# Special Remuneration to Police Officially Investigated Yesterday

**INSPECTOR GENERAL HUTCHINGS ON THE STAND.**

Yesterday afternoon the Attorney General was again on the stand and produced some correspondence in reference to the Rodgers Contract. Asked by the Commissioner about the notice the Justice Department sent the Agriculture Department, the Attorney General said that the instructions to cancel the first Rodgers Contract were issued by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture on March 14th. They were advised to make cancellation by Cable immediately. Statements as to amount of wood stolen and other correspondence were put in evidence after which the witness was cross-examined by Mr. Howley. The Attorney General questioned re the starting of the enquiry, said Dr. Campbell had asked him by telegraph to have the enquiry started into relief expenditure. Shortly after he (the Prime Minister) had made the announcement in the House. The statement made by Mr. Walsh, M.H.A. was the only definite allegation of which he had knowledge at the time the Commission was issued. The Commission, witness said, was decided upon before the statement was made in the House and the drafting of its terms were prepared before the House adjourned. Dr. Campbell's telegram, witness said, had reference to the relief account.

INSPECTOR GENERAL C. H. HUTCHINGS called and examined by Mr. Winter, said the salaries of the Constabulary were charged under the head of the Justice Dept. The witness detailed the various works which the force is called upon to perform in the different branches of the civil service.

COMMISSIONER—Did you receive any extra pay from the Customs or the Charity Department yourself?

A.—No, the remuneration would be to the individual members of the force.

COMMISSIONER—Did Superintendent O'Neil?

A.—No, I don't think so.

MR. WINTER asked witness what Supt. O'Neil received $200 for, to which the Inspector General said he investigated some matters in relation to destitution through his instructions. Early in 1921 he sent him to Harbor Grace and other places in Conception Bay. Early in 1922 the Executive Government asked him to detail some member of the force to look after matters in Conception Bay. O'Neil was given instructions by members of the Executive and as a result he visited Harbor Grace and other places, and subsequently as a result of his investigations he gave out $15,000 in relief. The account of this relief passed through the I. G. office. His expenses were paid, and the $200 was a gratuity. The expenses were not paid out of the Polict Department funds. In answer to the Commissioner ,witness said Supt. O'Neil was getting his ordinary pay during the period. Questioned about the other minor officials, witness said they were paid the amounts in connection with the same work but they had no expenses.

Regarding payment to himself of $1500, witness said that early in 1921 he was asked by the Prime Minister to keep in touch with the Minister of Agriculture and Mines, Dr. Campbell, and advise with him in connection with the distribution of relief and the giving of labour. He could not recall exactly when he was asked to do it, but from the time that he was asked to undertake that work up till last May or June he was in consultation with the Minister of Agriculture and Mines, discussing with him all the phases of unemployment situation and relief conditions twice a day practically every day. He would have consultations over the telephone at all hours of the night and sometimes at two and three and four o'clock in the morning.

COMMISSIONER—Were your consultations in reference to the turbulent state of mind of the people?

A.—I should not say so. A great portion of the discussions was in reference to the rock sheds. Witness said he advised sometimes as to methods of giving relief, and he was also consulted in connection with the opening up of roads. In order to cope with disturbances he asked for an increase in the force and got it. Witness did not personally go to the houses in relation to the giving of relief, but men under him did.

COMMISSIONER—When you have anything that throws extra work upon you you desire a little extra pay. Is your usual habit to apply to the ordinary Department that governs police for that?

A.—Not since I am in charge.

Q.—You never had occasion except in this one?

A.—Only this occasion, I was only appointed five and a half years ago.

Q.—There was no practice to guide you?

A.—Well, from my experience of these things the matter did not relate to the Department with which I am connected, application would be made through the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

MR. WINTER—You were Deputy Minister of Justice one time?

