came to ask me to do some work for her, as I had the stock on hand.

Q. So, she went to see you, not because you were the foreman of the government's painters, but because you were in trade as a paper-hanger?—A. It must be that.

Q. What did you answer to Mrs. Lanctot?—A. I told Mrs. Lanctot that I could not go myself, but I told her: 'I will send you a man to do that work for you all right.'

Q. So, Mr. Page, it was you who suggested to Mrs. Lanctot to send her a man on the other side of the river?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Whom did you send?—A. Alfred Douaire.

Q. How long has he worked there?—A. Two days and a half.

Q. How much did he get for that work?—A. Five dollars.

Q. Where did he get the paper?—A. For the ceilings, I had quite a stock on hand. For the walls, I showed to Mrs. Lanctot the samples I had. She accepted paper from my stock for the ceilings, but for the walls she could not find anything to suit her. She wanted something of a newer design. I went to Mr. Hardy, where I got some samples. I showed those other samples to Mrs. Lanctot, and after she had made a choice I sent Douaire to do the work.

Q. And you have charged to Mrs. Lanctot the price of the paper?—A. I charged it to Mrs. Lanctot's name. I had nothing to do at all with Mr. Lanctot.

Q. You charged to Mrs. Lanctot the price of the paper?—A. The paper has been charged to Mrs. Lanctot.

Q. And you also charged her the labour?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In your books?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In your own books, belonging to you?—A. Yes, together with sundry small accounts I had.

Q. So, Mr. Pagé, it all comes to this: You have made a personal transaction, absolutely distinct, and you paid Mr. Douaire with your own money?—A. The government had nothing to do with that at all.

Q. And that is the reason for which said transaction does not appear in the government's books?—A. That thing could not have got it into the government's books. I paid Douaire. When somebody pays a man himself, the government does not pay him.

Q. Now, tell us in what circumstances that man Payette went at that house to do some paint work in the fall of 1908?—A. I could not say. I have not seen him.

Q. Did he report that he had done some paint work there?—A. Never.

Q. Did some one, at the department, in your presence, give instructions to Mr. Payette to go to Mr. Lanctot's to do paint work in the fall of 1908?—A. No, sir.

Q. As far as you are aware, Payette has never done any painting or papering in that house?—A. I never saw Payette work there.

Q. In August, 1910, did you ever ask Henri Proulx to go across with Omer Pagé and Henri Paul, so as to help them carrying paint at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. No, sir.

Q. Now, you say that you have measured the house a few days before coming here to Ottawa?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Naturally, Mr. Pagé, you were expecting to be summoned before this committee?—A. That was why I took those measurements.

Q. In other words, you took the measurement of the house so as to be able to give your evidence in a more satisfactory manner?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was it you who dismissed Henri Proulx on November the 5th?—A. I had orders from Mr. Papineau, through Mr. Champagne, to make a list of 16 and to dismiss them. I was not to dismiss them directly myself, but I had orders to make up a list of those men to dismiss them on the same day—the day when they were cleared.

Q. I suppose, Mr. Pagé, that when you make such a list of men who are to be

discharged, you pick out the bad and indifferent, and you keep the good ones?—A. It is usually so.

Q. Why did you discharge Proulx, among others?

Mr. McDUGALL, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin, objects to this question as being illegal, irregular, inasmuch as it is not derived from the chief examination.

Mr. LAFLAMME withdraws his question.

Q. Now, what kind of work did Mr. Douaire do when he worked at Mr. Lanctot's house on George street?—A. He continued the tinting commenced by Omer Pagé inside the building.

Q. Did he work outside?—A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. I suppose the painting outside was begun before the painting inside?—A. The painting was commenced outside first.

Q. If that is right, Mr. Douaire worked towards the last, when they begun to paint the inside?—A. He began in the month of September, Mr. Douaire.

Q. You have no interest whatever in this investigation?—A. None whatever, sir.

Re-examined by Mr. McDUGALL, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. You say, then, that as to the work on King street, at the house on King street, that it was done as a favour to Mrs. Lanctot?

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to this question.

Q. Was it as a favour, or for payment, that Mrs. Lanctot called and asked you to go and paint the house on King street?—A. She asked me to do that work for her as a favour, as she was expecting company, and said that while I would be well paid, I would do her a great favour.

Q. At that time, in 1908, you told me that you were keeping a wallpaper store?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you explain to us how it is that the keeper of a wallpaper store, when customers call upon him, is asked by the customers to do them favours?—A. She was right in asking them, for she could not get anybody to do that kind of work.

Q. At that time, you were also in the employ of the department as foreman of the painters?—A. Yes, sir. It was the last year that I kept wallpaper for sale.

Q. You kept a small store besides?—A. A wallpaper store.

Q. And when she came and asked you to do that work, you told her that you had not time to do it?—A. I told her that I could not go myself, because I was foreman for the government, I always refused those who asked me.

Q. But you told her that you would get a government man to do the work?—A. I did not speak about the government.

Q. It seems to me you said you would get a man to do the work?—A. I told her I would send a man.

Q. And you sent Alfred Douaire?—A. I did not mention the name to her.

Q. As a matter of fact, you sent her Alfred Douaire?—A. I sent Alfred Douaire, I said I would send her a man to do her work.

Q. And, in fact, you sent Alfred Douaire?—A. I sent Alfred Douaire.

Q. At that time Alfred Douaire was working under you, as foreman of the painters, at the government's yards?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then, you went to Alfred Douaire and you said to him, go to Mrs. Lanctot's, or Mr. Lanctot's on King street?—A. I did not have to go to him. Alfred Douaire was at the shop at noon. I sent him at noon to Mrs. Lanctot's, I said to him. 'Don't punch your card and go to work at Mrs. Lanctot's to paper three rooms there.'

Q. Do you remember on what date that was?—A. It was towards the end of October, sir, in the last days of October.

Q. Do you know whether Alfred Douaire's time was paid by the government, in the month of October?—A. It ought not to have been paid by the government. I paid it myself.

Q. I am asking you, if you know it, whether it was paid by the government or not?—A. No, sir.

Q. You don't know it?—A. No.

Q. You paid it yourself, when?—A. In the afternoon on which he finished the job, at about half past five o'clock, p.m.

Q. Did you make an entry in your book?—A. It is not necessary to make an entry for giving a man two or three days work.

Q. You made no entry in the books of the store which you kept in Sorel?—A. I make entries of the wallpaper I sold, I made entries of the money I gave for that. I made an entry of the money I had paid to get the wall paper and. . . .

Q. In your cash book, did you not keep account of the disbursement of \$5 which you gave to Alfred Douaire?—A. I was not keeping books like the big stores in Montreal.

Q. You kept no books at all?—A. We sold for cash.

Q. When you settled with Mr. or Mrs. Lanctot, how did you settle about the \$5 you had paid out?—A. I made a charge for the whole, for the time and the wall paper furnished.

Q. All in one item? Have you the account?—A. I have not the account. The moment I gave up selling wallpaper, I had nothing more to sell, I was foreman at the government, I had no business to keep. . . .

Q. How much did you charge in all to Mrs. Lanctot?—A. I do not remember exactly, I destroyed that book, I had no business to sell wallpaper.

Q. So that you can remember the payments you made to one particular individual, but you cannot remember the total amount?—A. I remember the time I paid to Mr. Douaire and the wallpaper I paid, I did not have it on hand, I paid that to Mr. Hardy of Sorel.

Q. You can give us no idea of the total amount?—A. That book has disappeared.

Q. Have you ever been repaid for that payment?—A. I must have been paid by Mrs. Lanctot.

Q. I ask you, under your oath, if you have been repaid?—A. I don't remember.

Q. You remember the payment, but you cannot remember the refund?—A. I don't remember.

Q. You were interested in that, though?—A. I don't remember.

Q. Neither for the paper, nor for Douaire's work, you cannot remember if that account has been paid by Mr. Lanctot or by Mrs. Lanctot?—A. I don't remember, because my books were destroyed and I have not been able— I don't remember that, if I have been paid, or----

Q. Did you ever ask Mrs. or Mr. Lanctot for a refund, and, indeed, have you ever been repaid?—A. I remember that Mrs. Lanctot asked me once for her bill, and I don't remember if I gave it to her.

Q. You say there was some paint left after completion of the work at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You said, if I well understood you, that it was charged to Mr. Lanctot?—A. The paint was charged as a whole to Mr. Lanctot.

Q. In what book?—A. Not in the government's book, mentioned on the accounts which have been given.

Q. There is no entry at all for the government's book?—A. The paint which has been charged to Mr. Lanctot's name, it was the paint left in the tub, paint left to spare, in the tub.

Q. What have you done with that paint left to spare?—A. What was left to spare was employed in painting the inside of barges, with other mixed paints.

Q. The time spent at Mr. Lanctot's house has been paid to you by the government, and is not entered in the Exhibit Account No. 2?—A. The government had no business

to pay me any time at morning, noon and at night. I was then outside of the government.

Q. You could get along with meals, I suppose, whilst looking about Mr. Lanctot's work?—A. No, sir, but the house is directly opposite mine as I am directly opposite to you.

Q. At Mr. Lanctot's house, how many coats of paint did you apply?—A. Three coats for the inside and the outside.

Q. Three coats?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Green or yellow paint?—A. There were two coats of green paint applied, and one coat of 'priming'; the first coat; then two coats of green, which makes three coats.

Q. In all the rooms?—A. On the outside. For the inside there was a coat on the walls—a mixture in oil, paint—and two coats of yellow.

By the Chairman:

Q. Is that for the woodwork or only for the walls?—A. There were three coats applied everywhere; on the woodwork, on the walls, everywhere.

Q. The plastered walls?—A. The glazing.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. The painting was done on the plastering, the glazing, the woodwork, the stairs?—A. The painting was done on the glazing. As for the plinths, the woodwork, the window casings, those were dyed.

Q. And the floor?—A. It was shellacked and varnished.

Q. Was there any polishing done?—A. There was some polishing of the doors of the lower story. The doors and the plinths.

Q. Was there not much polishing done?—A. Not more than usual, for a house of that size.

Q. To the best of your judgment, Mr. Pagé, under your oath, how many yards of paint-work have you done at the Lanctot house?—A. The measurements which have been entered in that book are for the work in full. As for the rooms, in the upper story, only the ceilings have been painted and the walls at three quarters height. . . . No, I am mistaken, there were only the ceilings and a border of eighteen inches at the top.

Q. How many yards would that make?—A. I have not figured that up.

Q. Then, why did you make an entry in your book for the number of yards which were to be painted at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. I took those measurements only to know the quantity that there was in the whole house. I have not figured that up only for the paint work which had been done.

Q. In deducting what has not been painted, how many yards would there be left?—A. I have not figured that up at all.

Q. Can you do it now?—A. Am I obliged to do it?

Q. From now to adjournment?—A. Because, sir, I want to make you observe that we have never been asked to work by the yard. In Sorel, we are only considering the whole.

Q. All the time, you know all about paint work by the yard, and you make entries about that in your book?—A. I know what that is.

Q. I ask you to figure up how many yards there are in that house to be painted, after deductions of what is not painted?—A. . . .

Q. As for the contracts taken up by your painters for the government, is there a job number where they work in particular, for government work?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to all evidence tending to show that any of the men whose names appear on Exhibit No. 2 have been entered with their serial numbers as having been employed in department work while working at Mr. Lanctot's, as that has nothing to do with the object of the inquest.

The above question is read a second time to witness.

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any books?—A. The numbers given for government jobs, the lists remain in the shop, the order numbers.

Q. In your own shop, you would then have a job number?—A. There are loose sheets with an order number.

Q. Among your loose sheets, is there an order number for the work at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. No, sir.

Q. Have you got books showing that, at the dates mentioned in your book Exhibit 23, the men you mention in the account Exhibit 2 were working elsewhere than at Mr. Lanctot's for the government?—A. I have not those books. I have only got sheets for order numbers, and when we are through with a number. . . .

Q. Have you got the sheets of the order numbers to show the dates. . . .—A. They are in the government shop, at Sorel. I have no business to take those sheets with me. They don't belong to me.

Q. They belong to the government?—A. They belong to the government.

By Mr. Bureau:

Q. To whom do you deliver those loose sheets?—A. I deliver the loose sheets to Mr. Therault.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. That is the assistant director?—A. He is supposed to be the assistant superintendent.

By Mr. Bureau:

Q. Do you do that every night? At the end of the week? Or at the end of the month?—A. The numbers which we receive to do the work, the order numbers, we deliver the sheet when the work is completed.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Have you delivered any of those to Mr. Therault?—A. The sheets for that time have been delivered; as soon as I had finished with them, I was delivering them to Mr. Therault.

Q. Would the names of those people mentioned in Exhibit 2 be contained in those sheets—those that you have delivered to Mr. Therault?

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to question.

—A. They should be.

Q. And the place where they were working is mentioned?—A. The places are mentioned.

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to evidence until sheets are produced.

The meeting is adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

ROOM No. 30,

WEDNESDAY, March 23, 1911.

The Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections again met at 3.30 p.m. and continued to inquire into the charges preferred against Mr. Adelard Lanctot, M.P., as stated in the reference order to the committee.

ARTHUR LAVALLEE appeared, and duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists deposed as follows:

Examined by Mr. MCDUGALL, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Blondin.

Q. Mr. Lavallee, are you in the employ of the Marine and Fisheries Department, in Sorel?—A. I am, sir.

15481—2½

Q. In what capacity?—A. I am employed in the painting department at the shops.

Q. Are you employed in the same department where Jean Baptiste Pagé is the foreman?—A. I am, sir.

Q. What are your duties? What are you doing there?—A. I prepare the paint and it is delivered.

Q. Do you know Mr. Adelard Lanctot, the member for Richelieu?—A. I do.

Q. Do you keep books in your department?—A. No, sir. Mr. Pagé is the one who keeps the books.

Q. What is the book which is kept by Mr. Pagé?—A. They are the books wherein is entered the paint which is delivered in the course of the day, and on the fifteenth of the month these books are sent to the office—I, for the department, take note, from the morning till the evening, of what concerns the department, and these notes I give in the evening to Mr. Pagé before the day is ended—that is the notes of the paint which has been used in the course of the day for the government.

Q. And Mr. Pagé enters that into a book?—A. He puts that down upon a slate, and on the 15th of each month he enters that into his book—that is, twice a month.

Q. Have you a name for that book?—A. I do not know anything about that. I never work at Mr. Pagé's book; he has his office, and I am in the shop.

Q. You have not this book with you?—A. No, sir. I only take the notes from the morning to the evening, and these notes I give to Mr. Pagé in the evening.

Q. Do you know that during the months of June, July, August, September, October and November, 1910, certain paint and material were supplied and delivered to Mr. Adelard Lanctot for the painting of his house on George street in Sorel?—A. I know that during the summer—I could not mention the months—there has been paint which was carried to Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. Could you give us an idea of the months during which this paint and material were supplied?—A. I did not notice it.

Q. Did you keep an account of the material so supplied?—A. No, sir; not one note.

Q. Who kept the account of the paint and other things which were carried to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Mr. Jean Baptiste Page did.

Q. Did you ever see any book on which this account should have been kept?—A. No, sir.

Q. At the end of each fortnight, when Mr. Pagé has made his entries, what does he do with his book?—A. He sends it to the office.

Q. To which office?—A. I think it is in the office of Mr. Latraverse.

Q. Ulric Latraverse?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you see men during the summer—and if you can mention months, mention them—obtain paint in your shop to carry it to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir. I had knowledge that some painters carried some paint to Mr. Lanctot's house but I cannot mention any month.

Q. Can you give us the names of the painters who so obtained some paint?—A. There are Omer Pagé and Henri Paul who carried paint to Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. How many times?—A. I cannot say.

Q. Once only, or several times?—A. Some times.

Q. More than once?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When this material was carried, was it measured, counted or weighed in your presence?—A. I had knowledge that some of it was weighed—the first colour, the grey, for the priming.

Q. At what time was that?—A. During the summer. It was the first paint that went out of the shop.

Q. Is there any paint which went out of your shop in July?—A. That may be, sir, I tell you that I did not keep the time.

Q. To the best of your knowledge, in the month of July, was there any paint delivered at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. That is more than I can say.

Q. Who was preparing the parcels for Henri Paul and Omer Pagé?—A. I and Henri Paul. Henri Paul was working at the shop with me.

Q. Who prepared the parcels, you or him?—A. We were both working in the shop. Whoever was ready made up the parcels. Mr. Lanctot's house was not the only job. There were fifty or sixty painters to be served, for the yard. Mr. Pagé, himself, gave some.

Q. How did you keep account of the different places where you were sending these paints, if you had so many painters to serve?—A. The other painters were working for the department, and I told you that I take note of all the paint that goes out of the shop for the department, to go to the yard, in the fleet.

Q. For these paints you have a special number?—A. Yes.

Q. You have a special number for the invoice?—A. Each job has its special number.

Q. Had Mr. Lanctot's job a special number?—A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. You have no knowledge that a number has been attributed to Mr. Lanctot's job?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know what quantity of paint was delivered to Mr. Lanctot?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did Mr. Pagé, at any time in the month of July, August, September, October or November, give you instructions to deliver paint to any of his men to be carried to Mr. Lanctot's?—A. Yes, sir. He makes the colours himself, in part. They were special colours, and it was Mr. Pagé who made them in part.

Q. Did he make a requisition to Mr. Massé, the store-keeper, to have the paints be mixed in that way for Mr. Lanctot?—A. That is more than I can say.

Q. Now, these paints that you sent to Mr. Lanctot's, were they put into cans, in tins, in boxes, or how?—A. Sometimes they were put into gallon cans; at other times in pails which had been used to hold paint and which had been emptied.

Q. At what o'clock in the morning did Omer Pagé and Henri Paul leave to carry paint for Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. At the time of the whistle; at seven o'clock in the morning; some times a few minutes after that.

Q. And who crossed the river?—A. Themselves, Paul and Pagé, with their own skiff.

Q. Were other men working at Lanctot's? Did any government men cross over with them?—A. I do not remember, sir.

Q. Did you see other men besides Omer Pagé and Henri Paul helping Paul and Pagé to carry the paint?—A. Not to my knowledge. The other men who worked there all lived in Sorel. They were painters from Sorel.

Q. Were they not obliged to come to St. Joseph to punch?—A. They did not come.

Q. If they did not come, who punched for them?—A. It must have been the punch-keeper; I don't know.

Q. What was his name?—A. Gilbert Champagne.

Q. Apart from the paint, there has been putty and oil delivered, I suppose?—A. Yes, there must have been.

Q. I am not asking if there must have been some. From your own personal knowledge, was there any putty?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was there any paint brushes?—A. Loaned paint brushes; yes, sir.

Q. Brushes for painting?—A. Yes.

Q. Was there any steel wire for polishing?—A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. Was there any pumice stone?—A. I think so. There was some, once.

Q. Can you give us an idea of the quantity of yellow paint, for instance, that was delivered?—A. No, sir.

Q. None at all?—A. No, sir.

Q. Green paint?—A. The same thing. It was Mr. Pagé who took the quantities of paint.

Q. In the month of December, on or about the 12th of December, did you receive the goods which are mentioned in Exhibit No. 13, which is now shown to you?

(Witness takes cognizance of Exhibit No. 13.)

A. Yes, sir, I received these quantities, and I signed that.

Q. Is the receipt written across this document in your own handwriting?—A. No, sir; I put my signature only, but the words 'Received the above goods' have not been written by me.

Q. Who brought you those goods?—A. Mr. Arthur Côté, the store-checker.

Q. The store-checker of Mr. Massé's store?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was done with those goods?—A. A part of them was used, and the rest is still in stock at the shop.

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot ever speak to you about those goods?—A. Never, sir.

Q. Did he ever come to the store when Jean Baptiste Pagé was there?—A. That may be.

Q. I am asking you whether you know or not?—A. It seems to me that he came once or twice last summer.

Q. Do you know why he came?—A. No, sir.

Q. He came to talk with Mr. Pagé?—A. No, sir; he came with visitors once; if I am not mistaken, he was with strangers.

Q. Did you ever see him speaking with Mr. Pagé about these paints?—A. No, sir; not to my knowledge.

Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, declares that he has no cross-questions to put to the witness.

And deponent further saith not.

OSCAR CHAMPAGNE now appears, and being duly sworn deposes and says:—

Examined by Mr. J. M. McDUGALL, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blodin:

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Champagne?—A. I live in Sorel.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. I am employed as time-keeper in the Marine Department.

Q. As checker or time-keeper of what men?—A. Of all the employees of the department.

Q. Does this include the painters who are under the direction of the foreman, Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. No, sir.

