

By consent I got the original press proofs wet from the original paper's galleys, while duplicates were being taken by the editor down to that business manager for approval or rejection. Having acquired from the accountant and others much knowledge of Mackenzie & Mann's methods, they led me to expect that, for the bribe received, he would be likely to serve Mackenzie & Mann's purpose in suppressing information from the public—as he did, by ordering the editor to destroy the type and not publish it.

The exact date in the year 1914, together with the names of the above and other witnesses can be supplied in due course.

I can never forget the earnest manner of that worthy editor (who was heartily anxious to thus do his duty by the public) when he took the proofs down, and how utterly annoyed he and the staff were when they learned that their hopes for publicity were thus thwarted.

Now that the material witness has returned from fighting on the Western Front, and these facts can now be substantiated, I feel it my duty, at whatever cost, to publish these facts with others which the Canadian public should know—and especially their arbitrators now called upon to finally settle the amount of cash (if any) which Mackenzie & Mann are to receive from the Canadian treasury, for their "stock" in the Canadian Northern and Canadian Northern Pacific Railways and their subsidiary companies.

Beyond the three "Excerpts" reprinted below, there were four other paragraphs in the first paper's "Foreword" which during 1914 was set up in type, but as they might be considered inadvisable, appearing too strongly worded, I refrain from sending copies—unless required by government authority,—because my only desire is to protect the interests of Canadian citizens by helping the Arbitrators now appointed to test such apparent facts from this important (British Columbia) end of Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann's shares and interests acquired in the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway and its subsidiary concerns,—before awarding Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann the final payment the Dominion Parliament and Government have empowered able Arbitrators to decide in equity.

I respectfully submit that the people of British Columbia generally feel, and seek to impress upon their Provincial Government and Dominion authorities, that a right adjustment of their just claims against Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann for alleged fraudulent manipulation of B. C. Bond moneys through the Northern Construction Company and other subsidiaries, should be rectified through the award of the Arbitrators now beginning to consider the complex problems relegated to their decision.

As Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann's Account Books, etc., were removed from British Columbia to Toronto (out of the jurisdiction of B. C. Authorities) may I suggest that the essential facts could be quickly ascertained by telegraphing the Government of British Columbia to send East their Railway Engineer and accountant to verify and submit the most important facts to the Arbitrators and establish the needed evidence, while witnesses are available.

(Signed) M. B. COTSWORTH.

New Westminster, B. C., 25th January, 1918.