A.—Yes, for 15 years and the practise usually followed was to go direct to the Colonial Secretary's Department. On this occasion I was conferring with the Prime Minister in connection with some phase of the relief work and I pointed out that I thought it was time I was getting compensation and asked for payment on account. He directed me to ask Dr. Campbell who had charge of the Relief Work, to bring the matter up that night. That was the expression; he asked me how much I wanted I said $500.00 on account.

Witness said he received a $500 cheque in June, and at the end of the year he told Dr. Campbell he wanted further payment for his services, and in a few days after Jan. 11th, he gave him a cheque for $1,000. Witness said both cheques were payments on account. He rendered no bill, and from the quantity of work he did he thought much more was due him. Witness said that when the matter was raised in the House in July or August, he made enquiries and found there was no minute of Council governing the payment.

MR. WINTER—Could you be more precise about the advice you gave; if the Prime Minister wanted to see you every day or twice a day; was it to give figures about destitute people or to consult you as to what they ought to do?

A.—Sometimes to consult as to what ought to be done and confer as to the conditions as they were developing from day to day.

Q.—Were you given any power in connection with this work; were you given power to do anything yourself?

A.—No, the only power in the way of relief that was given, was the power given to the Sergeant when he distributed the $15,000.00. I would like to say that the police have always been compensated for any works done in connection with relief; there is a regular scale laid down for Privates and Sergeants.

Witness said the police have always been compensated for work of this nature, and he took the position that the work done was entirely apart from his police work.

COMMISSIONER—Do I understand, that when you were being asked to do it you did not suggest that you would be requiring extra payment?

A.—No sir, the custom of the country would naturally suggest that to the authorities.

COMMISSIONER—I don't know the custom of the country with regard to the payments of money; I have got to find that out yet.

There was no cross-examination and adjournment was taken at 4.15 as the witnesses who were to have been called were through one reason or another not ready to proceed.

**THIS MORNING'S PROCEEDINGS.**

**A. N. D. Co. Purchased Pulpwood at $15.50 Per Cord.**

When the Commission opened this morning Mr. Winter said that the Inspector General wished to add something additional to his evidence of yesterday. Accordingly he was called and submitted a document re rates of pay, allowances and gratuities issued by Inspector General McCowan in 1905. It did not include a daily allowance for the Inspector General, but in a previous communication from McCowan to Sir Edward Morris the sum of $8 per day was specified as the remuneration. The payment was to be made on certificate issued by the Minister of Justice. A memo of Minute of Council, dated Jan. 14th, in reference to the matter was put in evidence. Witness said that to his knowledge payments to the police by other departments have taken place frequently without reference to the Department of Justice and apparently the Minute of Council had not been acted upon since 1905. The witness then explained the custom of dividing a portion of the proceeds of fines and forfeitures amongst the members of the police and Customs.

The Commissioner in reference to the Minute of Council said it did not provide for payment of sums out of the Pit Prop Account.

Mr. Gerald G. Byrne, called and examined by Mr. Hunt, said he was employed by the Department of Agriculture and Mines as Government agent at Badger and Twin Lakes in 1922-23. His appointment was in writing. The operations were on the McGuitsh block and Moore was superintendent for the Government. Mr. Byrne's job was to look after transport and see that no more supplies were ordered than was necessary. He took up his duties in Sept. 15th, 1922. Witness sent in several orders to the Department at the request of Moore without reduction as he thought the goods were necessary. Goods were received at Badger which were not ordered by witness. One item in particular he remembered was sausages. Another was harness. It was pointed out by Mr. Hunt that $41,000 was the cost of the goods for the operations and witness explained that the bulk of the goods had been ordered before operations began. When witness went on the job the store was full of goods and he took stock. Asked if he had such account in his possession now, witness said he had not. Letters to the Minister and also the special report of the witness of Oct. 4th were read by the Commissioner. Asked if he had received the bills of the goods as requested in his report, witness said no. Further questioned he said he kept no list of the goods sent up from Badger to the scene of the lumbering operations. Goods were despatched on requisition from each superintendent, through which method he was able to keep check on his supplies. The men in the woods were paid $30 a month and found. Witness explained that the raw goods supplied by the Government included blankets and tobacco. The amount of the former sent out was 3,239. These were sold by the superintendent and the value returned to the Department. Witness had nothing to do with the sale and knew nothing of the returns made.