Q. In the course of the year 1910, in the summer, either in May or June, to begin with, did you meet Mr. Adélar Lanctot, member for the county of Richelieu, with regard to the painting of a house belonging to Mr. Lanctot, and then being built?—Yes, sir.

Q. Will you tell us the circumstances under which you met Mr. Lanctot, and what happened between you?—A. Towards the end of May, 1910, Mr. Lanctot came to my office and told me that he had come to the department to see Mr. Papineau, in order to have some painters to go to his house and paint, but that Mr. Papineau was absent, and he asked me if I could do him that favour. I consented to do it. I told him I would send some men; that I would give Mr. Pagé instructions to send one or two men, according to the needs of the work.

Q. Mr. Pagé was present?—A. No, sir.

Q. Was Mr. Pagé seen at once, there in the next office or at the next door?—A. No, sir.

Q. You said you would give orders to Mr. Pagé to send men to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you give these orders to Mr. Pagé?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When?—A. I do not know if it was a day or two after.

Q. Was it in the beginning of June, 1910?—A. I do not remember if it was on the 28th or 29th of May that Mr. Lanctot came. I know it was a day or two afterwards that Mr. Lanctot came.

Q. In the presence of Mr. Lanctot, you did not then see Mr. Pagé, and it was only two or three days afterwards that you saw him?—A. Two or three days afterwards.

Q. What orders did you give him?—A. I told Mr. Pagé to send one or two painters, or three painters to the house of Mr. Lanctot, as the work would need them.

Q. Do you know if he sent them?—A. Yes, sir, he sent them.

Q. How do you know it?—A. I know it because Mr. Pagé, every Saturday night, used to give me the time of the men whom he was sending to Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. You kept a memo or a record of the time which Mr. Pagé would send you every Saturday night?—A. I have kept those sheets.

Q. Where are they?—A. In my pocket.

The CHAIRMAN.—Are those the sheets showing the time of the men who worked at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. The time which Mr. Pagé gave me.

By Mr. Monk:

Q. What did you do with those sheets?—A. I have kept them.

Q. As you received them, did you do anything with them?—A. I would put them into a drawer.

Q. These entries have not been transferred into any other books of the Department?—A. They have been transferred; that is I made the account from those sheets.

Q. Were these entries transferred in turn as you received the sheets?—A. On the account?

Q. In the book of the department, or only at the end of the job?—A. I do not understand your question right.

Q. Those entries which you were receiving on Saturday, did you transmit them to the department, or did you only do it after the job was completed?—A. These were entered regularly every evening.

Q. To what employee did you give those entries?—A. To what employee?

Q. When you would hand them back to the department?—A. In speaking of these sheets?

Q. Yes.—A. I would keep them.

Q. To whom did you give the entry for the books of the department?—A. I did not give them to any one. This belonged to me.

Q. I thought I had understood from you that these entries were afterwards transferred to the books of the department?—A. No, sir, these sheets were given to me every Saturday night.

Q. Then, what did you do with them, Mr. Champagne?—A. I would put them into the drawer.

Q. Then, there were no entries made in the books of the department?—A. No, sir; there was none.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. It is from these sheets that you made the account which you sent later on to Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. So that, from the month of June to the month of November, it was not possible for Mr. Papineau, the director, or Mr. Therault, the deputy director, to have knowledge, or to take knowledge of these notes which were in your drawer?—A. No, sir.

Q. The pay is made every fortnight?—A. Every fortnight, on the 6th and the 21st; sometime it may be delayed or may be in advance one day.

Q. Have the men who are mentioned in your accounts been paid at each pay?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. As if they had worked at the department's ship yard?—A. At the department, the same thing.

Q. And Désiré Champagne, the paymaster, did not know when he was paying these men, every fortnight, that they were working elsewhere than in the government shipyard, at the government's work?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever mention to Mr. Desiré Champagne the paymaster, that you were keeping accounts for work which was being done by government men at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. No, sir.

Q. During all the period from June to November?—A. No, sir.

Q. Why?—A. Because the paymaster has nothing to do with that.

Q. If I can judge from your evidence, I think I understand that you were the only one who knew about that?—A. At the time, yes—and then Pagé.

Q. Between you and Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. Yes.

Q. Are the notes actually in the same condition than when you have received them from Mr. Pagé?—A. They were not tied together. He gave them to me every week.

Q. Were the different sheets all signed by Mr. Pagé?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. With those notes given by Mr. Pagé, have you prepared an account of the work done at the Lanctot house, and did you hand it to Mr. Lanctot? If so, have you got that account with you?—A. I made Mr. Lanctot's account with the sheets I had got from Mr. Pagé. After that I sent the account to Mr. Lanctot, in Ottawa.

Q. Then, I understand, it was yourself who prepared the account for work done by the men at Mr. Lanctot's, which has been sent by you to Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is that account written in your own hand?—A. I would need to see it.

(Witness examines Exhibit No. 2.)

A. Yes, sir, that is mine.

Q. You had the details from Mr. Pagé to make up that account, so you have just told us?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You had the exact dates in June and in the other months when the men have worked at Mr. Lanctot's, dates which had been communicated to you by Mr. Pagé. Why then, when you made the account sent to Mr. Lanctot, have you not specified the dates?

(Witness looks at Exhibit No. 2.)

A. I am satisfied with giving the month, with the number of days for each month for every man. I thought that would be sufficient.

Q. Will you look at the end of Exhibit No. 2, which you have there?—A. The account?

Q. Yes. You will see there the names of four labourers. I don't recollect at the moment those names. The four last items?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you get the details enabling you to show to Mr. Pagé the account for work done by those four labourers at the house in question?—A. It is a Mr. Joubert.

Q. Joubert, what is he doing?—A. Joubert, he is in Mr. Gendron's office.

Q. Alexandre Gendron?—A. Yes; the overseer of the labourers.

Q. How did you get that information?—A. By telephone.

Q. You were also the pointer for those men?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. But you didn't know when they had worked at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I knew it was in September.

Q. How do you know that? Did you give orders yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. To whom did you give the instructions?—A. To Mr. Joubert.

Q. What instructions have you given to Mr. Joubert about that labourers' work?
—A. I telephoned to Mr. Joubert to send a man or two to Mr. Lanctot; and after that, when the men were coming back to the yard, Joubert used to telephone me that the men had returned to their work.

Q. What were those four labourers doing at Mr. Lanctot's in September?—A. I don't know.

Q. It was you who gave instructions to send them to their work?—A. It was me who sent them, but I have not followed them, and I don't know what they were doing.

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot himself ask you to send him labourers in September?—A. I don't recollect if it was Mr. Lanctot or somebody else. At all events, they have been sent for Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. I would like to know how it was that labourers had been sent to work, when Mr. Lanctot has only asked for painters?—A. He had asked for painters—he had asked some men.

Q. They wanted men as a whole to do some wood work and some painting?—A. Of course.

Q. Did you mean that at first?—A. The men for the wood work were not mentioned; only the painters.

Q. I thought they needed painters only but I see that there is some work done by day labourers; who asked you to send those day labourers?—A. I told you a moment ago that I did not remember if it was Mr. Lanctot or someone else. The fact is that those men have worked for Mr. Lanctot.

Q. It is also a fact that they have been paid by the government?—A. Yes, yes.

Q. You have no sheet where the name of those men are registered?—A. Not for those men.

Q. Those were called by telephone?—A. By telephone.

Q. Will you look at the date at the top of the account sent and compare them with the pay list I am going to show you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Looking over the pay list of the department beginning No. 144 and ending No. 155 included, are the names of some of the men mentioned in Exhibit No. 2 prepared by you figuring on the pay list and have been paid by the government?—A. They have been paid by the government.

Q. As you were keeping the time of those men on the dates mentioned there, where have those men worked on the other dates than those mentioned in Exhibit No. 2 and in Exhibit No. 24 you have produced to-day?

WITNESS.—The work?

COUNSEL.—Yes.

A. My department has nothing to do with the keeping of the time; I know nothing about it.

Q. Have you got something in your department, some books to show where those men worked in the government ship yards?—A. Not in my department.

Q. Did you, in your department, keep some books to register the time of the men, books called time books?—A. Here they are (showing the books referred to).

Q. Did you in that book entitled workingmen's time book entered or found names, of some men, mentioned in Exhibit No. 2 and in Exhibit No. 24?—A. They are mentioned in those books. They are in the books.

Q. Are those books in your own hand-writing?—A. Yes (looking over one of the books) no, not this one.

Q. In your book entitled 'workingmen's time book' you do insert the time of the men and you hand it to Desiré Champagne, the paymaster, who prepares the lists?
—A. I give the list ready to be paid, checked, the whole thing.

Q. You also prepare the pay list?—A. Myself.

Q. The pay lists are also from your own hand writing?—A. Some of them; those,

you see, were written by Mr. Archambault who is in the office, he wrote them but I am responsible for Mr. Archambault's work.

Q. And the small book is in conformity with the pay list?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. At the bottom of each pay-list do you certify to the effect that the list made by you and prepared by you is correct?—A. Yes sir. Some times. I can forget it but at all events I am supposed to do it.

Q. I see some lists which are not signed?—A. Generally we sign the first and the last sheet. We do not sign every sheet.

Q. Look at the bottom of list No. 144, for instance, and see if——A. The pay master was the only one to sign; I forgot to sign it. The first sheet and the last one are signed by the two Champagne's. The first list is signed by me.

Q. Have you ever ordered Cuthbert Champagne, the man who looks after the punch, to punch the men who were working at Mr. Lanctot's even when they were not there to punch for themselves?—A. In the case of Mr. Lanctot, I do not remember if I, myself, gave the order to punch the cards or if Mr. Pagé did.

Q. Have you got some of those cards or some of those time tables of the punch? Have you got some here?—A. Yes, I have two months; November and December, 1910.

Q. You have some for the month of November?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. But previous to November, going back to the month of July, have you got some of those cards?—A. No, sir.

Q. Where are they?—A. They are destroyed. We burn them every year, twice a year.

Q. But they are time records?—A. Yes, sir, but when a man has had his pay, at the end of two months, it is very seldom he makes any claim. And more than that, we have no place to keep those cards. We issue 22,000 every year.

Q. The cards for the month of November, we can examine them here?—A. They are here.

Q. When did you destroy the punch cards having reference to the work done at Mr. Lanctot's house previous to the month of November, 1910?

Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to that question.

Q. When did you destroy the cards of the men who worked in ship yards at Sorel for the government or anywhere else previous to the month of November, 1910, including the cards of those who worked at Mr. Lanctot's building?—A. The 11th of July. For once. We burn them twice a year. Once in the month of July and another time in the month of January, during the holidays.

Q. You made a fire to burn part of them in July; when did you destroy the rest?—A. In January, 1911.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. As usual?—A. As usual, every year.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Please show us one of those cards?

(Witness produces the cards mentioned).

Q. Please pick up, during the month of November, one of those cards, so as to show the Committee the nature of those cards.

(Witness shows one card.)

Q. You call that a punch?—A. We call that cards. The machine which marks those cards we call it a punch; but it is a clock.

Q. The time of the men is stamped on the card?—A. It is stamped on the card.

Q. It is not a hole you punch in the card?—A. The men put that card in a box placed there, they make a pedal work and the card is stamped.

Q. The date and the time are punched in the clock?—A. Yes.

Q. That is what you call punch?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then, in the month of July you burned all the cards for the previous months, except however the month of May and the month of June?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And in the month of January following you burned all the cards again, except those for the months of November and December?—A. Yes.

Q. Including those for the months of May and June?—A. Yes.

Q. You kept only the months of November and December?—A. Yes.

By the Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. In the month of July you burned the cards for the months of November and December, 1910?—A. Yes.

Q. And for January, February, March and April, 1910?—A. Yes.

A. Six months?—A. Six months.

Q. And you kept the two last months?—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Why did you keep the two last months?—A. In case there would be some claims on the part of the men. Two months are too many, one would be enough.

Q. In the month of January, when you burned the cards, you burned them all, except November and December?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. But in the month of January, some complaints were made, some affidavits were given, were they not, and you knew it?—A. . . .

Q. You knew there was some trouble, that some affidavits and declarations had been made about the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I do not know if I thought of it then. At all events, that did not prevent me from burning them. I had orders to that effect and I followed them. I was ordered to burn them every year.

Q. What are these orders?—A. From whom did I get the orders?

Q. Yes.—A. From Mr. Desbarats.

Q. That is Mr. Papineau's predecessor?—A. Yes, sir.

By the Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. The men's time which is marked on these cards is then transferred in a book?—A. Yes, in one of the pass-books.

Q. In one of these pass-books which are before the Committee?—A. Yes.

Q. Therefore, if you have no claims from the men, then you have your books which determine whether the men have worked or not?—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. If you had had any dispute in connection with the men's time, would you have kept more than the months of November and December?—A. If we had had trouble with the men?

Q. If you had had any, would you have kept more than two month's cards?—A. No.

Q. You would have burned them, in spite of all?—A. Of course. There is not a man who does not put in his claim within 24 hours, when there is any time short in his pay.

Q. Now, you have prepared the account, Exhibit No. 2, which you sent to Mr. Lanctot: Did you send it by mail?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Addressed to him?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where?—A. At Ottawa.

Q. You sent it to them by mail, addressed to Ottawa?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you go and see Mr. Papineau about this matter, and about the time you say that you sent the account to Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir, I think it was the next day that I spoke to Mr. Papineau about it.

Q. And on what day did you mail this account to Mr. Lanctot?—A. On the date on which the account was made.

Q. The 21st of November?—A. Yes.

Q. Was it you who wrote the date on the account?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, do you say it was on the next day, or the same day that you saw Mr. Papineau?—A. Not on the same day it must have been the next day or the day after.

Q. What did you say then to Mr. Papineau?—A. I asked Mr. Papineau, if there had been a letter from Mr. Lanctot.

Q. That was the first time that you mentioned to Mr. Papineau the work done at Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Had Mr. Papineau received any news from Mr. Lanctot?—A. Not at the time, no. Not when I asked him.

Q. At that time, had the account for materials supplied for Mr. Lanctot's house, been prepared?—A. I don't know that, sir.

Q. Did you see Mr. Pagé about the account for materials?—A. No, sir.

Q. When you asked Mr. Papineau if he had any news from Mr. Lanctot, did he ask you why you wanted to know if he had had news from Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, he asked me why.

Q. Did you explain to him?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did you tell him then?—A. I told Mr. Papineau that I had sent an account to Mr. Lanctot for the men he had had to work at his house.

Q. And then, what took place? . . . Is that all that took place between you?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to the question, inasmuch as what was said between Mr. Papineau and the witness, in the absence of Mr. Lanctot, cannot be admitted as evidence in the present investigation.

The objection is maintained by the chairman.

Q. Did Mr. Papineau ask you any information in order to ascertain whether the account was correct or not, and did he look at the books to verify whether it was correct or not?—A. No, sir.

Cross-examined by Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. Is it not true that, on the 28th or 29th of May, when Mr. Lanctot spoke to you for the first time about this job of painting, he said to you: 'I am in a great hurry, I am taking the train for Saranac Lake?'—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you recollect that he added: 'Will you loan me men to work at my house' or other words to that effect?—A. I do not know whether these were his exact words, but it was something of that kind.

Q. Now, from the 24th of May until the 1st of November, you met Mr. Lanctot once in a while?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he speak to you about the account?—A. He asked me to make him his account, two or three times, four or five times.

Q. Do you remember at what time he asked you for his account in the first place? Was it in the month of June or in the month of July?—A. In the course of the month of June.

Q. What did you answer him?—A. I told him that I would make out his account when the job would be completed; that I was not going to make out accounts every week.

Q. Is it the same answer that you gave him when, on subsequent occasions, he asked you for his account?—A. Yes, sir; I always refused.

Q. Was there a price agreed upon, which the painters were to receive?—A. No, sir.

Q. Are we to understand that these painters were to receive the same salary that they were receiving in the department?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, Mr. Champagne, you mentioned the fact that on various occasions Mr. Lanctot asked you for his account; but apart from this, was there between you any talk about payment?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was said on that subject?—A. Mr. Lanctot, at different times, offered me money to pay the men who were working at his place.

Q. Did you accept?—A. No, sir.

Q. What did you answer him?—A. I answered him that I did not want the money, because I feared that the men would find fault. People might have thought that I received more than I gave. Therefore, the best way was to accept none at all.

By the Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. When you say 'people,' you refer to the workmen who were under your orders?

—A. Oh, no. Those who were employed for Mr. Lanctot.

Q. Yes, yes; that is what I mean—people who worked?—A. Yes, yes; those whose time I checked.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Now, Mr. Champagne, there is something about this account which has perplexed Mr. McDougall. Will you explain how it comes that the last entries are dated in the month of September, while the entries immediately preceding are dated in the month of November and in the month of October?—A. That was because I did not want to put the labourers with the painters.

Q. Now, in your letter of the 21st of November, you inform Mr. Lanctot that if he desires to have information you would take pleasure in giving it to him. To what did you refer?

Mr. McDougall, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin, objects to this motion, inasmuch as it is irregular, illegal and contrary to the rules on evidence, and does not arise from the examination in chief.

The Chairman allows the question.

A. Well, if he had thought that was too expensive, he could have told me about it. I was expecting that.

Q. You expected that?—A. Yes.

Q. And, not only were you expecting it, Mr. Witness, but the thing has happened. He told you that it was somewhat expensive, did he not?—A. Yes.

Q. When did he tell you that?—A. I think it was at the next trip he made at Sorel.

Q. What did he tell you about that?—A. He told me that his account was somewhat high. He had not thought that it would be as high as that.

Q. Now, as to the punch for the time of the men. In order that those men could have marked their time on cards, in the ordinary course, it would have been necessary for them to cross over at noon at St. Joseph, and afterwards to come back home?—A. Yes, and go across also at 1 o'clock.

Q. And also at 7 o'clock in the morning?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And also at 1 o'clock, after dinner?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And also at 6 o'clock in the evening?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, who is paying for those fares across? The department?—A. No, sir.

Q. We have been told that the department was paying the boatman?—A. He is the one who takes them across.

Q. What's his name?—A. The changes come so often. It is a man named Paul and one named Salvail who are the boatmen, one on each side of the river.

Q. Those men didn't give their time for nothing?—A. Not that I know. It would be pure folly on their part.

Q. They ask how much?—A. Three cents.

Q. For every trip?—A. For every trip—six cents go and return.

Q. So those people were saving eighteen cents every day?—A. Twenty-four cents.

Q. Was that not one of the reasons for which you have not forced those men to go across to register their time?—A. It was to exempt them to spend that money.

Q. And more particularly when you knew that Mr. Pagé could control the time of the men on the spot three times a day?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, will you tell if Alfred Douaire has been absent from his work in July, 1910?

Mr. McDougall, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin, objects to question as not deriving from the examination in chief.

Question is allowed by the Chairman.

A. I would have to refer to the books in order to answer that.

Q. Could you verify that immediately, without losing too much time?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. I am told that he has been absent on July 26 and 27, 1910—one day on July 26 and half a day on July 27?

(Witness refers to book.)

A. Alfred Douaire has been away the whole day on the 26th and half a day on the 27th.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. What means this figure 'O'?—A. That means 'absent,' and an 'O' is entered also for Sundays.

Q. You verify those absences of Alfred Douaire from the pay-sheet No. 147, which is the pay-sheet for the two last weeks of July, from the 16th to the 31st—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Now, look at the list of August, and tell us if it is not true that Alfred Douaire has been absent from the 3rd to the 5th of August, 1910?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is it not true, referring to your pay-sheet, that the same Alfred Douaire has been also absent from the 16th to the 20th of August, 1910?—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You are speaking from pay-sheets Nos. 148 and 149?—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Now, will you look at the pay-sheets of September, and tell us if that same man has not been absent on September 6?—A. Yes, sir; he has been absent on September 3 and 4, 1910.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You are speaking from pay-sheet No. 150?—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Has he been absent on any other working day of September, 1910?—A. He has been absent during half a day, on the 6th. On the two other days, which are marked with an 'O,' that was a holiday and a Sunday, and nobody has worked on those days.

Q. Now, will you look to see if he has not been away between September 7 and 30?—A. Yes, sir, three days.

Q. What are the dates?—A. September 28, 29 and 30.

Q. Now, see what there is in October. A. What date?
—Any date.

A. He has been away two half days.

Q. What date?—A. On the 6th and 7th.

Q. Is that all?—A. I don't know.

Q. Look a little further. A. Oct. 21, half a day.

Q. Now, Mr. Champagne, as to the papering which those men may have done at Mr. Lanctot's, on King street, at the end of October, 1908, I am informed that Alfred

Douaire was absent from his work on October 26, 27, 29, 30 and 31, 1908. Is that exact?—A. I would have to refer to the books.

