

(10) On and after the 1st April, that is, from a period anterior to all the difficulties narrated Mr. Rykert (who had had, as shown by the early correspondence, from the beginning accepted the relation of a person who was to receive compensation for his services) became, by means of the agreement made by Adams with Mr. Rykert's wife, through Mr. Rykert himself, which was witnessed by, and delivered to Mr. Rykert, and which was expressed to be in consideration of his services therefor voluntarily given in the matter, substantially interested in one half of the net profits of the expected grant; and all that was thereafter done by Mr. Rykert was done under the influence of that interest.

(11) Mr. Rykert did not divulge, but, on the contrary, concealed the existence of his personal interest, and assumed to be acting still only as the solicitor of Adams. The motive for putting the transaction in the form adopted, and for concealing the true relation of Mr. Rykert to the matter, we infer to have been two-fold: First, to avoid any possible impairment of the strength of his representations to the executive; and secondly, to avoid any damage to his standing as a member of parliament and a public man; and the existence of this second motive seems confirmed by the statement subsequently made by Mr. Rykert in his place in parliament, to which we must later on refer.

(12) We think it right to state the opinion *we have formed* that Mr. Lindsay Russell, the Deputy Minister of Interior, *was*, at the time of these events, in consequence of his impaired mental vigor, incapable of fully apprehending the proceedings, and subject to the influence and initiative of others; and is not obnoxious to the charges of conscious wrong-doing and neglect to which he would under other circumstances be liable.

(13) The payment of \$5,000 to Muckle was in our opinion, as shown by the correspondence in evidence, substantially a bribe to induce him to betray the interests of his employers, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

(14) We find that in fact no corrupt advances were made by Mr. Rykert to any minister, either directly, or through any relatives, or otherwise; and that his letters are in

this particular untrue; and we find that the relations of ministers mentioned were not offered, did not ask for, and did not receive any money in respect of this matter.

THE VICTIM OF A COMPROMISE.

I have italicized certain portions of your first report, and I shall also italicize those portions of your second report which were substituted for those struck out of the first report, which you at the instance of the Minister of Justice struck out of your second report, so that the government or its policy might not be censured, for the purpose of showing that I was right in the statement I made, that I was made the victim of a compromise and a scape-goat so that the government might escape the censure of the committee. The Minister of Justice, on behalf of himself and his colleagues on his bended knees begged for mercy at your hands and surrendered his mature judgment and verdict and permitted, as his report shows, an innocent man to be sacrificed in order that his government might go free, and that too at a time when he and his colleagues should have stood by and defended a policy which the Mackenzie government had initiated and which remained upon the statute books.

MR. BLAKE'S SECOND REPORT.

Your second or compromise report declared that:

(1) The *decision* of the department as stated to Mr. McCarthy in January, was not to issue timber licenses in the locality and to apply in case that *decision* should be changed, the principle of competition under the regulations.

(2) Shortly after, *it was decided* at Mr. Rykert's instance to recommend the issue of a license to his client, Adams, *and this was communicated by Mr. Macpherson to Mr. Rykert.*

(3) A little later, when it was found that there was a conflict involving under the regulations a competition, the department promoted an arrangement for an adjustment of the boundaries so as to do away with that competition *for the reasons appearing in the report of the Deputy Minister of the Interior, of August 31st, 1882.*

(4) The area of selection granted to Adams was, as shown by the written and oral testimony, including that of