**HORSES SENT TO LOGGING CAMPS SHOT.**

Witness questioned about the 54 horses used at the camp said he considered that number excessive for the four camps and the transport work. His opinion was that they could have got along with about 40 if they were better than those they had. Quite a number that were sent out were unfit and witness said he had to shoot eight himself, and throughout the operations about 20 had to be killed. Two of the horses were unfit to harness when they arrived by train and had to be shot within a week or so. At the close of operations Moore sold some of the 31 horses left. Twenty-four of them fetched $1,240, Goodyear Bros. buying four of the animals. Documents were put in showing that the horses on the average cost the Department $200 each. Questioned about the harness and equipment for these horses, which cost $21,922, witness said that it was in a bad shape at the close and only 11 good sets of harness were available. These he sold at about $10 or $11 per set. With the exception of 30 pairs of blankets and some carts and seven horses returned to St. John's the whole camping outfit was sold at $5,900. Witness said he was told by Moore that they were to get bonuses which he understood would be about $250. Witness did not receive the bonus.

Cross-examined by Mr. Howley, witness said before he went to Badger, he was engaged by the Department in rounding up supplies which were to be forwarded. Witness had experience of quartermaster work during the war. The conditions at Badger he said made it very hard on the horses and equipment.

MR. JOSEPH DAWE, Bay Roberts, general lumber dealer was called and examined by Mr. Winter. The firm of W. Dawe & Sons, Ltd., which he is a member had two plants, and were equipped for all classes of work. They were in the pit-prop and pulp wood in 1920-21 and had a contract with the Government. They had sold some logs for pulp to the A. N.D. Co. previous to this contract with the Government. Witness said the quantity sold the A.N.D. Co. was between 4,000 and 5,000 cords. and they were paid $15.50 per cord rough F.O.B. White Bay. Witness in answer to question, re the cutting of wood on Crown Lands, said he operated under a Saw Mills Act which did not permit of the wood cut on these lands being sold to Companies such as the A.N.D. Co. Witness asked how his firm came to make this sale to the A.N.D. Co., said he had received special permission from the Crown Lands Department.

Q.—Did you try to sell any more wood that year?

A.—I had negotiations with the same company. I was offered $16 per cord. No quantity was specified.

Q.—That contract fell through?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Why?

A.—I could not get another permit.

Q.—Did you apply for one?

A.—To Sir W. F. Coaker then acting Prime Minister.

Q.—Did you apply to the Minister?

A.—I don't remember.

Q.—Was any reason given for the refusal to permit you to cut?

A.—I have a letter in that connection at home. I did not get the permit.

Q.—When did you make this pulpwood contract with the Government?

A.—In November, 1920.

Q.—Did the A.N.D. Company buy from anyone else at that time?

A.—I think they bought quite a lot.

Q.—From whom?

A.—From Saunders, Howell, Mr. Collishaw and others.

Q.—How did you come to make your contract with the Government?

A.—We could not get supplies that year for White Bay. We put a proposition to the Government in the fall and the result was that they awarded us a contract at $6.00 per cord.

Q.—Were you the first to apply to the Government like that?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Did you make the requisite effort to sell the wood?

A.—Yes, I went to Montreal and New York solely for this purpose. I had it sold before I went, through Stewart Munn & Co of Montreal. Mr. Fred Hue acted for me. He was there then as an agent for the Department of Marine and Fisheries. I arrived there on Xmas Eve, and the negotiations fell through, as the slump had just begun in the pulpwood market. I can produce the documents in this connection. If the people I was hoping to sell to had not been frightened by the approaching slump which caused them to back out, I would have got $17 per cord.

Q.—Were you in negotiation with other people after?

A.—Yes, we sold a lot of stuff in England.

Q.—When did the market start to improve after the slump?

A.—In 1922.

COMMISSIONER—What was the lowest the market went?