Q. Have you got here your books for 1908?—A. No, sir.

Q. Will you verify that, and also for the first and second of November?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many of those cards do you use, during a period of twelve months, reckoning on the number of men you employ?—A. I have figured that up somewhat roughly, but I have found 22,000.

(The book containing the pay-sheets for the year 1908 is now brought and laid before witness).

Q. That man pretends that he worked for Mr. Lanctot on King Street, in the last days of October 1908; will you see if he has been absent at the end of October 1908, and if so, what are the dates?—A. On the 19th and 23rd; then there are three consecutive days but no body worked on those days.

Q. Never mind; give the dates?—A. On the 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You speak from pay-list No. 105?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Laxamme:

Q. Now, what were the days on which all the men were absent?—A. The 25th 26th, and 27th.

Q. Now do you know where Douaire worked on the 29th, 30th and 31st of October, 1908? Do you know if he worked for Mr. Lanctot on those days?

Mr. MCDUGALL remarks that these questions are upon facts entirely new, which do not at all arise from the examination in chief, and he draws the attention of the Chairman to the fact that he will have to cross-examine the witness upon these facts.

The CHAIRMAN asserts that Mr. McDougall will have all due liberty to cross-examine the witness.

A. I cannot say.

Q. I am informed, Mr. Champagne, that you are very popular amongst your men at Sorel?—A. You are not hard to please.

Q. What is the position in that respect.

Mr. MCDUGALL, K.C., objects to this question as being useless.

Mr. LAFLAMME withdraws the question.

Q. Is there any one of the men who has worked for the department before, but is not working there any more, and who has been examined here as witness, who has passed derogatory remarks about you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. To yourself?—A. To myself, yes.

Q. Who was that?—A. Andronique Sénécal, Herménégilde Lambert. I have not the list of the other witnesses; I do not know if I could find any more.

Q. Alfred Douaire?—A. Alfred Douaire, no.

Q. Nicholas Laroche?—A. No.

Q. Henri Proulx?—A. Henri Proulx also said his share.

Q. What did Lambert, Proulx and Sénécal say?—A. About Lambert, I would as soon lose the benefit of it and not repeat what he has said.

Q. What did he say, in exact terms? I tell you in advance that we will not believe it. A. I would not like to scandalize you.

Q. You will not scandalize us. A....

Q. Go on, go on. A. It is a hard thing to say that.

Q. Say it all the same. A. One day when Lambert was tipsy on his work—or in liquor, if you wish,—it was not the first time—I sent him to his home about four o'clock or half past four in the afternoon, as he was causing scandal amongst the

men by swearing. I thought that the department would be better off in paying him an hour and a half for nothing—I didn't desire to suppress his time—that in leaving him to bring scandal in this way upon every one, upon eight or nine hundred men.

Q. Did he say anything to you? Did he call you anything?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. What did he say. That is what I would like to know. A. It is not nice enough to be repeated.

Q. The more you will hesitate in saying what it is, the more we are anxious to know. A. At any rate he told me that even if it were after ten years, he would take his revenge against me.

Q. What did Proulx tell you?—A. About in the same terms, that he wanted to take his revenge.

Q. And Sénécal?—A. Sénécal, it is again the same thing. They all want a revenge.

Re-examined by Mr. McDougall, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. Since Andronique Sénécal has given his evidence here has he been discharged from the employ of the government?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to the question as irrelevant to the purposes of this inquiry.

The question is allowed by the Chairman.

A. No, sir.

Q. Is he still in the employ of the department?—A. No, sir.

Q. Has he gone, then?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Gone of his own accord?—A. Yes, sir. He quitted work the middle of the day without notifying anybody.

Q. When did this man make threats to you?—A. More than once a year. I do not take note of that, I have too much of it.

Q. That goes from year to year?—A. Yes.

Q. It is a good many years that he make threats against you so?—A. Not only he.

Q. I am speaking of Andronique Sénécal now, we will take the others afterwards?—A. Not before this year.

Q. He began this year to make threats?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you make any complaints to your superior officers?—A. No, sir. I would then be all the time with the superior officers.

Q. So you did not attach much importance to the threats of Andronique Sénécal?—A. The reason is I have these threats too often.

Q. It flows like water on a duck's back?—A. Not always.

Q. I am speaking of Andronique Sénécal?—A. Not always, he neither. There are times when it is hard to swallow.

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Lanctot objects to this evidence as being useless and irrelevant to the purposes of this inquiry.

The question is allowed by the Chairman.

Q. Did you attach any importance to these threats from Andronique Sénécal?

--A. Not more than to the others.

Q. Did you attach any importance to that which you call threats from Lambert?

--A. Yes, sir.

Q. Lambert is the man who caused the great scandal at the government ship yards?—A. When he drinks.

Q. He raised the scandal when he was drunk?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you pay much attention to threats made by a drunkard?—A. Specially in the state Lambert was in, yes.

Q. In which extraordinary state was he in?—A. Because he was not dead drunk, he knew perfectly well what he was saying.

Q. You thought, however, that he was sufficiently drunk to dismiss him from the government ship yards?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And he left?—A. Yes, sir. That is when he made some threats.

Q. When you dismissed him he made some threats?—A. Yes.

Q. When was that?—A. It must have been during the month of September, I think, the day we launched a dredge.

Q. He came back to work, however, and he kept working till the month of December?—A. Yes, sir, till the 28th or the 29th.

Q. Has he ever tried to carry out his threats?—A. He never tried because he knew he was not able to do it.

Q. You mean, I suppose, he was not big enough?—A. He was not big enough, no; he knew who he had to deal with.

Q. He knew it was better for him not to try?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. He thought it would be less dangerous to sign some affidavits than to get into a fight?—A. Yes.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Mr. Lanctot offered you some money on different occasions?—A. Yes.

Q. You would not accept it?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever mention that to Mr. Therault or Mr. Papineau?—A. No, sir.

Q. Now, do you know something about the crossing, about what there is to be paid to go across the river?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Does the government pay to have its men go across or do the men pay for themselves?—A. The government pays for part of them and the others have to pay themselves.

Q. Who are the ones the government pays for?—A. The office clerks, those who work in the store, the foremen and some sailors.

Q. Please look at the document now shown to you and tell us what it is supposed to be?

(Witness looks at the document.)

A. These are my initials.

Q. What is it?—A. It is a crossing ticket. That is good for three cents.

Q. That ticket is issued by the department?—A. Those are given by me.

Q. For the government, not for Oscar Champagne?—A. Of course, for the government.

Q. Those tickets are given under your initials to allow the men to cross over, it is good for one single trip?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who pays for those tickets, the men or the government?—A. The government.

Q. Have any of those tickets been given to the men who worked at Mr. Lanctot's house, either to the men who brought the paint over or to the men who worked at the house?—A. Never for the painting.

Q. Have any of the day labourers or any of the painters who worked at Adelard Lanctot's house received some tickets?—A. The painters, never.

Q. And the day labourers?—A. As for that I do not remember it.

Q. You cannot swear no positively?—A. Not more than yes.

Q. Now, when you speak of Alfred Douaire's absences, you do not speak from your own memory, you have been obliged to consult the pay lists?—A. Of course; since 1908 I have not got that in my memory.

Q. And we can have an idea of Alfred Douaire's absences and of his attendance to work by consulting the books?—A. Certainly.

Q. Do all the 'O' written on the pay lists mean Sundays or absences?—A. There are three or four in succession, they cannot be all Sundays.

Q. Can you discern a cipher you put for a man's absence from work from a 15481—3

cipher you put for a Sunday, for instance?—A. A man who works cannot get a cipher; on Sunday he gets a cipher.

Q. There is no difference?—A. On Monday, if he does not work he gets another cipher.

Q. The cipher you put for a Sunday is exactly the same than the cipher you put for an absence?—A. Yes, sir, the ciphers are always alike.

Q. There is no difference between those applying to Sundays and those applying to days of absence?—A. No.

Q. When you speak of Alfred Douaire's absence, you mean his absence from the government's work?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Can you figure out by the dates you gave us from the pay list as being days of absence, if he was away or if he was working at Lanctot's?—A. No, sir.

By Mr. Devlin, M.P.:

Q. Mr. Champagne, you have noticed the days Alfred Douaire worked at Mr. Lanctot's, have you not, and you are positive about those days?—A. I could ascertain it every week, when I had the foreman's report.

Q. How long have you been in the position you occupy now, Mr. Champagne?—A. Seven years.

Q. Seven years?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Before that time, Mr. Champagne, what was your occupation?—A. I was checker.

Q. Where?—A. At the department. I have been working fourteen years for the department.

By Mr. Barker, M.P.:

Q. It has been said to us here, Mr. Champagne, that the work done by the department was entered in the books so that the cost of each work could be ascertained?—A. No, not in my department.

Q. But those accounts were kept in some department, were they not?—A. Very likely, yes.

Q. When you entered the time of those different men who have worked at Mr. Lanctot's house since the month of June until the month of November, 1910, was there anything in the books to show which work those men had been working at?—A. No, sir.

Q. They were registered in the books as ordinary workmen working for the department?—A. Yes, on the pay list.

Q. And that went on from June till November, 1910, during six months, 226 days and during that time you had no indication in the books to enable you to know where those men had been working, you had no record of it?—A. There was no record of it.

And further deponent saith not and the meeting is adjourned.

3
7
10/11
7

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

CHARGES PREFERRED BY P. E. BLONDIN, M.P.,
AGAINST A. LANCTOT, M.P., RICHELIEU.

No. 6



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY C. H. PARMELEE, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

1911



LIBRARY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

LIBRARY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

LIBRARY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



LIBRARY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

THURSDAY, March 23, 1911.

The committee met at 10 o'clock a.m.

PRESENT:—Messrs. German, chairman; Barker, Barnard, Brodeur, Chisholm (Antigonish), Crocket, Crothers, Demers Devlin, Geoffrion, Gervais, Haggart (Winnipeg), Kyte, Lapointe, Lennox, Macdonald, Maddin, Major, Monk and Warburton—(21).

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

The examination of J. B. Pagé was resumed and concluded, and witness discharged from further attendance.

A statement showing the date and place where men worked was, as requested by the committee, produced and marked as Exhibit No. 25.

The following witnesses, viz., Napoleon Badeau, Joseph Badeau and Joseph Proulx, were sworn and examined, and discharged from further attendance.

Hon. Mr. Brodeur was sworn and examined.

During his examination the following letters were produced and marked as exhibits, viz.:—

Exhibit No. 26. Letter, Hon. L. P. Brodeur to A. Lanctot, dated Dec. 5, 1910, stating that Mr. Lamoureux transmitted him declarations of an important nature.

Exhibit No. 27. Letter, A. Lanctot to Hon. L. P. Brodeur, dated Dec 5, 1910, acknowledging receipt of foregoing.

Ulric Latraverse was recalled and examined, and discharged from further attendance.

During his examination the following was produced and marked as Exhibit No. 28, being blank form used by foremen to show how work is distributed daily.

The following witnesses were sworn and examined, and discharged from further attendance, viz.: Cuthbert Champagne, H. A. Terreault, A. Cayer and N. Massé.

Messrs. L. G. Papineau, H. A. Terreault and U. Latraverse were recalled, and questioned relative to a summary filed and marked as Exhibit No. 29, showing amount of wages paid to men who worked at Lanctot's house from June to November, 1910, inclusive.

The examination of Hon. Mr. Brodeur was resumed, and concluded.

During his examination he produced departmental file of papers marked as Exhibit No. 30, which included declarations of Henri Proulx and that of Alfred Douaire, both dated Nov. 30, 1910.

At one o'clock the committee took recess.

3 o'clock p.m.

A. Thibaudeau, fils, was sworn and examined, and discharged from further attendance.

During his examination the following letters were filed and marked as exhibits:—

Exhibit No. 31. Letter, A. Thibaudeau (Fils) to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, dated January 16, 1911, relative to certain documents he secured from D. Péloquin.

Exhibit No. 32. Letter, Sir Wilfrid Laurier to A. Thibaudeau (Fils), dated January 18, 1911, intimating in reply to foregoing that every facility will be afforded him to place the facts before the public.

A. Lanctot was recalled, and further examined.

The committee then adjourned until Tuesday next, the 28th inst., at 10 o'clock a.m.

W. M. GERMAN,
Chairman.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

ROOM No. 30,

THURSDAY, March 23, 1911, 10 a.m.

The Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections met at 10 a.m., and proceeded to inquire into the charges preferred against Mr. Adelard Lanctot, M.P., such as referred to in the Order of Reference to the committee.

JEAN BAPTISTE PAGÉ recalled.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Mr. Pagé, yesterday you were requested to furnish a statement of the time of the men who worked at Mr. Lanctot's; is that statement ready?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Please show it to us?—A. Here it is.

(Witness hands the statement over to Mr. McDougall.)

Q. Is the statement you produce now, which is marked Exhibit No. 25, a reproduction of the entries made in your little book produced here as Exhibit No. 23?—A. It is exactly what is in the book.

Q. And that shows the days on which the men mentioned there have worked at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir, the dates and the places where they worked, also the kind of work they did.

By the Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. Is it from that booklet you copied the account produced yesterday by Mr. Champagne, Exhibit No. 24?—A. The account was made from those figures (Exhibit No. 24).

Q. The statement you produced now, Exhibit No. 25, has been taken from your book?—A. Yes.

Q. From the book No. 23?—A. Yes.

Q. And what you have just produced is the same thing than that?—A. What I produced, Mr. Minister, is a copy of my book.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. In that statement you produced as Exhibit No. 25, there is, at the bottom of some of sheets, some entries or notes written with a pencil?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What do those entries or those notes written with a pencil mean?—A. It is to show the work they did. I marked that with a lead pencil.

Q. The work they did at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You mean that from your memory, yesterday or this morning?—A. I made it from my book.

Q. Please show us in your book the places where you found those informations?—A. They are the places where each has worked.

Q. But you now speak of memory, of things as far back as the month of June last?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What I am asking you is this: Those notes written with a lead pencil you put at the bottom of the sheets are not included in the book?—A. No.

Q. Then, you wrote those notes with a pencil, from your memory, going back as far as the month of June last?—A. My memory is good, Mr. McDougall.

Q. I notice it, because there are many details. Now, when you delivered the

paint, the entry was first made on a slate, was it not?—A. For everything concerning Mr. Lanctot the entry was made on a little rough copy.

Q. Were you not entering it on a slate?—A. The government's paint was entered on a slate.

Q. Then you were the only one to know the quantity of paint sent to Mr. Lanctot's house and that quantity was marked on a rough copy you cannot produce?—A. Myself and my assistant. That rough copy I looked for it but I could not find it.

Q. Then you made up the account for that paint only after the work was done?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the rough copy was lost at the time you made up the account?—A. At the time I made up the account, the rough copy was not lost. It is when looking for some other papers, I suppose, that it was mislaid. I am not the only one going into my office.

Q. Do you mean that somebody else might have taken those rough copies and destroyed them?—A. They can have mislaid them when looking for some papers. My assistant is often my office; then my son comes often and looks for some papers. The fact is that I could not find it.

Q. Arthur Lavalée is your assistant?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. He told us yesterday that all the entries had been made on the slate, for the paint going out of the shop?—A. The government's paint is entered on the slate.

By Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. Say, Mr. Pagé, all the paint is in the store, is it not?—A. Yes, Mr. Minister.

Q. Have you also a stock in your possession—in your possession, your own, apart of what is in the store?—A. We send an order for more than we have to prepare, because we prepare the paint sometimes twice during the same day— one thousand pounds, fifteen hundred pounds.

Q. You take a certain quantity of paint out of the store?—A. Sometimes we take out 2,000 pounds, sometimes 4,000 pounds; all that depends.

Q. And that is entirely under your control?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And it was some of that paint, which was under your control, you took to send to Mr. Lanctot's?—A. It is some of that paint which was lent to Mr. Lanctot.

By the Chairman:

Q. Do you say positively that no paint was taken to Mr. Lanctot's house except what has been sent back to the ship yards by Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir, that only.

And further deponent saith not.

NAPOLÉON BADEAU, called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Badeau?—A. In Sorel.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. Ship builder.

Q. Are you in the employ of the Department of Marine and Fisheries?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been working for the department?—A. 43 years.

Q. In which capacity are you employed by the department? What kind of work do you do for the government?—A. I am a kind of superintendent of my work.

Q. Foreman of the carpenters?—A. I beg your pardon, sir, I am considered as superintendent for the woodwork of the building.

Q. You know that Mr. Lanctot was building a house on George street, in Sorel, in 1910?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot go to see you in order to get some men from you?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to that question on the ground it is not relevant to the charge which is the object of the present inquiry.

Objections sustained by the chairman.

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot go to see you and asked you to send some of your men who were working for the government, to work at his house and did you reply to him that you would send some men only when Mr. Papineau would order him to do so, and did these men go there?

Mr. LAFLAMME objects to that question on the ground it is illegal.

Question allowed by the chairman.

WITNESS.—You ask me?

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot go to see you and ask you for some men and did you reply to him that you would send them if Mr. Papineau was willing and did Mr. Papineau give his consent and did you send them?—A. Mr. Lanctot asked me if I had what was needed for what he was asking me. I told him that I had not got it at the time, but that it was easy to prepare it. Then, I told him that if he wanted to have what he was asking for, he had to ask it first to Mr. Papineau.

By Hon. Mr. Bureau:

Q. Did you send some men on that occasion to Mr. ————?—A. I beg your pardon, it was previous to that time or later. I sent men, the men were paid by Mr. Lanctot because I had warned the men not to punch before leaving. I ordered the man who had charge of the punch not to punch their cards.

By Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. What did he ask you to send?—A. He asked me first to send some wood—

Q. Proceed with your answer. What did he ask you to send first?—A. He asked me to send some wood. I told him that to send some wood he would have to get an authorization from Mr. Papineau.

Q. Did he get an authorization from Mr. Papineau, and did you send some wood?—A. That is the last I heard of it.

Q. How long after that did you send some men?—A. The men it was around, about the same time.

Mr. Laflamme says he has nothing to ask the witness in cross-examination.

And further deponent saith not.

JOSEPH BADEAU called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. What is your occupation and where do you live?—A. I live in Sorel.

Q. What do you do?—A. I make the draughts for the boats in life-size.

Q. You are in the employ of the Marine Department?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know Mr. Lanctot, the member?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are you aware of the fact that in 1910 he was building a house on George street in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know a man named Osias Lachapelle?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is his occupation?—A. He works in the mill; he is the sawyer in the sawmill.

Q. He is the boss of the sawmill?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. For the government?—A. Yes, yes.

Q. Did Mr. Lachapelle, to your knowledge, send some wood to Mr. Lanctot's house whilst Mr. Lanctot's house was being built in 1910?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you see some wood going into Mr. Lanctot's whilst the house was being built?—A. No, sir.

Mr. Laflamme says he has nothing to ask the witness in cross-examination. And further deponent saith not.

J. A. PROULX called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You are the ticket agent at Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

By the Chairman:

Q. Ticket agent of what?—A. The railroad.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Are you the uncle of Henri Proulx?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In the course of the month of June last, along towards the 6th, that is the Feast of Epiphany, were you present at an interview between Adelard Lanctot and your nephew?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You know Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you relate what took place at that interview?—A. My brother Napoleon was to my office, and he said he would like that our nephew, Mr. Henri Proulx, would get back his job from the government, and he, my brother, especially, was working pretty hard to have Henri get back his job.

Q. You mean your nephew?—A. Yes. He was off. They put him off, so he came to my office and said we ought to do something for our nephew, and I guess he had an interview with Mr. Lanctot before.

Hon. JACQUES BUREAU.—That is nothing.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—That has been proved by Proulx himself.

The WITNESS.—Well, we went to Mr. Lanctot's house, and my brother sent a boy that he met on the street to get Henri to come to Mr. Lanctot's bureau—his office. So Henri came in there, and I was there with my brother Napoleon, and we, especially my brother, got Mr. Lanctot to try and do something for Henri. So Mr. Lanctot says that he could not do much or anything for Henri because he had this charge against him you know.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. What charge do you mean?—A. He had a declaration, you know. You know what it is.

Q. An affidavit, a solemn declaration. You know I am just asking?—A. Well, he made a kind of statement that Mr. Lanctot had painters from the shipyard.

