

Public Accounts Committee.

clients all that he could and thought that they should get more, but I had made up my mind as to what was a fair valuation.

Q. You had a good deal of experience in valuing throughout the country?—
A. Yes, sir.

Q. While I was representing the riding and while there was a Conservative Government in power you had a good deal of experience in valuing property up there?—
A. I valued all the property on the Trent Canal between Balsam Lake and Simcoe.

Q. Did I ever try to influence you in any way in making your valuations?

Mr. COWAN.—Do not answer that, witness, please.

By Mr. Gibson :

Q. When you made your estimate to the government as to the amount of money you considered you could settle these claims for, what sum did you name to the government?—A. \$2,000.

Q. And the Government sent you up to settle those claims?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you settled all these claims?—A. All of them but one. There was one of \$100 unsettled.

Q. And the settlement was made upon what basis?—A. Upon the basis of my recommendation.

Q. What was the amount actually paid?—A. The amount actually recommended up to the present time was \$1,895, leaving one claim of \$100 unsettled.

Q. So that, if the whole of the claims had been settled on that basis, you would have been within your first award how much?—A. \$5.

Q. Then that must be conclusive proof that Mr. McLaughlin did not in any way materially affect your judgment?—A. No, sir; he did not.

Q. There was a survey which, I presume, is attached to your order?—A. That is of the lots.

Q. Exactly, you went up with instructions from the government to settle the matter and you settled it for \$1,895, with one claim of \$100 yet to settle?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Cowan :

Q. Do you remember William Jordan's claim?—A. Yes.

Q. What value did you put upon that?—A. \$100.

Q. Would he accept that?—A. No, sir.

Q. On page 4623 of *Hansard* of June 7th, which I have in my hand, Mr. Hughes said: "I know some of the farmers were entitled to more than they got and some of them did not even get anything. Mr. William Jordan, a good staunch Conservative, did not get anything, though he claims damages for \$700. But he refused to enter into the 20 per cent commission deal. I presume that has something to do with his not having received that sum." Is that correct; had it anything to do with the amount that was awarded by you?—A. Mr. Jordan never said anything to me about a 20 per cent commission. But he claimed to have had a good brickyard and wanted to be allowed for that.

Q. The fact of him having anything to do whatever with McLaughlin didn't affect your judgment in making your valuation.

Q. I just want to ask you one or two questions. Do you remember William Jordan's claim?—A. Yes.

Q. What value did you put on it?—A. \$100.

Q. Would he accept that?—A. No, sir.

Q. I read from page 4623 of *Hansard*, June 7th, in which Mr. Hughes says: "I know some of the farmers were entitled to more than they got, and some of them did not even get anything. Mr. William Jordan, a good staunch Conservative, did not