

It would take pages to reproduce here what was stated before the Meredith-Duff Commission. The one point brought out however was that for this order of 1,666,666 time fuses at \$4.00, an exorbitant price had been given.

Mr. Cadwell who was the real manufacturer, (the other gentlemen, Messrs. Yoakum, Bassick et al being nothing more than straight middlemen,) swore on the witness stand that the Companies with which he was associated, were at the time this contract was awarded them, manufacturing for the Allied Governments over 13,000,000 fuses. Mr. Cadwell admitted that he could have taken this order for fuses for \$2.32 apiece (or exactly \$1.68 less than was given) and out of this price namely \$2.32 have given \$500,000 commission and made money.

Mr. Cadwell admitted that when the new Imperial Munitions Board had succeeded the old Shell Committee they reduced the price of these fuses from \$4.00 to \$2.70 a fuse and that he still was making sufficient money to continue payment of this enormous million dollar commission.

Mr. Cadwell stated that had these fuses been put up for tender that instead of tendering at \$4.00 apiece he would have tendered at some figure between \$2.40 and \$2.75.

The summing up of the whole situation means that no tenders were asked, the Canadian manufacturers ignored, the Shell Committee arbitrarily set the price at \$4.00, and these American manufacturers who would have been willing to tender from \$2.40 to \$2.75 were asked to take the work at \$4.00.

If there is one deal which the Borden Government should be ashamed of, if there is a matter in which they have been connected during their term of office which is unsavoury, it seems to be this order for fuses given at the request of Sir Sam Hughes, to J. Wesley Allison and his friends.

### **CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS SIDE-TRACKED**

Abundant evidence was produced to show that Canadian manufacturers who were in a position to manufacture these fuses on a very large scale, were ignored.

The Northern Electric Company, Montreal, Mr. Lloyd Harris, Toronto, the General Electric Company, of Peterborough, were all willing to undertake the manufacture of fuses, were side-tracked in every possible way until this order had been given to Allison and his friends, and then apologies were given for overlooking them.

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