Q. To work at his house?—A. Yes. So when we got to the subject in Mr. Lanctot's office, Mr. Lanctot says he could not do much or anything for Henri, 'I cannot do anything for you on account of this declaration you made, and it is wrong.' He told Mr. Proulx it is wrong, and if you know it now is the time to say it is wrong. You undersand, he says it is the time to say it is wrong if it is wrong.

Q. Mr. Lanctot said to your nephew, Henri?—A. Yes, 'If it is wrong you sign this paper.' I did not know the contents of it. All I says—

Q. What did you understand the paper to be?

The CHAIRMAN.—Not what he understood it to be.

WITNESS.—He said, 'If you sign this paper, if you think the declaration you made is wrong, unless, of course, you believe that the declaration was wrong, and if you do so, well, we will try to do something for you.'

Q. He would try to do something for you?—A. Yes.

Q. And what you and your nephew were applying for was to be reinstated in your job?—A. Surely.

Q. What further occurred?—A. Not much of anything else that I know of. Henri said that he would not sign it.

Q. He would not sign it; why?—A. He said he would not sign it as he believed the declaration he made was right.

Q. Was right?—A. Yes.

Q. Did Henri, your nephew, read the paper which Mr. Lanctot offered him to sign?—A. I believe he did.

Q. Did you say anything to Mr. Lanctot in presence of your nephew?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you say?—A. I do not know it had anything to do with this case.

The CHAIRMAN.—Then don't say it.

WITNESS.—I do not really think it had anything to do with this case.

The CHAIRMAN.—You have no reason to state anything but what is connected with this investigation.

WITNESS.—I do not say it is connected with this investigation.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. What did he say, what did he reply?—A. I have no objection to say—

Q. What did you say?—A. I said, 'Mr. Lanctot, some of the head men of the departments, of some of the departments, I say, well, I say they are damn fools.' You understand. I don't mean to say the chief of the department; I don't mean to say either the chief of the office, but it is the chief of some of the departments.

Q. Some of them were damn fools?—A. Yes, and I do believe it yet. I have not changed my mind.

Q. I suppose that remark would apply to the officers with whom Mr. Lanctot had dealt in the matter?—A. Some of them, yes.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. After Henri Proulx, your nephew, had refused to sign the paper submitted by Mr. Lanctot, didn't Mr. Lanctot suggest something to your nephew?—A. Not that I remember of. All he said is as I have told you.

Q. You need not repeat it. Didn't he suggest to Henri Proulx to write a letter himself?—A. Yes.

Q. To suit his own convenience?—A. Certainly, he said, 'Of course if it doesn't suit you can write it yourself to where you want it to.'

Q. Yes; what did your nephew answer?—A. He says he would not sign it and he thought it was right, and he would not go back on what he had said and what he signed.

Q. So if it had not been for the interference of yourself and your brother Napoleon, that interview would not have taken place at all?—A. Very likely not. Of course I forgot to remark that Mr. Lanctot said it was for the sake of J. A. Proulx and Napoleon Proulx that he would have done it.

Q. J. A. Proulx was yourself, and Napoleon Proulx was the other uncle?—A. Yes.

Q. And he stated to your nephew that he would do that, not for his sake, but for your sake?—A. Yes, sir, for the sake of his uncles.

Q. Now you referred to certain charges which your nephew had against them. Now, who were 'them,' who were they?—A. I do not know.

Q. Well, there must have been more than one. You mentioned Mr. Lanctot; now, who were the others?—A. At this interview?

Q. Yes?—A. There was none.

Q. But who were the others referred to in the charge?—A. I do not know.

Q. You said in your examination-in-chief that Mr. Lanctot said you had made and your nephew had made a charge against them?—A. Yes.

Q. Who were 'them'?—A. It was Henri himself.

Q. He made the charges against whom?—A. Against Mr. Lanctot.

Q. And who else?—A. I do not say anybody else.

Q. Then you made a mistake when you said he referred to a charge against them. Who was the charge against—him?—A. Yes, against him.

Q. There was no mention of a foreman across the river at that interview?—A. Not that I know of. No, it should be 'him' instead of 'them.'

Witness discharged.

The CHAIRMAN.—What other witnesses have you?

Mr. McDougall.—I would like to put one or two questions to Hon. Mr. Brodeur.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. As head of the Department of Marine and Fisheries did you receive any complaints, solemn declarations, containing complaints respecting the painting or work done at the house of Adélar Lanctot, the Member for Richelieu?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you state what complaints, at what dates you received them?—A. I can give you the dates if I had my papers with me. I will send for them.

Q. When you received these complaints, Mr. Brodeur, what did you do with them?—A. I referred them to Mr. Lanctot. I wrote a letter to Mr. Lanctot which I may produce.

Q. Enclosing—?—A. Enclosing the complaints. I do not know whether I sent copies of the originals.

Q. Will you please produce the letters?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you receive any reply from Mr. Lanctot?—A. Yes, I got a reply from Mr. Lanctot sometime after, stating that as a question of fact he had the use of some painters from Sorel, but that he paid for them.

Q. Will you produce the reply?—A. Yes. Here is the letter which I sent to Mr. Lanctot. It has been handed to me by his lawyer.

Q. So long as you can identify it?

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. What is the date?—A. 5th December, 1910.

Letter filed as Exhibit '26.'

WITNESS reads letter in French and then translates as follows:—

Ottawa.

Mr. ADELARD LANCTOT, M.P.,

MY DEAR LANCTOT,—Mr. Lamoureux has just handed over to me declarations of a most important nature. It is alleged in those declarations that you have made use of the services of men who are employes of the government shipyard at Sorel, and that those men have been paid by the government. Besides, it is affirmed therein that you have secured from the departmental stores at Sorel some paint which has been utilized for your personal benefit.

Mr. Lamoureux, after having communicated to me those declarations, appeared to be slightly embarrassed, and would have liked to withdraw them, but I told him that these facts having been made known to me, I could do nothing else but institute an investigation into the facts alleged. I take the liberty of communicating them to you, and of asking you if the facts stated are true.

Yours truly,

(Signed) L. P. BRODEUR.

Q. Have you another?—A. Here is a copy of the answer:—
Original filed as Exhibit '27.'

Witness reads in French, and then translates, as follows:—

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

December 6, 1910.

HON. L. P. BRODEUR,

Minister of Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa.

MR. MINISTER.—I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date inclosing two documents entitled, 'Solemn Declarations,' respectively signed by Messrs. Alfred Douaire and Henri Proulx, two painters of the town of Sorel, who used to be employees of the Department of Marine and Fisheries as such, but were dismissed about the beginning of November last—consequently two dissatisfied men. Mr. Douaire states in his declaration that certain painters of the Department of Marine and Fisheries have worked at my house, and have been paid by said department. This is true; but as soon as their work was finished I reimbursed the department as per understanding with the officers. I did the same with regard to borrowed material. The whole was paid several days before the filing of those documents.

In order to let you see the spirit of Mr. Lamouréaux, who has handed to you those documents, I am sending you copy of a letter which I have received from him under date of the 23rd November, 1910. It is very likely it is because I have not allowed myself to be blackmailed that he tries to put up this little game.

If you wish any other explanations, I am ready to furnish them to you at any time.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) ADELARD LANCTOT.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. Have you that letter, the original?—A. Yes, I have the original. It will be here in a minute. I have sent for the documents.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Have you any other correspondence with Mr. Lanctot on the subject?—A. I do not know. I can tell you as soon as I get my papers.

Q. Did you correspond with the director of the works at Sorel, Mr. Papineau, or the assistant, Mr. Terrault?—A. No, I have seen Mr. Papineau.

Q. How long after you received the letter?—A. A short time after.

Q. Had the materials then been returned to the department when you saw him?—A. Oh, yes, he told me everything had been settled.

Q. You hadn't seen him before the settlement?—A. No, not before the settlement.

Examination of Mr. Brodeur suspended.

ULRIC LATRAVERSE, recalled and examined.

By Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. Will you look at the blank or form which is now shown you and say whether it is one of the forms used in the Department of cost price, to indicate the time of the men employed and the quantity of materials which have been supplied for a particular job?

MR. LAFLAMME, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to this question as being irrelevant to the present investigation.

The question is allowed by the Chairman.

A. This is a sheet like those which are filled each day by the foreman, after the day's work. In that blank form the foreman shows the time of men, the material which have been used by him during the day and the number of the job on which that time and these materials have been utilized. Each work or job bears a number which is furnished by our Department. With regard to the materials, they are supplied on requisitions, but these requisitions must bear the same job number as that on which the men have worked.

Q. For the paints supplied for Mr. Lanctot's house and for the men who have worked on it, did you ever, in your Department receive from Jean-Baptiste Pagé or from Oscar Champagne any form like that which you now have before you?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to that question.

The question is allowed by the Chairman.

A. No, sir; nothing ever came. As I said the other day in my deposition, no job number ever went out of my Department for the work done at Mr. Lanctot's; so that I had nothing to report upon.

Q. You can not say whether any job number was ever attributed to Mr. Lanctot's work?

The Chairman bring Mr. McDougall's attention to the fact that the witness has already established the fact mentioned in the question.

Mr. McDUGALL withdraws his question.

And deponent further sayth naught.

CUTHBERT CHAMPAGNE called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. What is your occupation, Mr. Champagne?—A. I am a carpenter, sir.

Q. Are you employed in the Department of Marine and Fisheries at Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the nature of your work?—A. I work at carpentering and I keep a punch to have the men punch their time.

Q. The men who are working?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you take cognizance of the list of names, exhibit No. 2, and say whether you know these men?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. As keeper of the punch, can you say that they punched with the instrument of which you are the keeper?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you receive from Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé or Mr. Oscar Champagne, instruction to punch for these men or some of these men, whether they were present or not punch for themselves?—A. I received instructions from Mr. Jean Baptiste Pagé to punch for certain men who worked outside of the yard.

Q. Can you name certain of the men who are on this list you hold in your hand, and for whom Jean Baptiste Pagé told you to punch, men who work outside of the government's yard?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Name them?—A. Octavien Lafreniere, Alberic Letendre, Omer Pagé. . . Well, Omer Pagé, punched for himself, he lived at St. Joseph. He came to St. Joseph for his meals and he punched for himself.

Q. And who are the others for whom Jean Baptiste Page told you to punch?—A. Adelard Letendre, Théodore Emond, Alfred Douaire, Arthur Trempe, Arsene Ally, Edmond Brault and Louis Paul.

Q. Did you follow instructions? Did you punch?—A. I punched for them, yes, sir.

Q. You marked them as though they punched for themselves?—A. Yes, sir, I did as he told me to do.

Q. Did Oscar Champagne tell you the same thing?—A. I had two classes of men,

I had some for Mr. Oscar Champagne and I had some for Mr. Pagé, at the same punch.

Q. Did Oscar Champagne give you the same instructions?—A. No, he did not give me instructions to punch the cards of those who went outside of the yard.

Q. Who are the men to whom you refer as coming from Oscar Champagne?

The CHAIRMAN says that that question is useless.

Mr. McDUGALL does not press that question.

Q. Are the four individuals whose names appear at the bottom of the list, the four last names on the list, are they those whom you say were under Mr. Oscar Champagne?—A. I do not recollect having punched for these.

Q. Mention the names of certain men who were under Mr. Champagne and who worked at the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. It is very difficult; there were several.

Q. Are they mentioned on the account exhibit No. 2?—A. Sir, I do not know these, but Mr. Champagne told me to punch the cards which were in the punch for these people.

Q. Then, have you punched for them without knowing who they were and without being able to name them now?—A. I have kept mind of nothing, sir; but all the cards I punched, I received instructions to punch them.

Q. I mean only the men who worked at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Well, I named them a while ago.

Q. For whom did Mr. Champagne tell you to punch—for men coming from him and working at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I do not quite understand your question.

Q. You said that you had two classes of men, a certain number worked under Oscar Champagne and a certain number came from Jean-Baptiste Page?—A. Yes.

Q. Who worked at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes.

Q. I now wish to know who are those for whom Mr. Oscar Champagne told you to punch, whether they were present or not—men who worked at Lanctot's?—A. I do not remember that. There were several to punch. Before punching for Mr. Pagé, I punched all the cards under Mr. Champagne's orders.

Q. Do you see any which Mr. Champagne asked to punch, on that list you now have before you?—A. There may be some, sir, but I can not see.

Q. You can not remember if there is any?—A. No, sir.

Q. You state that there were others than those who are on this list, exhibit No. 2, for whom you punched at the request of Oscar Champagne, men who worked at Lanctot's?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to that question as being illegal, inasmuch as the question is affirmative of a fact which has not been proven by the witness.

Mr. McDUGALL withdraws his question.

Q. Did you state that there were others than those for whom you punched at Oscar Champagne's request, people who worked at Lanctot's?—A. No, no. They were men who worked in the yard.

Q. You do not know whether they worked at Lanctot's or not?—A. I did not see them, sir, nor did I follow them. I did not inquire about that.

And deponent further sayeth naught.

HENRI AUGUSTE TERRAULT, called, sworn and examined:

By Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondins

Q. You are assistant director of the Marine and Fisheries Department's shipyard in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Under Mr. Papineau?—A. Yes, sir.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

Q. From June to about the end of November, 1910, did you have any official knowledge that certain men in the employ of the government had been sent to help building up Mr. Lanctot's house, on George street, in the city of Sorel, and that certain materials had been supplied by the Marine Department for the construction of that house?—A. No, sir.

Q. Have you had any knowledge of the supply of these materials and of the work of those men for the construction of Mr. Lanctot's house, in the name of Mr. Lanctot, at any time in 1910?—A. No, sir.

Q. When did you get that information for the first time?—A. After there had been a talk that a cheque had been sent in payment.

Q. Then, the first intimation you have had of that transaction with Lanctot was when you heard something said about a cheque?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see the cheque?—A. No, sir.

Q. Tell us in what circumstances you heard for the first time of what had been going on with regard to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I cannot very well remember how it has happened. I think it was in my office. Mr. Papineau was conversing with another officer; I don't remember what officer it was.

By the Chairman:

Q. How have you heard about the cheque?—A. Because they were speaking about that cheque.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Have you seen the cheque?—A. No, sir.

Q. At what date was that?—A. I don't remember exactly.

Q. Was it in December, 1910?—A. It must have been about the middle of November.

Q. At the end of November?—A. I don't remember, sir.

Q. Well, you only heard about it because you overheard a conversation?—A. Yes.

Q. Personally, how did you have knowledge of the Lanctot transaction? What personal knowledge have you of the transaction?—A. I have none, sir.

Q. When do you receive, at your department, the sheets containing the nature of the work, the time of the men, the quality, the quantity, etc., with the prices and the number of the contract?—A. All that comes in my department is the order number issued to a department's foreman, and which is returned to me in order that I may know when a part of the job is completed, so that I can send a new order to another department.

Q. It's your own department, that?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. For instance, you receive from Mr. Ulric Latraverse's department, that is the Cost Department, records or files or sheets on which are registered the number of the job, etc.?—A. I have a special form in my office for the insertion of an order number for a determined work.

Q. When you say 'order number,' can that be called also in English 'job number'?—A. Job number, yes, that is it.

Q. Does the form I am now showing you, and which is Exhibit No. 28, correspond with the form of which you speak?—A. No, sir.

Q. Will you tell us what is the form that I am showing you now, Exhibit No. 28?—A. It is the form sent in by the foremen to the Cost Department for the distribution of the time of the men on the different works.

Q. Will you describe to us the form used in your department for the job number, etc.?—A. My form has no relation to that one, sir.

Q. I ask you to describe to us the form which you use?

By the Chairman:

Q. Have you any of those forms here?—A. No, sir; but the thing is very simple. This is what there is on them:

'Please send a job number to.....(such a department).....to do..... (such a work).....'

And that is all.

The form simply says: Please send a job number to a determined department, to do such a work.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. And you send that book to whom?—A. To the Cost Department, where they put the job number asked for.

Q. Nothing of the kind has been done in the case of Mr. Lanctot's work?—A. No, sir.

Q. After you had heard about the cheque, did you try to get any information to know the nature of Mr. Lanctot's transactions?—A. No, sir, because Mr. Papineau was in charge of it.

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot declares that he has no cross-question to put to witness.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

ARTHUR CAYER, called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. McDougall, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. You live in Sorel, Mr. Cayer?—A. St. Joseph-de-Sorel.

Q. Are you in the employ of the Department of Marine and Fisheries?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Since when?—A. Since four years—it will be four years in the spring.

Q. What do you do there?—A. I am a labourer.

Q. Do you know Mr. Adelard Lanctot, the member for Richelieu?—A. I know him as member of parliament, yes, sir.

Q. Are you aware that he was having a house built in 1910, on George street, in the city of Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know that Mr. Lanctot has moved from one house to another?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you help him in that moving?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to that question as being irregular and illegal and irrelevant to the accusation which is the object of the present inquest.

Mr. MCDUGALL, Counsel for Mr. Blondin, declares that he offers that evidence, believing it to be of such a nature that it could throw light on the subject of the inquest.

The Chairman overrules the question as irrelevant to the accusations which is the object of the present inquest, and he refuses to accept said evidence.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

NORMAN MASSÉ, called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. McDougall, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. Your name is Norman Massé?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are you in the employ of the Department of Marine and Fisheries in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. As store-keeper?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the nature of that employ?—A. My duties are to see that the stock is always in good order, and to supply the store.

Q. Do you receive requisitions for paints needed for different works of the government?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you ever receive a requisition for paint and material to be furnished for the painting of Mr. Adelard Lanctot's house?—A. Never, sir.

Q. From June to November, 1910, did you ever know anything about the paint which was furnished for the painting of Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Nothing, during that interval, until November.

Cross-examined by Mr. Laflamme, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Lanctot:

Q. Naturally, after delivering the goods upon a requisition presented to you and taking a receipt for those goods, your mission is filled and you have nothing more to do?—A. Yes, sir. When once a foreman has made a requisition, and I have got a receipt from him for the goods delivered, that is all I have to do.

Q. You have no business to know in what way the paint is being used?—A. No, sir.

Q. There is then nothing strange in the fact that you were aware that some paint had been sent to Mr. Lanctot?—A. No, not at all.

Q. That is none at all of your business?—A. Not at all of my business.

Re-examined by Mr. McDougall, K.C., Counsel for Mr. Blondin:

Q. When you receive a requisition, is the job number on it?—A. When I receive a requisition for the fleet I do not need a job number. Suppose I receive a requisition for such a dredge or tug, I do not need a job number, because it is known that the material required is to be used for that tug or dredge in particular. Now, suppose that Mr. Pagé comes with a requisition for 2,000 pounds of white paint; it is understood that is to be charged to the paint shop, and the distribution of it is none of my affair.

Q. The distribution is made at the shop and the job number is given at the shop?—A. I have nothing to do with the job number which is given at the shop.

And further the deponent sayeth not.

HENRI AUGUSTE TERRAULT, recalled.

By J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. Will you look at these numbers which appear on Exhibit No. 19, which is now shown to you, and state of what handwriting they are?—A. I don't know.

Q. Is that in your handwriting?—A. No, sir.

Q. Will you look at the initial and figures 'J 399' written across the face of the document and state if you know what that means?—A. No sir. I don't know.

Q. And the letters 'R E F D.' Jan. 12th, '11,' do you know what that is?—A. No. Sir.

Q. Is the names of Octavien Lafrenière, or other painters, shown on that list?—A. No.

Q. Do you know who keeps these sheets?—A. I think they are kept by the cost department.

And further deponent saith not.

ULRIC LATRAVERSE, recalled.

By Mr. J. M. McDougall:

Q. Will you look at exhibit No. 29 and say if this has been prepared at your department and if you know the handwriting?

(Witness examines the document.)

A. I don't know that handwriting.

Q. You have not prepared that document yourself?—A. No sir.

Q. Do you know who wrote the letter and figures 'J 397' which appear in red pencil across the face of any of these sheets?—A. No sir.

Q. You don't know what that means?—A. No sir.

And further deponent saith not.

L. GUSTAVE PAPINEAU, recalled.

By Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. Can you tell us what officer in your department prepared the paper now shown to you and forming part of exhibit No. 29?—A. I could not tell you; I was not aware of it.

Q. You cannot tell?—A. No.

Q. Do you know the initial 'J 399' and what that refers to, which appears on these different slips?—A. It may refer to a page in a book.

Q. It may refer to a job number too?—A. I don't know.

Q. Have you got a journal in your department, and is your journal here?—A. We have a book here which I think is a journal.

Q. Will you please refer to that book and verify if this 'J 397' refers to a page of the journal?

(The witness refers to the book in question.)

