

# The Enquiry Conducted By T. Hollis Walker, K.C.

TUESDAY, Jan. 23.  
L. R. Curtis (Cross-examined by  
Attorney General.)

A.—Yes.  
Q.—He was not unfriendly to Miller.  
“But on the other hand, he had often referred to the splendid political support he had in 1919 and since from Miller.” What sort of political support did Sir Richard refer to? Can you explain that? Did Sir Richard explain it to you?

A.—No, but I had often been at Sir Richard's house when Miller was there during the political campaign. I knew that Mr. Miller was always interested.

COMMISSIONER.—The only thing he stated here he ever did was to send some of the Company's men home to vote in connection with the Bay de Verde bye-election. That is all I understood him to say he did. What other things did he do?

WITNESS.—It was about that time I was at Sir Richard's house.

COMMISSIONER.—That is certainly the only thing I understood from Mr. Miller that he had ever done for Sir Richard.

WITNESS.—I understood that Mr. Miller and his friends at Bell Island were always great political supporters.

MR. WARREN.—Who gave you to understand that?

WITNESS.—Sir Richard told me that he and his friends were political supporters on Bell Island.

Q.—But they were more than that. You say that “Sir Richard had often referred to the splendid political support he had in 1919 and since from Mr. Miller.” He told you that?

A.—Yes.

COMMISSIONER.—Did he tell you what political support he had from him in 1919?

A.—He would say such and such a man had been a great supporter, after the election was over.

Q.—Mr. Miller said his service was not until 1920, and he stated it was the negotiating for laying off of men from the Bell Island works to go to Bay de Verde constituency and vote in the bye-election?

A.—Mr. Miller, I always understood, was a much more active supporter than that.

MR. WARREN.—Mr. Curtis, at this time, on the 20th of December, this Enquiry was imminent?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And you were thinking about it?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And Sir Richard had told you not to have anything to do with the matter?

A.—He told me I had no authority.

Q.—Authority to do what or say what?

A.—No authority to discuss the matter at all.

Q.—Why did you say that Sir Richard was not unfriendly to Miller, but referred to his splendid political support? Why did you say that to Miller, when you were told not to discuss anything of the sort?

A.—Well, one might be advised not to do a thing, and one might do it on one's own initiative.

Q.—I see, and you did this on your own initiative?

A.—Yes, I did this on my own initiative.

Q.—And if anything worth while came out, anything worth mentioning, it would be repeated to Sir Richard?

A.—If I obtained any information as to what the charges were I would certainly communicate it.

Q.—Did you tell Miller that?

A.—I impliedly told him, I think.

Q.—That anything worth while mentioning you would report to Sir Richard?

A.—Yes, I think I did.

Q.—Do you know whether he intended to convey this to Miller—this suggestion of anything worth while mentioning?

A.—No.

Q.—But you did this on your own initiative?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Now I ask you frankly, Mr. Curtis, was not this statement that Squires was not unfriendly but often referred to the splendid political support he had from Miller, did you intend that as an invitation to Miller to say more?

Q.—Then you say “If the matter seemed to you worth mentioning, you would bring it up when next speaking with him?”—that is, with Sir Richard?

A.—Yes.

Q.—“Casually bring it up when next speaking with him on political matters.” What did you mean by casually bringing it up?

A.—I might mention it in passing.

Q.—What did you mean by saying you would bring it up when next speaking with Sir Richard on political matters?

A.—If I got any chance at all.

Q.—Why then did you ever tell Miller you would mention it to Sir Richard, either casually or otherwise? Were you fooling Miller when you said that if anything worth while mentioning came up you would pass

it on to Sir Richard?

A.—I meant what is on that statement.

Q.—I am asking you were you fooling Miller when you told him you would pass on to Sir Richard anything worth mentioning? Did you really mean you would?

A.—I really meant that if anything to do with Sir Richard that I thought he (Sir Richard) should know came up, I would discuss it with him.

Q.—Do you still stick to that, that by anything which Sir Richard should know you referred only to the charges against him?

A.—Yes.

Q.—How did you know Sir Richard did not know the charges against him?