A.—$12 a cord f. o. b. here.

Q.—What was the highest since?

A.—About $15.

MR. WINTER—What could it cost you to put the wood on the bank?

A.—About $2.00 a cord.

Q.—Were there purchasers when the market grew stronger?

A.—Yes.

Q.—The Government should have made a pretty good bargain then?

A.—Yes, if they had properly handled it.

Q.—Did the buyers in America know the Government would buy the wood if you could not sell it?

A.—It appeared in the Boston papers.

Q.—So the Americans being good business men. . .

COMMISSIONER—And knowing the custom of the country—decided to wait.

MR. WINTER—Can you explain why you were not permitted to sell under the second contract?

A.—It looked like good business management on the part of the Government.

Witness was questioned at some length on the reasons for the alterations in the form of the second contract, whereby the contractors would sell to the Government. Witness said he could not understand why the Government offered a lower price. He was compelled to enter into a contract with the Government, although he knew it was a bad bargain, because he could not obtain supplies otherwise.

Q.—Could you have got a better price than the Government?

A.—Yes, I think so.

COMMISSIONER — The position seems to be that the Government did well with the bringing but it was in the selling that they failed .

MR. WINTER—These contracts were entered into for relief?

A.—Yes.

Q.—But the whole burden seems to have fallen on you contractors?

A.—Yes.

Recess was taken until 3 u.m.

## Personal

Sir W. F. Coaker who has been indisposed during the past few days has sufficiently recovered to be about again.

## Here and There.

**CLEAN DOCKET.**—There was a clean docket in the Magistrate's Court this morning.

**Don't miss the Cartwright Mission Circle Entertainment in Canon Wood Hall, February 25th, doors open 7.30. Splendid programme of Songs, Monologues, Dancing and Sketch: "Contrasts" by St. Thomas's Dramatic Committee. See "your own great, great, grand-aunt." Teas served, Candy for sale. Admission: Adults, 40c.; Children, 20c.**—feb22,21



# Stock Market News

**INTERNATIONAL MILLING.**

TORONTO, Feb. 12.—A new stock appeared on the local board in International Milling Company first preferred, of which $2,000,000 was listed. This company was re-organized about a year ago, and quite a percentage of its stock held here, although both head office and control are located across the border. The company has been established for many years and has extensive Canadian plant and interest with mills at Moose Jaw and Calgary, and in the States at Sioux City and Port Iowa. Head office is at New Prague, Minn. The reformed company is capitalized at $565,500 six per cent bonds, $2,5[illegible]000 seven per cent first preferred stock and 50,000 no par common shares.

**LEAD-ZINC MARKETS STRONG.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—The steady advance in the lead market has not yet been checked, and under urgent demand against restricted supplies a new high mark for this movement has been set at 8.85 cents a pound. It is said that new buyers are even paying premiums to get their supplies. A similar strong condition exists in Europe, where Spanish and German production has dwindled and Mexican movements have now been interrupted.

The zinc market is displaying greater strength, with quotations up to 6.95 cents a pound for New York spot delivery. While no very great advance may logically be expected, at the same time, no drastic decline is indicated.

**CLYDE AND SISSIBOO PULP.**

It is rumored that several Canadian interests are considering the Clyde and Sissiboo Pulp Mills, Nova Scotia, with a view to acquiring control of these properties. Edward Lloyd Limited, paper makers of London, now own a large controlling interest in this company and it is interesting to learn in connection with this report that Einar Wahlstrom, the general manager of "Lloyds Norwegian Pulp and Paper Mills, is now in Montreal."

**KEELEY MINE PROSPECTS.**

TORONTO, Feb. 12.—Keeley's declaration of its regular eight per cent. bonus, indicates that the management is pursuing a very conservative course and also that it intends to bonus half yearly instead of once a year, else it is probable that an eight per cent bonus would have been declared. The mine's position is such that it could comfortably return 24 per cent a year, and this is what is likely to occur, through semi-annual bonuses of four per cent.