A. This refers to page 397 of the journal.

Q. That 'J 397' which appears on the face of exhibit 29, is a reference to page 397 of a book?—A. Of a book, yes.

Q. A government book?—A. Yes.

Q. What book is it; how do you call it?—A. It is a journal.

Q. You find an entry in that journal under date November?—A. Yes.

Q. What is that entry?—A. At page 397 I find the following entry.

November, 1910.

A. Lanctot, Dt. \$375 62

The ship yard pay rolls:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| June 1 to 15 | \$12 00 |
| " 16 to 30 | 20 00 |
| July 1 to 15 | 28 40 |
| August 1 to 15 | 36 05 |
| " 16 to 31 | 8 50 |
| September 16 to 30 | 82 42 |
| October 1 to 15 | 83 90 |
| " 16 to 31 | 50 15 |
| November 1 to 15 | 44 98 |
| " 16 to 30 | 9 32 |

Labour supplied to A. Lanctot as per account rendered and certified by C. Champagne, timekeeper.

Q. Now, Mr. Papineau by that entry of November, 1910, at page 397 of the journal, do I understand that the amount of the cheque for \$375.62 which came from Mr. Lanctot was charged up to the different pay rolls from June to November, as stated on that page 397?—A. It is a reimbursement.

Q. The reimbursement is charged up to different pay-rolls?—A. That shows where the reimbursement applies.

Q. When was that page of the journal made up?—A. I have no means of knowing.

Q. What hand writing is that? Who keeps that book?—A. That is kept by Mr. Baril.

Q. By Baril, the accountant?—A. Yes.

Q. Is exhibit No. 29 a copy of the different men's time, not a copy of the entry 15505—2

made at page 397 of the Journal in the month of November?—A. Exhibit 29 is a summary showing the time given at each pay-list from June to November.

Q. With the men's names at the detail of the men's labor?—A. When I say it is a summary I refer to the first page. The second page is the account, and the rest is probably the distribution showing what the account was for.

Q. That is not the entry which is made at page 397 of the Journal?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., objects to this question as useless and irrelevant.

The question is withdrawn.

Q. Can you tell us at what date these entries were made? They could be made only after you received the cheque?—A. Yes.

Q. And the cheque was sent on the 22nd or 23rd of November?—A. Yes.

Q. And you acknowledged it on the 2nd December?—A. Yes.

Q. So that the entry at page 397 of the Journal could only have been made after you received that cheque?—A. Yes.

Q. And therefore after the 23rd of November?—A. Yes.

Q. And therefore it was after the 23rd of November 1910 that you apportioned back to each of the different pay-rolls from July to November the amount appertaining to them, so as to make up the amount of the cheque?—A. We could not do it before having had the account.

Cross examined by Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Lanctot.

Q. Of course, you notice, Mr. Papineau, that the preceding entry, at page 396, is the following: "Fuel account, Dr. to Cost Ledger \$10.00" and the subsequent entry, after the Lanctot entry, is what?

(Reading from the book).

"Sundry refunds Dr."

Mr. McDUGALL, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Blondin, objects to this question as not arising out of the examination in chief.

The question is allowed by the President.

Q. You notice that the entry immediately following the Lanctot entry at page 397 is an entry for what?—A. It is for sundries. It covers different things supplied to the steamer Montmagny, the steamer Verchères, etc.

Q. So that the entry relating to Mr. Lanctot appears by the book to have been made in the regular course, as the transactions are brought to the knowledge of the bookkeeper?—A. Yes, sir.

Re-Examined by Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.,

Q. Do you say that it is the usual course when a cheque for \$375 is received at the department on the 23rd of November 1910, to have to go back through all the pay-rolls from June right down to November in order to distribute, or charge up, or account for the amount of the cheque? Is that usual?—A. The charges have to be made according to what we have in hand.

Q. Therefore, in order to distribute the amount of that cheque you had to have some officer to go back to all the pay-rolls from June to November?—A. We have to mention the months.

Q. You had to go back to every one of the pay-rolls?—A. Certainly.

By Mr. Barker, M.P.:

Q. Are you a bookkeeper?—A. No, sir.

Q. You know enough about book-keeping to know that entries made in a journal are taken from other books, do you?—A. Yes.

Q. From a day-book?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you tell us what day-book that entry was taken from?—A. No.

Q. Are there such books?—A. Yes.
And further deponent saith not.

The examination of Hon. Mr. Brodeur resumed.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Will you now read the originals of the papers which you were requested to produce?—A. Yes. I have now got before me the originals of the declarations, which were put in my hands by Mr. Lamoureaux. Those declarations were sent by Henri Proulx and Alfred Douaire. I now file the declaration of Alfred Douaire as Exhibit No. 30.

The CHAIRMAN. But the whole bundle of documents in as Exhibit No. 30.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—Then I file these papers as Exhibit No. 30.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Exhibit No. 30 then is composed of the two affidavits?—A. Exhibit No. 30 is composed of the complaints which have been made by Proulx and Douaire.

Q. Bearing what date?—A. They bear the date of 30th November, 1910.

Q. Both of them?—A. Yes, both of them. They must have been handed to me—

Q. The next item of Exhibit 30 is what?—A. The next item is a letter from me to Mr. Lanctot (exhibit No. 26.)

The CHAIRMAN.—That is already in.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—Oh, you have a copy of it.

The CLERK.—Yes, we have a copy.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Is that the letter of the 4th of December?—A. The letter of the 5th December, 1910, asking for explanations from Mr. Lanctot. Immediately after the receipt of those declarations I thought it was my duty to have the matter investigated and I immediately communicated with Mr. Lanctot. O see from the original, which has been produced, that the word 'personal' was put in, but when I came to send the letter I struck out the word 'personal' because I did not consider this matter a personal matter. The next letter I have got is a letter from Mr. Lanctot in answer to the request I made to him. I have already indicated to the Committee the nature of the letter. (Reads)

In order to let you see the spirit of Mr. Lamoureaux who has handed to you those documents, I am sending you a copy of a letter which I have received from him under date of the 23rd November, 1910. It is very likely it is because I have not allowed myself to be blackmailed that he tries to put up this little game.

Here is the letter to which he refers: It is a letter dated Sorel, 23rd November, 1910, and addressed to 'Adelard Lanctot, Esq., Member for County of Richelieu, House of Commons, Ottawa.' (reads):

My dear Adelard:—

What news will you bring me Saturday? You will have seen the Minister I suppose. I count on your bringing me a favourable reply.

If the Minister refuses to grant me what I ask of him, after having made promises to me, and having heard what he has said to me; if he refuses, I say, I declare to you, my dear Lanctot, that I will be obliged to attack strongly, and to bring to light things about which I feel reluctant; my determination has reached its height, whatever may be the consequence.

Do your best, my dear Lanctot, because a refusal will certainly have grave

consequences. You have enough in hand to make the Minister give in, if he keeps his word, and what he has written, as I have no doubt he will.

Truly yours,

(Signed) J. O. LAMOUREUX.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. Is that the Mr. Lamoureux that went to you?—A. Yes, the same man. After that Mr. Lamoureux telegraphed to me on 12th December (reads):—

I have some other things, more grave, more serious, than the writings that I have given to you. Will be in Ottawa this week.

On the 13th December he wrote me again stating that he had decided to come and see me on the 15th or 16th instant. I will here read this letter. (Reads):—

At the request, Mr. Minister, of several citizens, I have decided to go and see you on the 15th or 16th instant.

The object of my trip will be to see you in the interests of the party.

This decision is taken by a great number of citizens who met in committee in my office after having been made aware of the bad turn of the affair concerning our friend Lanctot. In consequence I count upon your granting me the honor of an interview.

I do not remember whether I saw him at the time or not. I know that he came up to see me during the Christmas holidays and then I asked him for some explanations about this letter which he gave to Mr. Lanctot. I said to him: 'In that letter you say that I have made some promises to you, and that I have to keep my word, my verbal or written promises.' Mr. Lanctot said: 'I never intended to tell that about you, but I wrote that letter to Mr. Lanctot because I thought he would aid in helping me to get the contract which I wanted from you.' He said further 'I have spoken of promises, or alleged promises, made to me, but it was just to induce him to work the harder for me.' Mr. Lanctot wrote me a letter to that effect. He said on the 30th January that he had sent me a letter on the 23rd December. I never received it. Then he wrote the following letter.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. What is the date?—A. It is dated, Sorel, 14th February, 1911

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. You notice that it is not the same style of writing?—A. Well, it never attracted my attention (reads).

HONOURABLE L. P. BRODEUR,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa.

HONOURABLE MINISTER:—

If from the letter which I addressed to Mr. Lanctot, our Member, on the 23rd November, 1910, the inference was drawn that I was making malevolent insinuations against you, I state that my thoughts were not translated properly.

I had not the slightest intention in the world of attacking or tarnishing your reputation. On the contrary, I have never ceased to regard your reputation and your character as absolutely unattackable, and, in addition to that, Mr. Minister, I have no reason to doubt your perfect honesty.

Perhaps my letter was not sufficiently precise for those whose interest it is to alienate from me your esteem. However, it appears to me evident, in its entirety, that the hard words it contains are for him to whom it was addressed, and not for you, Mr. Minister, because I have always thought that if I did not obtain that which I asked, it was because Mr. Lanctot did not take the interest in me that I had hoped from him. Several times he showed himself very reticent.

If in my letter I speak of promises and of encouragements that you could have given me, it was with the object of stimulating the zeal of Mr. Lanctot and of proving to him that you were not as strongly opposed to my requests as he wished to make me believe.

Once more, Mr. Minister, I have never for an instant doubted your perfect honesty, and I have never wished to tarnish your reputation.

These explanations would have been unnecessary, I am convinced, Mr. Minister, had not the persons interested in depriving me of your esteem sought to draw from my letter a meaning which I had no intention of conveying.

I am confident, Mr. Minister, that my explanations will satisfy you and that you will continue to believe in my best consideration and most respectful sentiments.

Your humble servant,

(Sgd.) J. O. LAMOUREUX.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. Who is this Lamoureux?—A. Lamoureux—

Q. He evidently was a friend of Mr. Lanctot's at one time?—A. I do not know whether he was a great friend of Mr. Lanctot, but he claimed to be a friend of his.

Q. I observe in part of the writings which you have read this reference, 'In the interests of the party'?—A. Yes.

Q. What party did he refer to?—A. He was referring perhaps to the Liberal party; I do not know.

Q. He was a Liberal himself and he was asking favours?—A. He always claimed that he was a friend of the party.

Q. Have you any more letters?—A. That is all with respect to these matters.

By Mr. Crocket:

Q. Had this man done any business with the government prior to the writing of this letter?—A. He came up and saw me several times and wanted to sell some machinery to the department, and I told him at last that we could not purchase this machinery, because we did not need it. I met him in Sorel. I remember, one day passing through Sorel some time in September or October he came to see me. I do not remember exactly, perhaps it was in Montreal, but at any rate he called and urged upon me very strongly to purchase this machinery. I thought what he was referring to was this machinery, because when he came up to give me that affidavit he spoke of machinery.

Q. Was his name on the patronage list of the department?—A. There is no patronage list in the department.

Q. There was formerly?—A. There was formerly, but it has been abolished.

Q. Was his name on the patronage list that has been abolished?—A. I could not say.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. You say, Mr. Minister, in your letter of the 5th of December to Mr. Lanctot, that Mr. Lamoureux, after handing over these declarations to you, made an attempt to withdraw them. In what terms? What did he say; what reason did he give?—A. Well, Mr. Lamoureux showed me those declarations made by Douaire and Proulx, and I read them over. I was impressed by the importance of their contents, and I began to discuss the situation with him, and I said: 'I will have to investigate these facts, they are very important.' 'Well,' he said, 'I brought you those documents, but perhaps it would be better not to proceed,' or something of that kind. I could not vouch for the exact words which he used. I said to him, 'Well, Mr. Lamoureux, this is too serious. I am the responsible head of this department, and certain facts have been brought to my knowledge, and it is my duty—it becomes my imperative duty—to look immediately into this question, and I do not want any more delay in the matter.' The affidavits were there on the table, and he was trying,

although not formally, to take them, but he seemed to be willing to take them. I said, 'We will keep them and make an investigation.'

Q. Mr. Minister, what I want to find out is this: Is it not true that when he intimated that he might just as well take them back, it was after you had communicated to him that you did not feel inclined to buy the machinery?—A. The question of machinery had come up to me before.

Q. And you had given your answer before?—A. The question had been discussed two or three times before with him.

Q. But at that particular interview you say mention was made of the machinery?—A. The machinery, yes.

Q. And he attempted to take those declarations back after you had intimated that you did not feel inclined to buy the machinery?—A. I told him that as far as the machinery was concerned we did not need it, we had no money or no appropriation for that purpose; and besides, this machinery could not be used effectively in the department at Sorel. That was the information I had from the officers of the department, and under those circumstances I would not be justified in purchasing the machinery.

Q. Now, Mr. Minister, I notice that in this original declaration of Henri Proulx a whole paragraph has been struck out and the word 'retranche' written across. Did that declaration reach you in that condition?—A. Yes, the declaration is in the same condition as it was when it reached me. That paragraph had been struck out and the word 'retranche' was there under it.

By Mr. Crocket:

Q. It is initialled by the commissioner before whom it was sworn?—A. The declaration was not made before a commissioner, but it did not matter to me. You see the facts were mentioned in the declaration, and whether it was a sworn declaration or not I thought it my duty to investigate the matter.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. Had it been declared before anybody?—A. Not before a Notary because there is in the corner of the words 'Witness, J. Bte.-D. Bondy.' He was the witness.

Q. Did he witness the cancellation?

Mr. DEVLIN.—There is his own statement in writing.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—Just as an ordinary letter would be.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—It is signed 'Henri Proulx' and in the corner 'J.-Bte. Bondy. Witness, Sorel, 30th November, 1910.' So the document—although it was declared at the end of the paper that it was a solemn declaration—was not received before the proper officer who could certify as to a solemn declaration of that kind. But, as I told you, I thought it did not make any difference to me whether it was signed before a witness or before a notary public; that as soon as the matter was brought to my attention I thought it was my duty to investigate it.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. Did Mr. Lanctot ever show you the original letter sent by Mr. Lamoureux to him on the 23rd November?—A. Yes.

Q. A copy of which has been filed?—A. Yes, I think so, but I am not very sure about it. I think he showed it to me.

Q. Will you take communication of this letter and say whether that is the one (hadling witness document). A. (After examining document). I would not swear positively that he showed it to me, my impression is that he did so.

Q. You know Lamoureux's signature?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that his signature on that letter?—O. It looks very much the same as the signature on the letters which I have produced. I have not got the least doubt that the letter was signed by him, but I would not swear it positively.

Q. Were you present in the House of Commons on the 6th of March when the Member for Champlain made his declaration?—A. Yes.

Q. It is stated in the declaration among other things that frauds, malversations, robberies and fraudulent appropriations had taken place at Sorel. You remember that?—A. Yes.

Q. Well now, just one question: from the 22nd of November up to the 6th of March did Mr. Blondin ever inquire from you directly or indirectly, verbally or in writing, personally or through outside parties, whether or not the labor had been paid as well as the material?

Question objected to by Mr. McDougall, on the ground that it was introducing the defence before the prosecution had closed its case.

The CHAIRMAN.—The same matter has already been before the Committee and it has been decided that such a question can be asked and answered. (To the witness). You can answer the question.

Hon. Mr. BRODEUR.—No, he did not.

By the Chairman:

Q. Could he have ascertained by inquiry from you that Mr. Lanctot had paid for the labour that was done on his house and also had returned to the department the material which had been supplied to him for that purpose?—A. Yes, Mr. Blondin, being a Member of Parliament, and making an inquiry of that kind I would be very glad, of course, to have given him the information which I had in my department concerning the matter.

Q. Did you have all the information which this Committee has obtained here by this investigation in regard to what had been done, so that you could have given it to him?—A. Certainly, all the information I had I would have given him. It was my duty to do it because I think that a Member of Parliament is entitled in a case like that to the information that the department possesses.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. That is to say you had on the 6th of March all the information required to inform the House generally, as well as Mr. Blondin, that the material had not been fraudulently appropriated, robbed, or stolen?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. But had been borrowed?—A. Immediately after I got that information, as I told you, I inquired from Mr. Lanctot, and later on from Mr. Papineau, and I was informed that the labor had been reimbursed, had been paid by Mr. Lanctot and that the material had been given back.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—That is all.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. As I understand, that would be a matter of opinion. You considered at that time the matter to be lawful and others may have considered it unlawful?—A. I do not speak of the lawfulness or of the unlawfulness of the matter. I speak of the information which I had been given.

Q. The information which you had?—A. Yes.

Q. And the information which you had, consisted of letters of Mr. Lanctot saying that the matter was all right, that he had borrowed the goods and had paid for them?—A. Yes. He told me that it was true that some men had worked on his house and were retained on the pay list but that he had had reimbursed the money.

Q. And from that you drew an inference?—A. I must say, however, if I remember aright, in all justice to Mr. Lanctot, that he did not think those men were to be put on the list.

Q. And from that you drew the inference that everything was all right. As Minister you were prepared to impart the information, to Mr. Blondin or to anybody

else, that everything was all right. A. Without passing judgment on the irregularity of the proceeding I would have been ready to give any Member of Parliament all the information I had because I thought it was for the benefit of all concerned.

Q. And to give the information to everybody else that everything was all right?—A. I must tell you, if you want to have my own opinion on the matter, that at first I inquired how it was that these men were retained on the list and the explanation which was given to me at the time was this—the officer, the timekeeper, who retained those names on the list gave the following explanation: he said that formerly some men had been working outside of the department and they were paid by outside people, or possibly paid by himself—they were paid by himself, I understand—and he was told that some suspicion had been thrown on him at the time that he had kept some money he had received.

Q. You are speaking now of Oscar Champagne?—A. Yes. I am speaking of payments for the work which had been done, that he must have received more money than the amount which he gave to the men; so, he said: 'In order to prevent any more charges of that kind on the part of the men I thought it was better to retain them on the list. That was the explanation given to me.

Q. By Oscar Champagne, I suppose. He is the man you wrote to?—A. Yes.

Q. I think you told us a little while ago, sir, that you would have considered it your bounden duty, or your imperative duty, to make an examination and to investigate the facts after you received these affidavits in order to ascertain whether the charges were true or not. A. Yes.

Q. Did you make such investigation?—A. Yes. I may also say to the Committee, although it has no bearing directly on this question, that I have given instructions also to see that the other statements which are included in these affidavits but do not bear on Mr. Lanctot's case should be investigated, and they are being investigated.

Q. None of this was under oath, it was a simple inquiry?—A. An inquiry.

Q. Did you receive a petition from the citizens of Sorel, or a number of citizens of Sorel, electors, or claiming to be electors—asking you to let the matter die out? If so, will you produce that petition?—A. I do not remember that and I do not think I have received any such document. I am almost as positive as it is possible to be upon that point. There is a great deal of correspondence going on in the department but I do not remember any such document having been sent to me.

Q. Can you ascertain it by a reference to the files of the department?—A. Yes. I will ascertain it. My secretary is perhaps more familiar with the correspondence than I am (after conference with Private Secretary). I have ascertained from my Secretary and he tells me there is nothing of the kind.

Q. You say there is nothing of the kind?—A. Nothing of the kind.

Q. Then personally I understand you to say that you did not receive such a thing?—A. No.

Mr. McDougall.—I have nothing more to ask.

Witness discharged.

Committee adjourned.

Three o'clock, p.m.

ALBERT THIBAudeau, called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You live in the city of Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. I have the contract for the carriage of the mail at Sorel.

Q. Do you know Mr. Lanctot, the member?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know that during the year 1910, at Sorel, he had a house under construction, which was being painted?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see some men working at that house?—A. I went, in the last part of August, to see Mr. Lanctot, and I saw some men there.

Q. In the last part of August?—A. In the last part of August, between the 25th and the 30th, or the 24th, around these dates, at all events.

Q. You mean between the 24th and the 30th?—A. Between the 24th and the 30th yes, something like that. Perhaps between the 22nd and the 30th; around those dates, at all events.

Q. Did you see Mr. Lanctot there?—A. No sir.

Q. Can you name one or more men you saw working there?—A. Yes; I spoke to Mr. Alfred Douaire.

Q. Alfred Douaire, what is his occupation?—A. He was working, once—at all events, he was doing some painting or some varnishing—painting or varnishing, something similar to that.

Q. Did you speak to him?—A. Yes, I spoke to him; I asked him if he had seen Mr. Lanctot. He told me that he had not seen him.