A.—I had asked him previously in ordinary conversation.

Q.—What did he tell you?

A.—He never really got down to it, but he had a discussion of what they were, because as you remember, he was out of town most of the time.

COMMISSIONER.—But you were face to face with him when you asked him I suppose. Did he give you a straight answer?

A.—No, I did not get an answer.

Q.—Even you could not get an answer from him?

A.—No, he might have told me he did not know.

MR. WARREN.—When was that?

A.—About the time of his resignation.

Q.—After or before?

A.—Probably during the time.

Q.—He told you then he did not know what the charges were about?

A.—He did not tell me the charges.

COMMISSIONER.—He did not know what the charges were and he resigned?

A.—Yes.

MR. WINTER.—Did you never discuss it with him from that day until you met Miller?

A.—Well, it might have been mentioned. I had no specific talk with him about it.

Q.—Did you discuss this Enquiry or the charges with Sir Richard from the day he told you that in July until the 20th of December?

A.—I don't think so.

Q.—On the 20th of December you were still under the impression that Sir Richard did not know of the charges against him—did not know what the charges against him were?

A.—I was.

Q.—On the 30th of December, 1923, you swear you were still under the impression that Sir Richard did not know what the charges against him were?

A.—Yes, that was my impression.

Q.—You were still under that impression?

A.—Yes.

Q.—I assume you kept that impression because in July before he resigned he told you he did not know what the charges were against him?

A.—Yes.

Q.—When did you first find out what the charges against him were?

A.—At that conversation with Miller.

COMMISSIONER.—From whom did you understand that?

A.—The suggestion was that Sir Richard's name was on these cheques, so I presumed they were Sir Richard's cheques, signed by her. I inferred it from the fact that the money was said to have been given for Sir Richard.

Q.—You inferred that Sir Richard was accused of being a party to the transactions?

A.—Because in the previous sentence he said the money was given to Miss Miller presumably for Sir Richard.

MR. WARREN.—And do you mean to tell me, Mr. Curtis, that you lived in this town from July, 1923, to December, 1923, and did not hear what the charges were?

A.—Oh, I am not saying anything about the rumors I heard. That was the first definite information I had.

Q.—But Miller had no authority to make definite charges.

A.—No, but he told me as one who knew.

Q.—Is it not a fact then that when Mr. Miller wanted to see you, you did know perfectly well what the charges were, and you talked them over with him; that you knew what the charges were when you talked them over with Miller?

A.—I knew nothing specific, sir. I had heard general charges of all kinds.

COMMISSIONER.—We are not asking you for general charges. We are asking you did you know before this meeting with Miller took place on December 20th, from rumor, gossip, or any other source, that the charge against Sir Richard was being a party to the payment of liquor control department funds to Miss Miller as his agent?

A.—No, I did not.

Q.—What do you mean by that?

A.—I mean that as a general query to find out what he wanted.

COMMISSIONER.—“Is there a way out?” A way out of what?

A.—There was probably something said by Miller which led to that expression.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Is this a full statement of what took place or is it your version of what took place?

A.—It was my version as impartial as I could make it.

Q.—If Miller said anything to you that brought forth that question, why have you not got it there?

A.—I never claimed it was a full and accurate report.

Q.—You were asked by my learned friend this morning if it was a true and accurate report and you swore that it was. Now it is not so correct is it?

A.—Everything in that statement is correct.

COMMISSIONER.—I allowed the witness to refresh his memory from it and now his memory is still being further refreshed that there were things took place which he did not think it to let down and something must have been said by Miller to bring forth the remark “Is there a way out?” Tell me what probable thing Miller said to suggest the expression “Is there a way out?”

WITNESS.—From that I should gather that Miller thought it better for Sir Richard to see him and see if there was a way out.

COMMISSIONER.—Surely there is some way of answering the Attorney General's question of what you did mean by saying “Is there a way out?” A way out of what?

A.—I meant that as a query as to what was the trouble and what did he want.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.—You knew Miller wanted to see Sir Richard?

COMMISSIONER.—It looks to me like a question of what could be done by which the whole thing would fall to the ground?

