

The Enquiry Conducted by T. Hollis Walker, K.C.

(Continued from page 5.)

A.—I am not aware that I did. I have no recollection of any conversation with her in connection with the matter.

COMMISSIONER.—You may have had these things in your mind, but you did not tell her. Did you ever accuse her of any improper conduct with Mr. Cramm at the office?

A.—I have no recollection of doing so. I certainly did not accuse her of improper conduct with Mr. Cramm in the office.

Q.—You never accused her of causing trouble with Mr. Cramm in the office?

A.—No.

Q.—You told her nothing as to the reasons?

A.—Nothing whatever.

Q.—And she was still on good relations with yourself, and you still considered her as ever devoted to your political party, and as far as you could see faithful to your office interests?

A.—I think her interest in the political matters continued without abatement after the cancellation of her power of attorney.

Q.—That is the period I am dealing with the period, after July, 1922?

A.—Yes.

Q.—I wish you would help me by telling me what you think was behind this. Was this a wicked conspiracy between your clerk—against whom you had made no accusation—between her and Mr. Meaney to clip these I.O.U.s on to you. Is there any alternative to that suggestion?

A.—I can give you no explanation whatever.

Q.—Did she ever tell you she had retained a sum for expenses?

A.—I have no recollection of her making any such statement.

Q.—Did she tell you she had made visits to Bell Island in connection with the obtaining of money for your business?

A.—I know as a matter of fact that she did make visits to Bell Island.

Q.—Did you expect her to ask for remuneration at your hands?

A.—I was expecting her to make up a memorandum of her expenses, but no memorandum has ever been tendered me.

Q.—Did she ever tell you she had deducted a certain sum for expenses?

A.—I have no recollection of that.

Q.—She would be entitled to collect expenses from you or your office for transportation—going to Bell Island to discuss financial matters with her brother?

A.—Yes, any reasonable sum.

Q.—For expenses incurred on your account?

A.—Yes, for which she would render an account in the ordinary run.

Q.—Now with regard to the latter part of your evidence you told us when you became aware of the accusations against you, and that you became aware that you were implicated in this first paragraph of the Commission.

A.—The implication of the first and second were conjoint. It was not the first only and the second separate.

Q.—I am dealing with the first. I only asked you about the first, and you said you knew you were implicated in the first. If you wish to modify it you may. I understood you to say that when the terms of the Commission were published in December, you were fully alive to the fact that you were implicated in the first paragraph?

A.—That is true.

Q.—Sir Richard, were you here when the first day of the hearing took place?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Then if that is so, I don't quite follow this: "I have now for the first time information that my client, Sir Richard Squires, is interested in any way under this particular head of the Commission." Did you at any time tell him and ask him to see the Attorney General and get particulars of the charges and I.O.U.'s? You did not have them yourself—you were not keeping them in your mind. When you knew that this Enquiry was coming, and when you put the matter in the hands of your legal adviser, did you tell him in time to prepare for this?

A.—Mr. Howley was counsel for me at the time I described—the time of my resignation.

Q.—But at the time of your resignation you knew that this was alleged against you, that these cheques and I.O.U.'s were given by an employee of yours on your behalf to Mr. Meaney. It was suggested that you were a party to it. You knew the greatness of the conversation, why then did you not speak of it?

A.—It is true the matter was brought to my knowledge.

Q.—Mr. Howley did not know that unless you told him that. He had not seen the Attorney General.

A.—He had had an interview with the Attorney General. I think.

Q.—We are getting more involved, if I am invited by you to believe that Mr. Howley misled me. If you had not told him, it would have a bearing on the amount of credit I ought to give your evidence on this story. If I understood that you had not instructed

your own advocate how to deal with the matter then it would have a bearing on the amount of credit I could give your testimony.

A.—That is a matter on which Mr. Howley could give you information. I don't think I ought to be asked to deny a statement made by my own advocate.

Q.—I think you should be asked whether you instructed your advocate at a certain time or not, whether before this Enquiry opened you had given him instructions as to how you were implicated under this particular head of the Commission. This is all I have to ask you.

MISS SAUNDERS is to be called. Is she here?

MR. HOWLEY—I think, sir, I would be able to satisfactorily explain my position in the matter.

COMMISSIONER—I am not at present, Mr. Howley, disposed to deal with the matter, and I see no reason to re-tract the statement you made on the first day this Enquiry was held. If you wish to modify it you may, do so; there is a probability it was not properly reported; if so, I shall willingly hear you. If it is only to repeat it, then you need not trouble.

MISS SAUNDERS—Sworn by the Commissioner.

MISS SAUNDERS takes the Witness Box.

COMMISSIONER—What is your name—your Christian name, Miss Saunders?

WITNESS—Louise.

Q.—Miss Saunders, I think for some years past you were acting as private secretary to Sir Richard Squires?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Were you private secretary to Sir Richard Squires in the summer of 1920?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Do you remember Sir Richard's departure for England in that year?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Did Sir Richard, prior to his departure, give you any instructions with regard to any financial matters?

A.—No.

Q.—Did Sir Richard give you or leave with you any documents of a financial nature?

A.—Some blank notes.

COMMISSIONER—Notes to which he had affixed his signature, leaving the amounts blank?

A.—Yes.

MR. HOWLEY—Do you remember how many such notes he gave you?

A.—Yes I remember, there were four or five.

Q.—How was his signature affixed—as master or endorser?

A.—As I remember, there were two or three probably as maker and the others as endorser.

Q.—Do you remember what forms they were on?

A.—As I remember, it was the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Q.—When he gave you these notes did he give you any instructions as to how you were to dispose of them?

A.—He told me to give them to Miss Miller if she wanted them.

Q.—What did you do with the notes?

A.—I put them in the safe.

Q.—Did you ever give any of the notes to Miss Miller?

A.—I think there was one—I am not sure. I remember taking out one, and it must have been to give to Miss Miller.

COMMISSIONER—I can't quite hear what you are saying. Will you kindly speak a little louder.

MR. HOWLEY—Did you give any of these notes to anybody else, or did you use any of these notes yourself?

A.—No.

MISS LOUISE SAUNDERS examined by Mr. Howley (continued).

MR. HOWLEY—Are they still in existence?

WITNESS—I tore them up.

Q.—When?

A.—When Sir Richard Squires came back.

Q.—Was it after Sir Richard came back that you tore them up?

A.—Yes.

COMMISSIONER—Had you got the first one back?

A.—No.

Q.—What became of the one that went out or it returned to you?

A.—No.

MR. HOWLEY—How did you come to give that note to Miss Miller?

A.—I do not remember.

Q.—Do you remember when Sir Richard Squires was in Montreal from December 1921 to January 1922?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Did anything occur between Miss Miller and yourself at that period with reference to communicating with Sir Richard Squires?

A.—I think she brought in some messages to be sent him.

COMMISSIONER—She brought them to you in the office?

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Q.—Did Sir Richard, prior to his departure, give you any instructions with regard to any financial matters?

A.—No.

Q.—Did Sir Richard give you or leave with you any documents of a financial nature?

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