Q. Did you go there more than once during the month of August, 1910?—A. I went there every four or five days, during the month of August—five days, about, twice or three times a day. I wanted to see Mr. Lanctot for some business and I used to go there.

Q. During those four or five days did you see Douaire there?—A. Yes, I saw Douaire working there.

Q. Have you heard of certain complaints made in Sorel about the building at Mr. Lanctot's? If you heard of certain complaints please tell us the circumstances?—A. About the 29th of November I met Proulx, Henri Proulx. I asked Proulx 'How are you?' 'Well.' I said: 'Where do you work just now, Proulx?' 'He said to me: 'I work where I can.' I said: 'You do not work at the government?' He answered: 'No.' I said: 'Why?' He said: 'I have been dismissed.' Then I said: 'Anyway you get along alright outside, Proulx?' He said: 'At all events I do not work on the other side, but he said, I am well determined, with Douaire, to know how things are going on the other side.' I said: 'What do you have to say?' He answered: 'You see, we work in one place, we work in another place.'

Q. Without quoting the whole conversation, was any reference made to affidavits or solemn declarations?—A. He told me: 'I have a good idea, Douaire and I, we are going to make some declarations and just now we have some made which were handed to Dieudonné Peloquin.' I said: 'Do you think, Proulx, that you are not going too fast?' He said: 'You do not know what my affair is, you?'

Q. Did you see some solemn declarations or some affidavits?—A. Yes, I saw two of them; I have got two here. I asked Proulx and Douaire if they were able to make some declarations for the assertions they had made, to prove what they said was the truth.

Q. Have you got the declarations here?—A. Yes, I have them. I have two of them. I had four. Lamoureux got two; I kept two.

Q. Both affidavits you have with you bear Douaire's and Proulx's signatures, the original signatures?—A. Douaire's and Proulx's signatures, the same than the two given to Lamoureux, and which Lamoureux says he has given to Hon. Mr. Brodeur. They were duplicates, both the same. There are two. He got one and I got the other.

Q. Those written declarations signed by Douaire and Proulx in the presence of the witness; how do you call him?—A. Debondy.

Q. Were they kept by you since that time?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You got hold of those declarations about the 29th of November, 1910?—A. The 30th. The 30th, in the evening.

Q. Did you go and see Douaire on the 30th of November?—A. On the 30th, in the afternoon, or in the forenoon, I think.

Q. Where was Douaire working?—A. On board the *Rapid Queen*.

Q. Is she a boat belonging to the government?—A. No; she belongs to the Richelieu Company. *King* or *Queen*, one of the two.

Q. She belongs to the Richelieu Company, anyway?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where were those declarations made?—A. Where they were made, the declarations? Signed or made?

Q. Made, written. Who wrote them, for instance?—A. I did.

Q. Please look at those declarations produced by Hon. Mr. Brodeur this morning as being part of Exhibit No. 30, and tell us if the ones you have with you are alike?

(Witness looks at those declarations.)

A. It is all right; that is it.

Q. What did you do with the affidavits?—A. I kept them, like the other ones. I kept them all; I have got them all.

Q. About the first or the second day of December did you see Mr. Lamoureux. Do you know if he went to Ottawa or some place else?—A. On the first day of December, in the afternoon, Mr. Lamoureux told me he was leaving for Ottawa.

Q. Did you see him when he came back to Sorel, on the 3rd of December?—A. I saw him, yes, on the 3rd, I think. He told me he had given his papers to Mr. Brodeur.

Q. You refer to the two declarations?—A. The declarations similar to those ones, yes.

Q. From the 3rd of December till the month of January, have you heard something else about those transactions in Sorel, about those declarations or complaints?

The WITNESS.—From which date?

The COUNSEL.—From the 3rd of December, the day Mr. Lamoureux came back.

The WITNESS.—If I heard something else concerning Mr. Lanctot?

The COUNSEL.—About those declarations?

A. They came a few times to get them back.

Q. Who?—A. Douaire, Dieudonné Peloquin and Proulx.

Q. To get them back from you?—A. To get them back, yes.

Q. Did you give them back to them?—A. I did not give them back to them, because I did not want to give them to them to do what they intended to do.

Q. Now, let us come to the month of January, at the beginning of January, 1911. Was there anything done about the complaints made for the painting done at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Not myself; I had nothing else outside of that.

Q. Did you make a trip to Quebec?—A. I went to Quebec on New Year's Day, during the holidays.

Q. During the holidays, when you were in Quebec, did you say something to somebody about that?—A. Yes; I met Sir Wilfrid Laurier at the Frontenac.

Q. Did you make a return to him of what was going on, of what you knew?—A. Yes, I told him that there were rumors in Sorel, and that I thought it would be better, in the interest of the party and of the city, that these things should be put to light, to know if they were true or untrue.

Q. When you say 'in the interest of the party' what party do you refer to?—A. In the interest of the Liberal party, because, according to the statements made, there have been things on the other side which should not exist.

Q. Were you there, and are now a member of the Liberal party?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You had an interview with Sir Wilfrid Laurier in Quebec?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you give a sequence to this interview by a letter which you wrote him?—A. Yes, I wrote him on the 16th.

Q. Have you the letter with you?—A. I have an answer of the 18th.

Q. Have you the letter which you addressed to him?—A. The letter which I sent?

Q. Yes, you did not keep copy of it?—A. No, sir, I do not keep these.

(Mr. LAFLAMME puts a letter in the hands of the witness who reads it.)

A. That is all right.

Q. After reading a letter dated Sorel, January 16th, 1911, and apparently bearing your signature, which letter has just been produced by Mr. Lanctot, do you say that it is a duplicate or a copy of the letter which you wrote to Sir Wilfrid Laurier?

—A. It is the letter which I have written.

The letter is fyled as Exhibit No. 31 and reads as follows:—

SOREL, January 16th, 1911.

HON. SIR WILFRID LAURIER,
Prime Minister of Canada,
Ottawa.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I beg to again call to trouble you. I took leave when you came to Quebec on the 5th of January instant to go and give you information about things which exist and which I am perfectly convinced that you are unaware of. I had succeeded in getting the papers which Dieudonné Péroquin a conservative and nationalist had in hand.

I considered that these papers were papers which should not be with hands of an adverse party. I did so in the interest of my party and, to obtain these papers, I was obliged to go into an agreement in writing between Péroquin and myself. I have kept the papers since the 30th of November last (1910) and to day Péroquin requires at any cost that I should give him back the papers as you will find by a letter herewith as also two other documents by which you may see what means the Member Lanctot wishes to take. I do not wish to keep you any longer, only I still have the affidavits and I will do my best to keep them until I have an answer. If you desire to have an interview with me, to examine those papers, I shall go to Ottawa.

I expect this letter will remain absolutely private.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable, Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed) A. THIBAudeau, Jr.

Q. Will you take communication of this other letter, dated Ottawa, 18th January, 1911, and signed 'Wilfrid Laurier,' which letter is now produced as Exhibit No. 32, and say if it is the letter which you have received in answer to your letter?—A. Yes, sir; it is the answer which I have received.

Exhibit No. 32 reads as follows:—

OTTAWA, January 18th, 1911.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your letter of the 18th of this month I beg to inform you that if any misdoings have been done in Sorel, it is not the intention of the government to prevent them from being known to the public; on the contrary, if you have, or any one has, any other information to give upon what is going on, every latitude will be given you to make the facts public as you may deem advisable.

Yours truly,

(Signed) WILFRID LAURIER.

M. A. THIBAudeau, Jr., Sorel.

Q. Now, from December 2nd to January 18th was there anything done by the government or by others to give publicity to what you considered to be misdoings in Sorel?

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to this question.

The question is allowed by the Chairman.

A. If there was anything done to know if there had been misdoings?

Q. Was there an investigation or anything else?—A. No.

Q. As to Mr. Lanctot's house, did you have any other communications about complaints which were made in Sorel?—A. From others than Mr. Lanctot?

Q. Yes?—A. Yes, I had some.

Q. Did you, for instance, get any from Mr. Peloquin and Mr. Rondeau?—A. Yes; I have the papers of Mr. Peloquin showing that Peloquin consented to give me the papers; and I was obliged to do as were the conditions which had been put in writing. And I had calls also made to me besides.

Mr. LAFLAMME, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Lanctot, objects to the filing of these papers.

The objection is maintained by the Chairman, as these papers could only be produced by the ones who have written them, and the filing of the same by this witness would only be proof of hearsay.

Q. Finally, have the statements of which you are the bearer, or similar statements, been delivered to Mr. Blondin; if so, under what circumstances?—A. They were not delivered. They came to get them, but I would not give them up.

Q. Have these statements or statements similar, were given to Mr. Blondin; if so, under what circumstances were they given?—A. The statements given to Mr. Blondin were statements which were made after those.

Q. Under what circumstances?—A. Under what circumstances were they given to Mr. Blondin?

Q. Yes?—A. It was because Proulx, Douaire and Sénécal gave some statements, and they desired that these statements should be put into the hands of Mr. Blondin. I had consented that, if I could not fix that so that—at any rate, in the best way, I would be bound to give them back to Mr. Blondin. I agreed to that, and I did it. I had a statement of Mr. Sénécal; I kept it with me for about two months and a half; and when Sénécal came back, and he also wanted to have his statement, with the statement of Douaire and Proulx, and they told me: 'You have been bought out. We shall go and see Villiard to make a statement.' I told them: 'Go, if you like. What is it to me?' Then Sénécal came back, and he went to carry his statement to Mr. Villiard's.

Q. Of all these arrangements that you speak of about these statements, did Mr. Blondin know anything?—A. He knew something when we gave them to him.

Q. When were they given to Mr. Blondin?—A. Well, I cannot say when it was that they were given to him. I think it was—I do not know exactly when they were given.

Q. As far as you can know yourself, did Mr. Blondin know anything about these arrangements before the statements were delivered to him?—A. If he knew anything, he did not know it through me.

Q. When you say: 'Fix in the best way,' what do you mean by that?—A. Fix in the best way, what do I mean?

Q. You have said that you did not wish to give up the papers before you had 'settled the matter in the best way.'—A. I said to Proulx: 'Wait a little for this story, there is no hurry.' They said: 'That is not it; it must be fixed.' I said, 'If it must be fixed, fix it between yourselves.' I then was getting tired of it. I said: 'Fix the matter between you.' For some space of time I would have needed a porter in my house.

Q. What arrangements had you in sight? With whom were you desirous of having arrangements?—A. I thought it would come to be settled in their having an understanding between themselves. Not I. I have nothing to ask for. Or else they would come to say: 'Well we will get tired, we are going to let that go' or something of the sort. They were all 'toughs.'

Q. Then, I understand that you wanted to wait, so as to let the matter die out?—
A. Oh, if I had been able to; yes—but when I saw that I could not, I had to let the matter go.

Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Lanctot says he has no cross-examination to put to the witness.

And further the deponent saith not.

ADELARD LANCTOT, M.P., recalled and examined.

By Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. Mr. Lanctot, is it not a fact that you have boarded at the convent or at the hospital, in Sorel from the 15th of May, 1910, until the 12th of October?—A. I have boarded at the hospital, but I could not exactly say the date.

Q. Did not Madame Lanctot, your wife board there from the 20th of June until say the 20th of July, 1910?—A. I think that she came to spend sometime in Sorel from Saranac. Her physician had sent her to see if she was well enough to come back to Sorel.

Q. Between the dates I have mentioned, from the 20th of July?—A. I did not notice the dates.

Q. Are these dates not correct?—A. I could not say.

Q. Do you say that these dates are.....?—A. I do not say that they are not correct—I am telling you that I do not remember; I did not take notes of the matter. They must be all right.

Q. Now, Madame Lanctot returned to Saranac about the 20th of July and she came back to the convent about the 18th of September, did she not?—A. On the 27th of September.

Q. On the 27th of September?—A. Yes.

Q. You remember that date?—A. I asked my wife when she came back, and she told me she came back on the 27th.

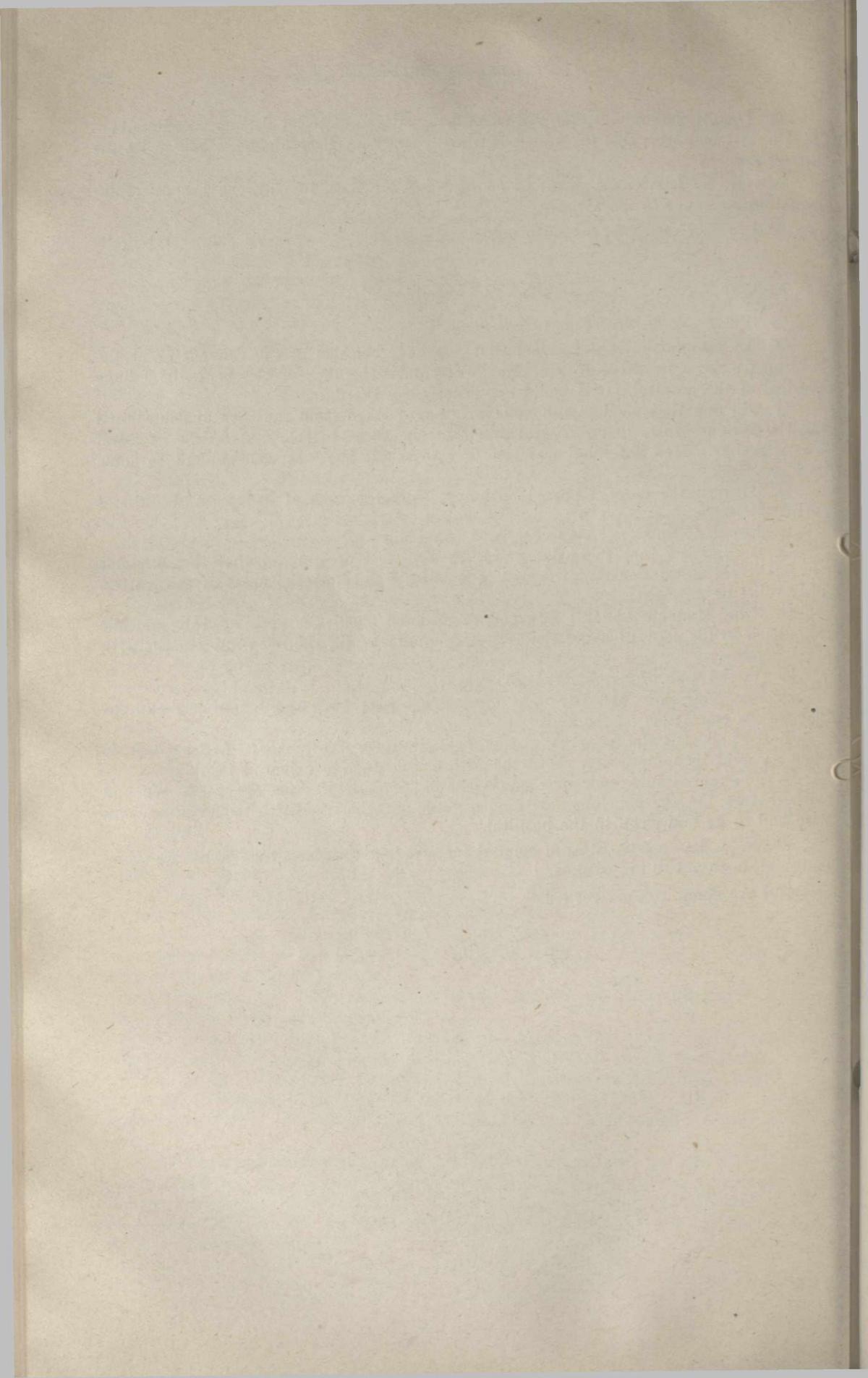
Q. And she left the convent about what time in November?—A. She left it when we went into our house, about the 25th or 26th of November, I think.

Q. You moved into your new house about the 25th of November?—A. We had moved before, but the painting not being dry enough, the smell was too high, and my wife had to go and sleep in the hospital.

Mr. N. K. LAFLAMME, K.C., of counsel for Mr. Lanctot states that he has no cross-examination to put to the witness.

And the committee adjourned.

⊕



3
7
0/11
7
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

CHARGES PREFERRED BY P. E. BLONDIN, M.P.,
AGAINST A. LANCTOT, M.P., RICHELIEU.

No. 7



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY C. H. PARMELEE, PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST
EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

1911

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

IN SENATE, JANUARY 1, 1901

1901



PRINTED AND SOLD BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1911.

The Committee met at 10 o'clock, a.m.

Present.—Messrs. German, Chairman, Barker, Brodeur, Bureau, Chisholm (Antigonish), Devlin, Doherty, Geoffrion, Haggart (Winnipeg), Kyte, Lapointe, Major, Monk, Rivet and Warburton—15.

The minutes of the last meeting was confirmed.

The following witnesses who were summoned and required to appear before the Committee and give evidence were sworn and examined and discharged from further attendance, viz. :—

T. Trudeau who produced a memo marked as Exhibit No. 33 being a valuation of painting, &c., A. Lanctot's house, Joseph Dagenais, Joseph Rivet, who produced a certified account, marked Exhibit No. 34, amounting to \$156.45 for doors, &c., supplied A. Lanctot. E. O. R. Goulet, J. A. Chapdelaine, A. Lussier, A. Lavellee, L. Cardin during whose examination were produced two paylists and account marked respectively as Exhibits Nos 35 and 36 and 37, and Omer Anger. At one o'clock the Committee took recess.

3 o'clock, p.m.

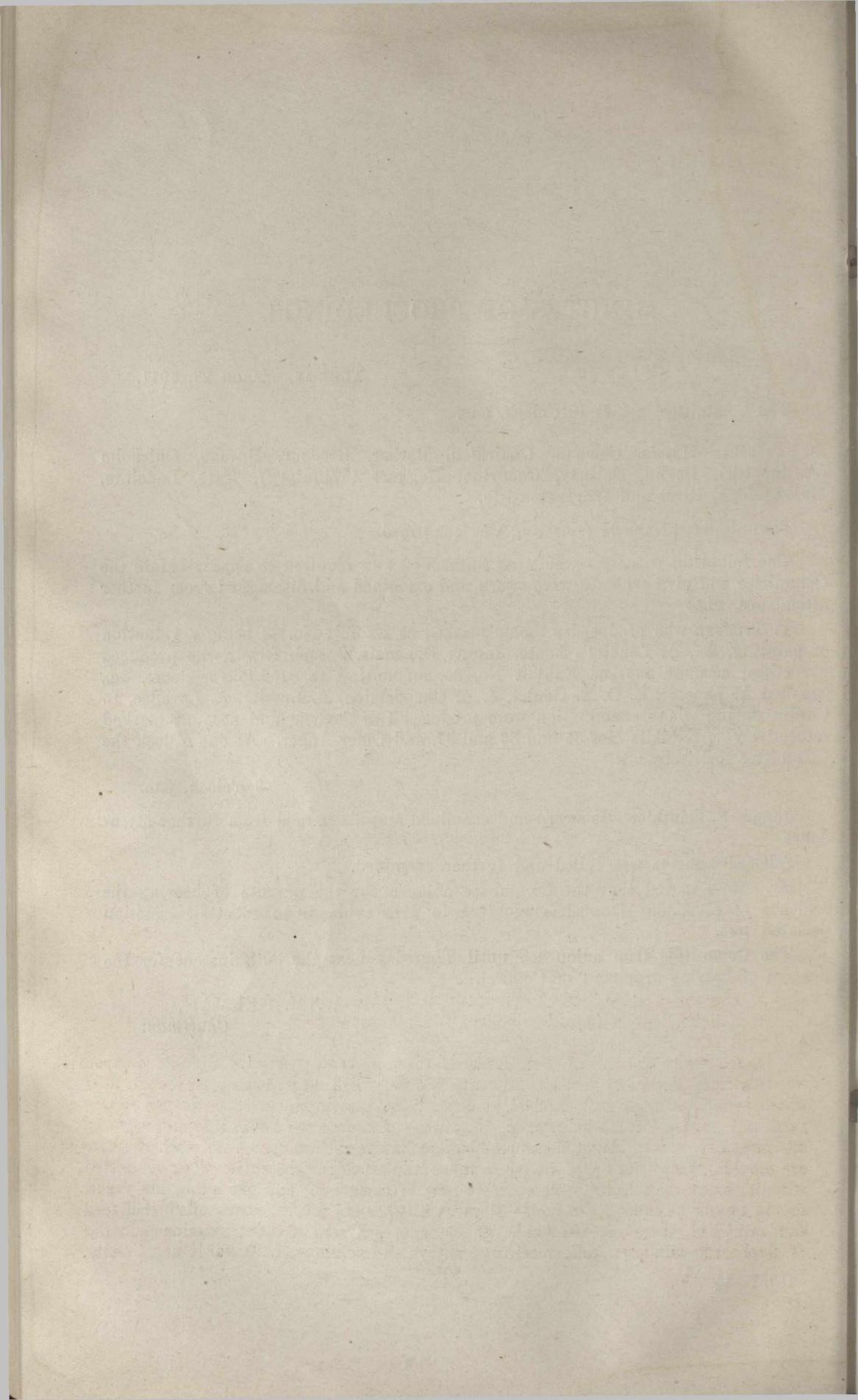
Joseph E. Gauthier was sworn and examined and discharged from further attendance.