A.—I had always believed that there was nothing in the charge.

Q.—Did you mean any suggestion of a scheme to Miller by which there would be a way out?

A.—If you left out the word scheme it may be all right.

Q.—Well, what word would you like: device, or method or plan. Would either of these words do?

A.—I don't know if I expressed just what I wanted at that time.

Q.—And you left it for us to infer it?

A.—What I probably meant was, what should Sir Richard do?

Q.—Of what should be done by him to bring this accusation and this Commission and the whole thing to an end?

ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Did Miller understand from you what you meant by “Is there a way out?”

A.—It all depends on his answer.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.—(Quotes from memorandum): Miller says: “Yes there is. I have consulted with two K.C.'s, one in Montreal and one in Halifax and they tell me that there is, and that there has been no charge made against Squires that cannot be explained satisfactorily.” Did Miller see a way out of the whole thing? Then you again said to Miller: “How can it be done?” What do you mean by that?

A.—Miller came to me with a plan and I was asking how could that be done?

COMMISSIONER.—Plan for what? Plan for a pig sty?

A.—It was wholly suggestions he had to make.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.—We will drop that and come to the next question. After he said there was nothing against Squires that could not be explained satisfactorily, you said to Miller: “How can it be done?” Explain to the Commissioner what you meant by that?

A.—I meant that in pursuance of my other question as to just what he wanted and what was the idea.

Q.—Then your first question was what is the plan and what is the idea?

A.—Yes.

A.—I knew generally what the charges were with regard to the liquor control department, but I don't consider that I knew any of the details.

Q.—Did you know that the charge was that money had been improperly paid out from the Liquor Control Department and that Sir Richard was a party to it? Did you know that?

A.—I don't consider that I did.

MR. WARREN.—You heard these rumors, Mr. Curtis, did you ever think of going and asking Sir Richard about them? Did you ever think of going and asking him, as your partner, whether there was any truth in these rumors, or not?

A.—I honestly believed that the matter was purely a political one.

Q.—That is not an answer to my question—whether you believed the matter to be a political one or not—the charges were against your partner did you go and ask him about them?

A.—Not specifically, no.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.—You heard those rumors about your own partner and you never went to ask him about them?

A.—I had some conversation with him at the time and I understood from him that these were political matters only.

Q.—Then you did have some conversation with him?

A.—Yes, in a general way.

Q.—And Sir Richard Squires told you the whole thing was political, did he?

A.—Yes.

Q.—When was that?

A.—About the time he resigned.

Q.—And you had no conversation with him afterwards?

A.—No, he went out of town shortly afterwards.

Q.—And he came back shortly afterwards and long before the 20th of December, did he not?

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## NOTICE.

After four weeks application was made to His Excellency the Governor in Council for letters patent for a new and useful "Improved process for treating coal or other mineral improved apparatus therefor" was granted to Alfred Arthur Lockwood of Woodford Lodge, Merton, London, S.W. 19.

Dated this 21st day of January, 1924.

MCGATH & MCGATH,  
Jan 21, 4, m. Solicitors for Applicant.

If the family is tired of buttered or pickled beets, try serving them baked.

## Just Folks.

By EDGAR A. GUEST

A BABY'S LANGUAGE.  
Well, I declare! You little laughing little.

Cheeks as pink as roses and as soft as sweetness, too.

Eyes as bright as star shine on a pond that's glassy.

Everything you look at is a wonder thing to you.

Hold your arms out to me and my merry laughter shake you.

And then one thing's very certain your old Dad will come and take you.

Well, I declare! You're so small, so domineering.

You can't walk or talk or tell or do, and yet you make it plain.

By your cooing and your squealing that you'll stand no interference.

With the wisest you're cunning and the love you reach to gain.

Men may string their words together, but the sweetest language speaks the language of a baby.

Well, I declare! By your cooing and your laughter.

And your five small teeth will glisten when you break into a smile.

You are very, very tiny, but you know what you are after.

For you know your dad will love you on if you worry him with your fuss. So go and play the tyrant, have no fear that he'll forsake you—when you hold your arms out the way, he will always come and take you.

—By Bud Fisher