

any of the heads of the Department used to get you to vote for Mr. Moss?

Witness—No. At neither of the elections was any such influence exercised.

Mr. WILLIAM KENNEDY was recalled for the purpose of ascertaining whether any instructions had been given him by canvassers in reference to other officials similar to those given him with regard to Flynn.

Mr. CAMERON—Did you leave any message in the Registrar-General's office for any person?

Witness—Yes. I left a message for Mr. Smyth instructing him to go to Mr. McKellar's office.

Mr. CAMERON—Who gave you that message?

Witness said he thought it was Evans. He further stated that two or three canvassers called at different times, but he could not say before which election it was. He thought, however, that it was Moss and Bickford's election. There was no message left with him for any of the other clerks.

Mr. HAREY—Did Mr. McKellar intimate to you in any way that he wanted to see Mr. Smyth?

Witness—No.

The examination of these witnesses having terminated, considerable discussion ensued as to whether Mr. McKellar should make his statement then.

Mr. RICHARDS said there had been a charge made against Mr. McKellar, and it was due to every man against whom a charge was made to afford him an opportunity of making an explanation or statement if he desired to do so. It was with this view that the Committee were willing to hear the two last witnesses. If the gentleman desired to make a statement, of course they would hear him.

The CHAIRMAN understood it was the unanimous desire of the Committee that Mr. McKellar should make a statement.

Mr. RICHARDS denied that it was the unanimous desire of the Committee that he should make a statement.

Mr. CAMERON said the previous day they sent for Mr. McKellar, in order to give him an opportunity of making a statement, if he pleased.

The CHAIRMAN asked if it was the pleasure of the Committee that Mr. McKellar should make his statement?

Mr. RICHARDS said he had no desire to hear Mr. McKellar, unless he wanted to be heard.

Mr. CAMERON wished it to be understood that they were not forcing Mr. McKellar to make a statement. He was not bound to do so, as far as they were concerned.

Hon. Mr. MCKELLAR then proceeded to make his statement. He said:—On the forenoon of the day of the nomination of Messrs. Bickford and Moss, Mr. Dickey called upon me at my office, and told me that some of the men at the Central Prison desired to attend the nomination. He also told me it was customary for large employers of labour to give their men on such occasions time to attend nominations without reducing their wages. I thought if that were the rule—and I knew I had acted upon the principle myself when I employed men—that it would be only a fair thing for the Government to give the same indulgence to their men. I then gave him a note to Mr. Wagner, the Superintendent of the works, a copy of which I did not keep. The language, however, was to the following purport, and as near as I can recollect to the original: "If the men desire to attend the nomination you are at liberty to give them half a day's liberty and let their wages go on." That was all I did, and my reason for doing it is as I have already stated. I thought it was only a graceful and proper thing for the Government to give the same indulgence to their men that other employers of labour gave. I have done it myself, and I believe no person, company, or corporation loses anything by giving such an indulgence, for the men work better, and make good any little loss that may be sustained in the way of wages. By letting all the men go no jealousy could arise between Moss and Bickford men.

Mr. LAUDER—We want facts, not opinions.

Mr. FRASER—I think it is scarcely courtesy to interrupt the hon. Commissioner of Public Works. It is desirable we should hear his statement, whether fact or argument.

Hon. Mr. MCKELLAR—I was merely giving my reasons for doing what I did. I had no intention of making any distinction be-

tween the political parties, and I thought no objection could be raised on party grounds by letting all the men go to the nomination where both candidates and their friends were to discuss the public questions of the day, and where no division or show of hands was to be taken to indicate which party had a majority on the ground. I had no communication, verbal or otherwise, with any of the foremen or men on the works, before or during either of the elections, further than the note I sent to Mr. Wagner, and to which I have already referred. I never, directly nor indirectly, asked any man how he intended to vote, or attempted in any way to influence the men to vote for one candidate or the other. I had no knowledge then, nor have I now, of the relative numbers of the Moss and the Bickford men. That is all I have got to say with regard to this matter, but I have a little to say in reference to my interview with Mr. Smyth. In the first place, he is mistaken as to the election during which he called at my room, for I can prove, by documentary evidence, that I was away from here the whole week before the Robinson Moss election came on, and I only arrived here from the west about 11 o'clock on the evening of the day of the election; so I could not have seen him on that occasion. The time he called on me was on the day of the previous election. When he came in I did not know him. Of course, there are men in the departments I do not know. I looked at him and said "What do you want?" He replied "I was sent up here." I told him there must be some mistake, as I had not sent a message to any man, and asked him to what department he belonged. He told me he belonged to the Registrar-General's Department, and my impression is that he told me he understood I wished to see him in connection with the election. I then told him I did not interfere with any of the employees, and that he might go and vote as he liked. I made up my mind that no man in the employ of the Government should have an intimation from me as to how he should vote. I may have told him to go to Mr. Pardee, the head of his department, and that I had nothing to do with him, but I told him positively I did not interfere with the employees. When I told him that Mr. Pardee was the head of his department, I did not do so with the view of his getting instructions from Mr. Pardee as to the disposition of his vote.

Mr. RYKERT then moved that the evidence taken before the Committee in reference to the election in West Toronto, and the officials and employees of Government in connection therewith, including Mr. McKellar's statement, be forthwith reported to the House.

Mr. CAMERON seconded the motion.

Hon. Mr. FRASER said it would be necessary for this evidence to be extracted from the report by the clerk, and it was for the Committee to decide which branch belonged to that case. They ought not to drag before the House evidence which did not belong to this matter.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS suggested that the chairman should prepare a draft of this portion of the evidence for the consideration of the Committee before being submitted to the House.

Mr. FRASER was opposed to including evidence in the report irrelevant to the case, because it would only give hon gentlemen an opportunity of speaking upon every subject the evidence referred to. He thought it was only a fair thing that the evidence relating to the Central Prison matter should be reported as promptly as possible, but inasmuch as the evidence on the remaining subjects had not been concluded, it would not be fair to submit a portion of it to the House.

Hon. Mr. CROOKS then moved as an amendment, "That the Chairman supervise and submit to the Committee at its next meeting a draft of such evidence as relates to the permission given by the Commissioner of Public Works to the men at the Central Prison to attend the late Toronto election nomination, in order that the same may be submitted to the House."

A division took place on the amendment with the following result:—Yeas—Hon. Mr. Fraser, Hon. Mr. Crooks, Messrs. Farewell, Hardy, and Sinclair. Nays—Messrs. Cameron, Richards, Lauder, and Rykert. Yeas 5, Nays 4.

Mr. CAMERON next moved that the whole evidence taken before the Committee up to this time be reported to the House.

Mr. CROOKS held that the motion was out of the matter having already been de-