Adelard Lanctot was called and further examined.

Mr. Monk moved that the Committee adjourn for the purpose of hearing the evidence of Hermidas Desrosiers required to give evidence in rebuttal. Motion declared lost.

The Committee then adjourned until Thursday next the 30th instant for the purpose of hearing argument of Counsel.

W. M. GERMAN,
Chairman.



MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

TUESDAY, March 28, 1911.

The Committee met at 10 o'clock, a.m..

Mr. ISAIE TRUDEAU, sworn.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Mr. Trudeau, what is your occupation?—A. I am the Manager of the painting department of the Henry Morgan Company.

Q. That is at Montreal?—A. Montreal.

Q. How long have you been occupying that position?—A. Eleven years.

Q. Did you examine Mr. Adelard Lanctot's house recently, and if so, when?—A. I did.

Q. When?—A. On Sunday.

Q. For what purpose?—A. To estimate the value of the work that was done in the house.

Q. What kind of work?—A. Painting work.

Q. Did you make a valuation?—A. I did.

Q. Including material and labour?—A. Including the material and labour.

Q. What conclusion did you arrive at?—A. Do you mean conclusion as to price?

Q. Yes?—A. Well, I calculated the value of the work done in Mr. Lanctot's house, interior and exterior, governed by local conditions, to be of the value of \$491.

Q. Will that include a profit that a contractor would add to the value of the job if he took it as a job?—A. I would estimate a profit of 15 or 20 per cent could be taken out of that.

Mr. LAFLAMME.—That is all, Mr. Trudeau.

By Mr. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. How do you make your figures?—A. I beg pardon.

Q. How do you make your figures?—A. Well, in the usual way of estimating, I have reduced the amount to yards, at so much per yard.

Q. At so much per yard—then you measured the number of yards necessary to paint in Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I did.

Q. How many yards?—A. There are different kinds of work, I have it here, for instance, for the walls inside the house I arrived at 685 square yards, painted two coats.

Q. You are reading from a statement in writing?—A. I am.

Q. Will you put it in after you get through reading it, will you produce it?—A. I will.

Q. All right, go on.—A. 685 yards at thirteen cents per yard \$89.05; finished woodwork first floor, 285 yards at 30 cents, \$85.50; finishing woodwork on second floor which is not quite so well finished as downstairs, I estimate at 25 cents per square yard, 221 yards, \$55.25; balustrade, 50 yards—of course we have different ways of measurement, a man might measure a square flat yard, but take a door where there are mouldings and panels, you have to make allowance for the entire work connected with it; every man has a system of his own of measuring and extending his yards, so you cannot be exact to an inch—50 yards at 40 cents, \$20.00; floors, oiled, shellaced and varnished, there are 198 yards, at 16 cents per yard, \$31.68; exterior painting of clapboards, windows, gallery ceilings, entrys and columns, 1,191 yards at 15 cents,

\$178.65; and 1,250 feet of glass, set only, not to buy the glass, but simply to put in the glass at 2½ cents per foot, \$31.25; making a sum total of \$491.38.

Q. How many coats of paint were there put on?—A. A coat of priming and two coats of paint.

Q. Your estimate is based on one coat of priming and two coats of paint?—A. Three coat work, except where I stated here, inside walls, I found them very transparent, and I would estimate them to be one coat of size and two coats of paint, in all three coats.

Q. Do you know what scraping or polishing was done, then?—A. Scraping and polishing, I did not know there would be any because the woodwork is new I understand.

Q. Do you know what amount of polishing was done? That is how do you include that in your statement?—A. At per yard for the finishing.

Q. But you do not know what amount of polishing was done?—A. No scraping, I looked at it—

Q. You simply looked at the house on Sunday, you had never seen it before?—

A. I had never seen it before, I might say I studied the plans since very carefully besides seeing the painting.

Q. Upstairs in the house is there any wall papering done?—A. On three rooms.

Q. Did you include that in your estimate?—A. I did not.

Q. That is not at all included?—A. That is not at all included.

Q. If you add that to your estimate how much would that be?—A. The labour part of it?

Q. The labour and the material?—A. To supply the material too—well I dare say about \$20.

Q. Is that for the labour?—A. For the labour and material, the labour is only a matter of \$6 or \$7, \$6 probably.

Q. You spoke of local conditions, that these estimates are based on local conditions?—A. I did.

Q. What you mean by that is the prices prevailing there?—A. The prices prevailing in the town where the work is done.

Q. Well, were you familiar with prices at Sorel?—A. I made myself familiar, yes.

Q. In what way?—A. By finding out what wages are paid; wages cut the most figure in painting work, because in painting work 75 or 80 per cent is labour and the balance is material, that is the way we arrive at it.

Q. You were only there on Sunday, and you made yourself familiar with the prices paid to painters there at Sorel. What are the prices paid, on the average?—

A. I understand that the price of painting is \$1.50 to \$2 a-day for painters.

Q. Who did you get that information from?—A. From Mr. Pagé.

Q. From Mr. J. B. Pagé?—A. Yes, Sir.

Q. One of the witnesses?—A. I don't know who he is.

Q. He is government foreman of painters, isn't he?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you get this information also from Mr. Lanctot, prices and local conditions?—A. No, he didn't venture any, when I first went to see Mr. Lanctôt he wasn't there.

Q. How did you happen to run up against Mr. Pagé and make these inquiries?—A. I inquired who I could see to make inquiries of.

Q. To whom? Mr. Lanctot, was it?—A. I asked Mr. Lanctot when I came in about local conditions and prices.

Q. And he referred you to Mr. Pagé?—A. Yes.

Q. You saw Mr. Pagé?—A. I did.

Q. Did you see anybody else about it?—A. Mr. Baril.

Q. He is the accountant at the government shipyards, is he?—A. I do not know, I never met him before, I examined his house there.

Q. His house has also been painted, has it. Is his house near Mr. Lanctôt's?—
A. Yes.

Q. What did you inquire of him, as to prices and conditions?—A. I was informed that a local painter had done his work by contract and he asked me to examine his house and see what I thought of it and compare prices. He gave me information I wanted to know about certain conditions. I found out the day work conditions, that is what they paid men per day, I also tried to find out from his remarks what they would pay a contractor for doing certain work.

Q. What were the prices he gave per day for painters?—A. Mr. Baril told me he paid \$250 to get his house painted throughout.

Q. That is day work and labour?—A. That is labour only.

Q. Did he say how much he paid per day?—A. No, he did not. He remarked that the man had made a certain amount of money per day, but that he did not work regularly.

Q. Did he give you the name of the man who had done the work?—A. I do not know that he did—yes, he did, Cartier was the name.

Q. Your estimate is based on what price per day for painters?—A. An average of about \$1.85 per day.

Q. Would you say that would be a fair price, \$1.85 on the average?—A. Yes.

Q. How many days' work for the painting would you estimate to amount in all to \$491; after deducting, or including 15 to 20 per cent profit how many days' work would the labour that you included in that estimate come to?—A. That I have not figured out.

Q. Well, will you figure it now?—A. We estimate all painting by yards and we have to take our chance on coming out at the right end.

Q. You ought to be able to give us an idea of how many men you would require, of how many days it would take to do that work?—A. I presume 200—190 days or something like that.

Q. You can say that on oath from your experience in painting?—A. Of course I say I would not care to bind myself to that, we are not accustomed to estimate that way, we estimate by the yard, that is a rule of thumb method.

Q. And the approximate number of days, on your oath you say that 190 to 200 days would be a fair time?—A. I consider it would be a fair time in which to do the work.

Q. How much would you say the paint and material would amount to which went into the painting of Mr. Lanctôt's house?—A. The paint, varnish, &c.?

Q. Yes, the whole thing?—A. Probably \$100 or \$110 outside the glass; perhaps \$120, between \$100 and \$120.

Q. And the glass would take how much?—A. An average of 1,200 feet, there are a lot of large and small panes, I did not get the total quantity, and the amount of glass, but I would consider 6 cents a foot on the average for the whole thing.

Q. That would amount to how much?—A. About \$75, \$70 or \$75.

Mr. McDougall, K.C.—That is all.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. When you put the value on the paint I suppose you took, also local conditions into consideration, that is to say the retail price there?—A. Yes.

Q. Of course it would be somewhat less if you took the wholesale price?—A. Well, I considered the wholesale price plus 15 per cent. I do not know what the local conditions are on retail prices.

(Estimate prepared by Mr. Trudeau produced and filed as Exhibit No. 33.)

EXHIBIT NO. 33.

Mr. Lanctot—

| | | |
|---|----|-----------|
| 685 yards walls painted (1 coat size) at 13 cents | \$ | 89 05 |
| Finishing wood work 1st floor, at 30 cents (285 yards). | | 85 50 |
| Finishing wood work 2nd floor, at 25 cents (221 yards). | | 55 25 |
| Balustrade, 50 yards, at 40 cents | | 20 00 |
| Floors, oil, shellac and varnish, 198, 16 cents | | 31 68 |
| Exterior painting of clapboard, windows, galleries, ceilings, columns 1,191 yards. | | 15,178 65 |
| 1,250 feet glass set only 2½ cents a fott. | | 31 25 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 491 38 |
| | | <hr/> |

Witness discharged.

JOSEPH DAGENAIS sworn:—

By Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Dagenais?—A. In Montreal.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. Painter and contractor.

Q. How long have you been a painter?—A. Sixteen years.

Q. Have you lately examined Mr. Lanctot's house, and if so tell us when?—A. Yes, sir. I went there on the 12th of March.

Q. For what purpose?—A. I went there to make an estimate of the work of painting.

Q. Did you make that estimate?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. To what conclusion did you arrive as to the value of the materials and the work? As to the cost of the work of painting?—A. The cost of the work of painting amounts to \$502.71.

Q. This would naturally include the profits?—A. This includes the profits.

Q. What percentage of profit would you calculate on such a job?—A. I allowed about 12½ or 15 per cent.

Cross-examined by Mr. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. How do you make your calculation?—A. I measured from the plans, by the yard.

Q. For the painting?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many yards did you find? Give us the particulars?—A. I found 1,655 yards of painting, with three coats of paint.

Q. At how much per yard?—A. 12 cents a yard, sir.

Q. Is that all you have in your calculation?—A. There is the clapboard, the outside; I allowed 10 cents per yard for that.

Q. How many yards are there?—A. 425 yards.

Q. Have you any other particulars?—A. I have the wood work, the hardwood and the tinted wood inside; 634 yards at 20 cents.

Q. And then?—A. Then there is the glazing; the glazing comes next.

Q. And what about the glazing?—A. There is 1,300 feet of glass?

Q. 1,300 feet—A. Yes.

Q. You mean the work of setting panes of glass?—A. Yes.

Q. You are not speaking about the panes themselves?—A. No, sir.

Q. How much per foot do you allow for that?—A. Three cents a foot.

Q. Have you anything else?—A. I see nothing else.

Q. Then this is your estimate in detail?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. For the men's time and for the work?—A. For the time of work and the paint, with the exception of the glass.

Q. Upstairs, in Mr. Lanctot's house, did you see any wall paper?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is that included in your estimate, the paperhanging, upstairs?—A. No, sir, that is not included.

Q. If you were to add what was done upstairs in paperhanging, how much more would you add?—A. For work.

Q. Yes, the work and—A. The wall paper?

Q. Yes?—A. It is hard to say because there are different prices for wall paper. The wall paper must be worth about two or three dollars at most, for each room.

Q. And now the work of paperhanging?—A. A day and half at most.

Q. At how much?—A. \$1.80 or \$1.85.

Q. Who showed you the house when you went to make this calculation?—A. Mr. Lanctot.

Q. Mr. Lanctot himself?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was there anybody else present?—A. There was a certain Mr. Bélanger.

Q. Did you know what were the rates of wages in Sorel then?—A. I inquired about the rate of wages of men in Sorel.

Q. Tho whom did you ask the rate of painter's wages in Sorel at that time?—A. To Mr. Bélanger.

Q. Is Mr. Bélanger a painter?—A. Yes, sir. I think he is a foreman.

By the Hon. Mr. Brodeur:

Q. Was it not Pagé, rather?—A. Mr. Pagé, yes.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. He was with you and Lanctot, Jean Baptiste Pagé?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you not know that he was foreman of the government's painters in Sorel?—A. He told me he was foreman, but he never told me that he was foreman for the government.

Q. While you were making your calculations, he was showing you the rooms, I suppose?—A. I took them from the plans, sir.

Q. Did you not go to the house?—A. Yes, sir. I saw the house.

Q. Did Mr. Pagé go with you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. I suppose Mr. Pagé told you who had done the painting?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he tell you how many coats of paint had been laid?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you see that yourself?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many coats of paint were applied?—A. Inside?

Q. Both inside and outside?—A. In my opinion, I calculated three coats at the most.

Q. That is to say one coat of priming and two other coats after that?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Has Pagé told you who had been papering upstairs?—A. No, sir.

Q. Now, how have you been able to know the price of painters, in Sorel?—A. It is Mr. Pagé.

Q. Then, do you think that \$1.85 is a good average for painters, in Sorel?—A. About that.

Q. In comparison with Montreal, is it about the same thing?—A. In Montreal, it is a little higher.

Q. Can you say what would be about the difference between Montreal and Sorel?—A. It would be a question of capacity, as for the difference between men.

Q. In order to establish the difference between prices in Sorel and in Montreal, how much would you be expected to pay, for instance, in Montreal, for the painting of a house as the one of Mr. Lanctot, for the men and for the work?—A. We can get the same work done for \$1.80 or \$1.90 as at Mr. Lanctot.

Q. Then, the price is the same in Montreal as in Sorel?—A. That would depend on the quality of the men, sir.

Q. Do you say that, in Montreal, you can get painters for \$1.85 per day?—A. \$1.85, \$1.90.

Q. According to your estimation, how many days did it take to paint Mr. Lancot's house? The time of the men, the work done, what you have estimated?—A. I have not done much estimation—I have estimated by the yard, not by the day.

Q. I want to try that now by the day?—A. By the day, the difference might be considerable; if a man works very slowly; it makes a good deal of difference.

Q. Take ordinary men, those who are generally employed in this country. They are not slow; they are ordinary men?—A. There is a good deal of difference for the men doing paint-work; quickness is here quite a consideration.

Q. You have based your estimation on ordinary men?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, for ordinary men, tell us how many working days it would take to do the work which you estimate at \$502.71?—A. It would take from 230 to 240 hours to do the same kind of work.

Q. 240 hours?—A. About that. I have not made a strict calculation.

Q. How much paint would be required to paint Mr. Lancot's house, as you have seen it painted?—A. Well, I allow \$85 to \$90 for the material that has got in there—the paint.

Q. What would be included in that?—A. The materials.

Q. What does that include?—A. Paint, oil, varnish and colours.

Q. And shellac?—A. No, not shellac. I don't know if there is any shellac there. I calculate there have been two coats of varnish.

Q. The putty?—A. The putty, yes, sir.

Q. The brushes?—A. Yes.

Q. The paint-brushes?—A. Yes.

WITNESS discharged.

JOSEPH RIVET, sworn.

By Mr. N. R. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. What is your occupation, Mr. Rivet?—A. Manufacturer.

Q. Of what?—A. Doors and sashes.

Q. You reside in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In the year 1910, did you have any paint-work to do at Mr. Lancot's house, on George street?—A. I have only painted the doors and windows.

Q. Did you present a bill for that work?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you examine the bill that I am showing you as exhibit No. 34, and tell us if that bill includes in part the kind of work which you have just mentioned?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, Mr. Rivet, will you tell the Committee how much, on the total amount of that bill, you charge for the work which you have done at Mr. Lancot's, and how much you charge for the paint which you have furnished for that work?—A. For the paint, it has cost \$13.

Q. And how much for the labour?—A. \$12.

Q. That makes \$25?—A. Yes.

Q. When has that work been done, Mr. Rivet?—A. Every time the doors and window were being delivered.

Q. Yes, but in what part of the season of 1910, as near as you can say?—A. You mean, when have the doors and windows been completed?

Q. Yes.—A. They have been delivered in July and August.

Cross-examined by Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. The painting of those doors and windows has been done in your own shop, has it not?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have done that work during the winter and the spring?—A. A part.

Q. What part of the work have you done during the winter and the spring?—A. The window sashes.

Q. You have painted the whole of the window sashes during the winter and the spring?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you have delivered them, all painted, when?—A. They have been delivered in July and August. A part of them has even been delivered in the spring, because my shop was small, those windows were ready, and the house was vacant, so they were put in the house.

Q. Then, all the window sashes have been manufactured at your shop and delivered at the house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the cost of the paint used for those sashes?—A. \$13.

Q. Then, you have not painted any doors or windows at Mr. Lanctot's house itself?—A. No, sir.

Q. Has the work which you estimate for \$12 been all for the windows?—A.

Q. When you say \$13 and \$12 for the time of the men, do you mean the time of the men for the painting of the window sashes?—A. Yes, yes.

Q. How many doors and windows were there in all?—A. About fifty—fifty to fifty-two.

Q. I see here in the bill '49 doors and windows, according to contract.' Is that it?—A. It is about that, yes.

Q. It took you \$13 worth of paint for the first coat on the windows?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And \$12 to apply the paint?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Don't you think that \$13 worth of paint is a good deal for \$12 worth of work?—A. The first coat on doors and windows, as well as on any other wood-work, always takes more paint than when another coat has already been applied.

Q. You mean that the first coat always takes more paint than the other coats?—A. Yes.

WITNESS discharged.

ROSARIO GOULET sworn.

By Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. What is your occupation, Mr. Goulet?—A. Grocer.

Q. Where do you live?—A. In Sorel, quite near Mr. Lanctot's.

Q. During the summer of 1910, did you hear any conversation between some government employees of the shipyard and Mr. Lanctot?

Mr. McDougall, K.C., counsel for Mr. Blondin, objects to that question inasmuch as the best proof of the conversations between Mr. Lanctot and the persons to whom the question refers is the deposition of those persons themselves.

Mr. Laflamme withdraws the question.

Q. Did you hear any conversations between Mr. Lanctot on the one part and Mr. Champagne and Mr. Jean-Baptiste Page, on the other part, and if so, what did you hear?

Mr. McDougall, K.C., objects to that question for the same reason as that given above for the objection to the preceding question. The question is allowed by the Chairman.

A. Yes, sir.

Q. In what month was it?—A. It must have been about July or in the early part of August.

Q. In what place?—A. In my store.

Q. Did you hear Mr. Lanctot ask anything to Mr. Page and Mr. Champagne and if so, what was it.

Same objection as above on the part of Mr. McDougall.

Same ruling.

A. Mr. Lanctot was using my telephone, in my store. I used to come often and telephone without having paid any particular attention to what he said, I often understood that he told them to send some paint, to keep a careful account of it and to charge it to himself. These are his own words. I know, I noticed that he said to keep a detailed account of the materials that would be sent.

Cross-examined by Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. That was in July and in August?—A. I cannot tell the date exactly. It may have been at the beginning of July. I can not tell the date exactly. I know that it was in the course of the summer, when the painting was beginning.

Q. You are speaking about Oscar Champagne, the checker, the man who is time-keeper for the men?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When you tell us that Mr. Lanctot came to your place to telephone to Mr. Page, to tell them to send some paint and to keep an account of it, you mean to speak also about Jean-Baptiste Page, the painter's foreman?—A. Yes, sir.

Witness discharged.

AGENOR CHAPDELAINÉ SWORN:

By Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. What is your occupation, Mr. Chapdelainé?—A. Collector of His Majesty's Customs.

Q. You live in Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. At what distance from Mr. Lanctot's?—A. Mr. Lanctot's house is built on my line.

Q. On the division line of your lot?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You are neighbours?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. On George street?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, will you tell the committee if during the summer of 1910, there was a fence around Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. In 1910?

Q. Yes?—A. There was a fence before that, but it was taken down.

Q. When was it taken down?—A. When they commenced to build the foundation wall and the woodwork.

Q. So that the fence was taken down in 1909?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And they did not put it up again?—A. It has not been put up yet.

Q. If that is true, it goes without saying that nobody can have repaired this fence during three days in 1910?—A. The only repair that was done was when myself and wife put up a span of fence and stood it up against Mr. Lanctot's veranda to keep the dogs out.

Q. I suppose, Mr. Chapdelainé that, as a civil servant, you do not leave your office very often and that you are at home every day at Sorel?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know if there are any fruit trees on the Lanctot's lot?—A. There are none.

Q. There are no fruit trees?—A. There are none.

Q. You are very sure of that?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know if there is a garden, big or small, around Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. None has been made so far, at any rate.

Mr. McDougall, K.C., declares that he has no cross-examination to put to the witness.

Witness discharged.

AMABLE LUSSIER *sworn*:

By Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. What is your occupation, Mr. Lussier?—A. I am a merchant.

Q. Where do you live?—A. In Sorel.

Q. What line of business are you in?—A. Dry goods and furniture.

Q. Last year were you in a position to know if there were any painters available in Sorel?—A. I got posted on the subject because I wanted painters myself.

Q. And what did you find out?—A. I wanted to overhaul the house as usual—I have a large house, and, about the month of April I spoke to a contractor for painting, who was one of my good customers, and to whom I wanted to give the job.

Q. It was in the month of April?—A. It was in the month of April.

Q. And what happened then?—A. I asked him if he wanted to do my work, without specifying the price nor anything. He said to me: "Mr. Lussier, I will complete some work I have on hand and I will go to your place in a few days." After having waited several days, as he was not coming, I asked him: "What are you doing, that you do not come?" He told me: "Why don't you send your doors and windows at my place—that is to say, the blinds and the doors, to be imitated—that work will be done right away, and then I will send men at the house."

Mr. McDougall objects to evidence bearing on conversations which witness may have had with the good customer to whom he has just referred.

(No decision arrived at.)

Q. Have you experienced any difficulty in doing your paint work?—A. I waited for that man during four weeks, for the work which he had to do.

Q. Why did you have to wait four weeks?—A. Because I could find nobody. Then, I went to another man, one named Raymond, and I think it was in the month of May that he came and that he began to work for me. But he assigned to the work men who had already worked elsewhere, and those men used to come at my place to work one or two hours per day, and the rest of the time they went to work at some other job. The same men were working for another customer, and they were dividing their time. But, in the end, he was forced to give up working for me, because I had too much to do.

Q. That was in the month of May?—A. It continued that way, in May. In the interval, seeing that my work was not progressing, I had a man named Lavoie, who came to do all my paper-hanging. Then, the work was suspended until June, about the eight or the tenth. I could then get nobody.

It was then that I went to see a man named Douaire, and I asked his wife if her husband could not come to work for me. She told me: "He works for the department, I don't know if he can leave his work. If you ask Mr. Pagé, the foreman, he might perhaps let you have men for your work." As Mr. Pagé was a friend of mine, I went to ask him if, to render me service, he could not let me have a couple of men. On the morrow, which was a Tuesday, I think, he told me that he would let me have two men, Mr. Henrie Proulx and H. Bergeron.

Cross-examined by Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. That was in April and May, you say?—A. I got the men from Mr. Pagé in June, after the tenth of June.

Q. Was it you who paid them?—A. Of course, sir.

Q. In the middle of May and April, who was that good customer to whom you went to get your work done?—A. Mr. Payette.

Q. Augustin Payette?—A. I don't know his first name. He is a young man who does job-work, and who works a good deal at paper-hanging, and he was buying his paper from us. As he was one of our customer,s, I offered him my job.

Q. That was in April?—A. That I asked him that, yes. After that he gave up working for me. That is to say, I sent to his place for the window sashes in the third week of May.

Q. And you never asked him again to work for you?—A. Work had been started on my doors and windows. I kept asking him: "Are you going to work for me?" In the meanwhile, I was informed that he had another contract for another party, a contract much more important than mine, and which he could not give up. And then he told me that he could not work for me.

Q. You had Mr. Raymond, also?—A. Mr. Raymond came. As I said, he had other work under way, and he had seven or eight jobs distributed among his men.

Q. That was again in May?—A. Mr. Raymond kept working until the first days of June. And then I was kept waiting during one week. Mr. Raymond began to work in the month of May, but it was after the tenth of June that I had men from the department to do my work.

Q. When you speak of a man named Proulx who has been sent you by Mr. Pagé, do you mean Henri Proulx?—A. It was a man by the name of Proulx, who was working for the department. I can't tell exactly what is his first name. He is a nephew of Mr. Proulx. It's the same one who has already appeared as a witness, here.

Q. At that time, did you know that George Cartier was a painter in Sorel?—A. Ah, yes, I know George Cartier very well.

Q. You never asked him to do your work?—A. I saw that he had more work than he could do.

Q. I am asking you if you ever asked him to do paint-work for you?—A. No, sir, I never asked him. I had no time to lose going on such errands.

Q. Do you know a man name Joseph Proulx, a painter, at Sorel?—A. No, sir. The Proulx that I know is a railway agent. He may have done some paint-work in his youth, though I don't know.

Q. No, that is not the one.—A. I don't know any other.

Q. Another Joseph Proulx.—A. He must be quite a stranger in Sorel.

Q. You don't know him?—A. No.

Q. Do you know a man named Telesphore Barnabé?—A. Barnabé, yes.

Q. A painter?—A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Have you ever asked him to make that painting work for you?—A. No, sir, I did not want to ask him.

Q. Do you know Emile Lavoie?—A. Yes, sir. I had him during the time he could spare for me, to do the papering.

Q. Do you say that on the 10th of June, George Cartier was so busy that he could not do your work?—A. I say that he had a lot of work in hand on that day, on the 10th of June, perhaps a Sunday, he might have been free; but I say that Mr. Cartier had more work than he could do and I did not solicit him.

Q. How many days have the men Pagé, Proulx, or some others sent, worked at your place?—A. I do not remember. I paid them myself. Those two men must have worked, all together, nine or ten days, about that, not nine or ten days each but between them.

Q. Four and half or five days each?—A. Perhaps it was not divided equally, but it is about that.

Q. Do they work together at your house?—A. Yes, they worked together, not all the time, perhaps. I think that Proulx was the last one to work. I was not always there, I was at the store.

Q. To whom did you pay the wages; to Pagé or to the men?—A. To each of the men.

Q. How much per day?—A. I asked them how much it was; Proulx, I think, told

me it was two dollars. I did not ask him how much he earned at the department; I did not argue on the price he asked me, because I considered as a favour to have come and done my work; I was satisfied to give them what they were asking me. I think it was two dollars.

Q. You gave two dollars to Proulx?—A. I think it was two dollars. Around that, anyway.

Q. You must remember it?—A. Well, sir, listen, when you are completely disinterested of a thing as the case was, I did not see fit to keep an account of it.

Q. What is the price you paid those men?—A. To the best of my knowledge, I gave two dollars to Mr. Proulx.

Q. To the best of your knowledge, how much did you give to his companion?—A. I do not remember; I think his wages were a little lower. At any rate, I gave him what he asked me. I cannot say exactly how much.

Q. You do not know his name?—A. Yes, his name is Bergeron.

Q. Did you get some paint or was it your own paint you supplied?—A. I had my own paint, that is I was buying my paint at the stores.

Witness discharged.

ALFRED LAVALLEE SWORN.

By Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Lavallée?—A. At Sorel, sir.

Q. On or about the 7th of December, 1910, did you meet Mr. Alfred Douaire?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Please tell the committee how you met him and what happened?—A. The same evening you ask me if I saw Mr. Douaire, I met Mr. Lanctot about six o'clock, about dinner time. I shook hands with him. I think he had just arrived from here. He said: 'I bring you very sad news.' He said: 'You are charged with such and such things.' I said: 'What about?' He said: 'A report, an affidavit, a man named Douaire has sent, has signed, for some doors which have been glazed.' I told him I did not know it. I did not know anything about it—I never had Mr. Douaire in my employ.

Q. I suppose that after that conversation with Mr. Lanctot, you began to go around a little?—A. Yes.

Q. Was it the cause of your interview with Douaire?—A. I told Mr. Lanctot: 'How is that?' I wanted to know where that affidavit was coming from. He told me: 'I have got it in my possession.' I said: 'You will read it to me. I am going to see him.'

Q. And did you see Mr. Douaire?—A. Immediately after dinner I went to Mr. Douaire's.

Q. What did you say to Douaire?—A. I said:— I walked in, I said good night, all that, I talked for a moment, I said: 'Say, Alfred, come outside, I wish to speak to you.' He went outside. I said: 'Listen, what does that all mean?'

Mr. McDougall objects to that evidence.

Q. Then, I understand you went to Mr. Douaire's yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. Mr. Lanctot never asked for him?—A. No, sir. I looked after that matter myself. I said: "I am going to see about that and confer with Douaire about that matter."

Q. Did you bring him to Mr. Lanctot's office?—A. Yes. I asked him, I said—

Q. Was he walking fast or was he reluctant?—A. He seemed to be hesitating, he did not like it; he did not seem to like that.

Mr. McDougall, K.C., says he has nothing to ask the witness in matter of cross-examination.

WITNESS discharged.

LÉON CARDIN sworn:

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. What is your occupation, Mr. Cardin?—A. I am a student, sir.

Q. Are you the son of Joseph Cardin, contractor?—A. I am.

Q. Do you know if your father did some work at Mr. Lanctot's house in the summer of 1910?—A. He did, sir.

Q. What did he do?—A. It was he who superintended the carpenters.

Q. Did you have anything to do with that work?—A. Not directly.

Q. Did you keep the books?—A. No, sir; however I myself prepared a pay list which I would hand over to one of the employees, who would himself keep the time of the men; then the latter would give me back that pay list.

Q. There is a man named Desrosiers who worked for your father?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know when he finished his work?—A. I could know it by a paper, I think, by a list. As it is, I do not know, but I think it is entered upon a pay-list to which is annexed a piece of paper as this one.

Q. Will you take communication of Exhibit No. 35 and tell us what it is?—A. There are two pay-lists, one finishing on the 18th of August, 1910, and another finishing on September 1st, 1910.

Q. Does Mr. Desrosiers' name appear on both of these lists?—A. It appears on both the lists. Upon the one finishing on the 18th of August and upon the one of September 1st, 1910.

Q. What is the surname of Mr. Desrosiers?—A. I do not know; his initial is H. I do not know exactly what it is.

Q. What sort of work did he accomplish for Mr. Lanctot?—A. He was a carpenter.

Q. Are you able to state approximately when he finished his work?—A. Oh, as I am now, I cannot say so, but I think I have entered it upon a list, as my father, at that time, had another job and when he was over at that place he sent Mr. Desrosiers to work at another job. I think it is entered upon a list.

Q. Do you know if Mr. Desrosiers worked there in September?—A. I could tell you, but I cannot say now. If I had the paper, I could tell you. There is a paper like this (showing) and another annexed to it as this (showing). This one records the day when he went, in the morning or in the afternoon.

Q. Well, you look at this Exhibit No. 36, and say if on this pay-list finishing on September 15th, 1910, the name of Desrosiers does not appear?—A. It appears for the whole fortnight, from the Friday, and this ended on September 15th. That is exactly 12 days.

Q. He was a carpenter?—A. A carpenter.

Q. The names which appear upon this list, Exhibit No. 36: Deguise, Matte, the other Mr. Matte, Mr. Phaneuf and Mr. Paul, are they carpenters?—A. Mr. Phaneuf was an apprentice. Mr. Matte was a carpenter. Mr. Phaneuf and Mr. Paul are two apprentices.

Q. So that there is no doubt, then, on the 15th of September, there were four or five carpenters who was still working in the house?—A. Not upon this list.

Q. From that list?—A. No, that list was for the other job.

Q. Will you examine your papers and produce an identical list where the name of Mr. Desrosiers appear for the last time with regard to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I think I have a list—

Q. Where is that list?—A. I have already produced it, I think.

Q. You have not produced it, you have not been heard as a witness yet?—A. I think that Mr. Lanctot has it.

Q. Can you say when the wood-work was finished in the house?—A. To begin with, the carpenters left the house, I think, about the beginning of the month of

September, and went to work on a job which my father had at that time another job for Mr. Marcotte, and some came back to finish up the work at Mr. Lanctot's house.

Q. So that from list exhibit No. 36 Mr. Marcotte's job was not finished before the 15th of September?—A. Marcotte's job was not finished, no.

Q. Not before the 15th of September?—A. No.

Q. It was after the 15th of September that some of these carpenters came back to work at Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many, do you know, came back to Mr. Lanctot's house?—A. I am not sure; but I think there were three.

Q. Will you look at exhibit 37 and say if the three carpenters who came back to work after the 15th September at the house of Mr. Lanctot are not the three whose names appear on exhibit No. 37, Deguise, H. Desrosiers and A. Paul?—A. That must be.

Q. Now, Mr. Cardin, the paint-work was not commenced before the wood-work was finished?—A. I could not swear to it but, according to me, I think not.

Q. The work which is mentioned on the statement of November 14th, was work done personally?

(The witness examines the account.)

Q. Do you observe that the items are not dated? When did these men work?—A. They worked before that.

Q. You do not know when?—A. No, I do not know.

Cross examined by Mr. McDougall, K.C.

Q. What is your first name, Mr. Cardin?—A. Léon Cardin.

Q. When was the painting begun at Mr. Lanctot's?—A. I cannot say exactly.

Q. Was it in the course of the summer of 1910?—A. Oh, I am rather disposed to suspect it was more in the autumn. I am not sure.

Q. Did you go into the house of Mr. Lanctot?—A. About every day, I did.

Q. The carpenters and joiners who are mentioned in exhibits 35, 36 and 37 according to you, worked in the house of Mr. Lanctot until the month of November?—A. Not all. There was an interruption for the time when they worked at the other job.

Q. But if they came back afterwards to work at the house of Mr. Lanctot?—A. They came back afterwards.

Q. And the painting only began after they were through?—A. As I said; I am not sure when it began. I am not sure.

Q. You would not positively swear as to the paint in Mr. Lanctot's house? You were keeping the time of your father's men, the carpenters?—A. I had nothing at all to do with the painters.

Q. Do you know the men who are mentioned in Exhibit No. 35?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You know them personally?—A. How so. I saw them working for my father.

Q. In the second list, the one finishing on September 1, 1910, I find the name of one, H. Paul, who worked two days and a half. Do you know this one?—A. H. Paul?

Q. Yes. This one is Henri Paul?—A. I do not know his first name. H. Paul and A. Paul, that is the same thing, but this one is only an apprentice.

Q. You see it is the account for carpenters' and joiners' work done at the house of Adélar Lanctot for a term which ended on August 18, and for another term which ended on September 1, 1910?—A. One term finishing on the 18th of the month of August, yes.

Q. Do you swear that the painting at Adélar Lanctot's did not begin before that?—A. I told you a few moments ago: I am not sure; I am not sure of the time at which it began.

Witness discharged.

OMER ANGERS SWORN.

By Mr. Laflamme:

Q. In the fall of 1909 were you requested by Mr. Lanctot to do some work around his house, and if so what?—A. I cannot exactly remember if it was in 1909. I think it was in 1910.

Q. You think it was in 1910?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. On George street?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Very well, I made a mistake, 1910. What was it?—A. There was a telephone pole in front Mr. Lanctot's door. He wanted it removed so that the entrance would be easier. So I told him I could remove it, but I had no men. I asked Mr. Lanctot if he could procure me some men I could do it, and so he did.

Q. Whom did he procure?—A. He got two men to work for me.

Q. Who were these two men?—A. I don't exactly remember the names of the two, but I know there was one named Gouin.

Q. Do you remember another by the name of Kain?—A. I think I heard of him.

Q. How long did Gouin assist you to remove the pole?—A. Just a day—one afternoon on the first day, and the afternoon of the next day.

Q. How long did Kain work if?—A. He worked the same time.

By Mr. McDougall:

Q. You say one of these men's name was Kain?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the other one?—A. Gouin.

Q. Will you show him Exhibit '2'? What time was it that Mr. Lanctot asked you to get men to have this unsightly telephone pole removed?—A. I cannot exactly tell you the date, but I believe it was in September.

Q. 1910?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you look at Exhibit '2' please and say whether you refer to Avila Gouin and Adelard Kain, whose names you see there?—A. I cannot say that it was Avila Gouin or Adelard Kain. I know they were Gouin and Kain.

Q. One named Gouin and the other Kain were sent to you?—A. He told me he would take him with him.

Q. Who sent them?—A. They were there when I got there.

Q. Do you know where they came from?—A. I believe they came from the government.

Q. From the government shipyard?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were those men ordinary labourers?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. They helped you to remove the telephone pole?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How did you have to send to the government ship-yard for men to help you to remove a telephone pole?—A. Not for every job. It was Mr. Lanctot's job. It is not my habit to get government men for my own work.

Q. But labourers could have been got in Sorel?—A. I do not know whether there was any or not. I could not get them myself. If I could have got them I would not have asked Mr. Lanctot for some.

Witness discharged.

Committee adjourned till 3 o'clock.

3 o'clock, p.m.

JOSEPH EDMOND GAUTHIER, sworn.

By Mr. N. K. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Where do you live, Mr. Gauthier?—A. No. 354 Champlain street, Montreal.

Q. What is your occupation?—A. I am manager of the paint department at Castle & Son's.

Q. In Montreal?—A. In Montreal.

Q. How many years experience have you had in that time?—A. About twenty-two years.

Q. Did you do any painting work in Ottawa?—A. Yes, sir, we painted Mr. Fitzpatrick's house.

Q. Then?—A. We painted the dining room at Rideau Hall; we did the work at the Rideau Club, on Wellington street, and we did some work at the Russell.

Q. Mr. Gauthier, have you recently examined Mr. Adelard Lanctot's house in Sorel; and if so, when, and for what purpose?—A. I went and examined Mr. Lanctot's house in Sorel.

Q. For what purpose?—A. It was in order to see how the work had been done and how much it might have cost to do it.

Q. Did you come to a conclusion?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was that conclusion?—A. After having carefully examined the work—I examined the house room by room—I came to the conclusion that, from the manner in which the work had been done, and from my experience and the quality of the work done there, that work might have been done in about two hundred days.

Q. What is your total estimate of the work?—A. I make it out \$461.

Q. This would include the work and the materials?—A. The work and the materials with the exception of the cost of the glass which I have not included in that estimate.

Q. Is this estimate the price that you would have charged, yourself, as contractor?—A. No, sir; it is the amount which it would have cost my employer to do the job.

Q. Does that mean that it would include the profit?—A. No, no; there is no profit there.

Cross-examined by Mr. J. M. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. What profit would you expect to make?—A. As to the profit, that is none of my business; my employer might have included whatever he liked as a profit. He might have taken 10 per cent or 15 per cent.

Q. Now as to the window panes, how much would you add?—A. The panes might have cost from fifty to sixty dollars.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. The panes themselves?—A. The panes themselves, and the time for glazing is included in that.

By Mr. McDougall, K.C.:

Q. What price would you add for the time of men?—A. I would add \$1.75 per day; the average is about \$1.75.

Q. Was it the price in Sorel?—A. Yes, I believe they might be had at that price in Sorel.

Q. Did you inquire whether or not this was the price at Sorel?—A. I inquired, and from what I know, I think that we might get the men to do the work which has been done because it was not first class work.

Q. How much do you pay your men here?—A. Here we pay from twenty-five to thirty-five cents per hour.

Q. And how many hours do they work a day?—A. Nine hours. But it is not the same thing in Sorel as in Montreal. Men cannot be had for the same price.

Q. Why is it not the same thing?—A. Because the work done in Sorel cannot be compared with the work which is done in Montreal, with the work done by the firm of Castle & Son.

Q. And I suppose the painters are numerous in Sorel. It is not very hard to find painters in Sorel, at that price?—A. I do not think it would be difficult; there should be some, because Sorel is not a large city. I believe it ought to be easy to find painters there.

Q. You say that 200 days at \$1.75 per day would about represent the cost of the work?—A. Yes.

Q. At how much do you estimate the materials?—A. About \$110.

Q. Does this include the glass?—A. No, sir.

Q. How much would you allow for the glass?—A. The panes of glass might cost about fifty or sixty dollars.

Witness discharged.

ADELARD LANCTOT, M.P., recalled.

By Mr. Laflamme, K.C.:

Q. Who paid for the panes of glass which were put in the windows of your house on George street?—A. It was me.

Mr. J. M. McDOUGALL, K.C., states that he has no questions to put to the witness.

⊕



