

DR. HARRIS DENIES UNDUE INFLUENCE

He Knew Allison, But Never
Discussed Fuse Contracts
With Him.

CONSTANTLY ON GUARD

Staff of Secret Service Men
Kept in Company's
Plant.

(Continued From Page 1.)

Right up till the time the Canadian Explosives Company in April absolutely refused to entertain any suggestion as to taking a contract for loading the fuses.

Pressure of Options.

Witness was questioned at some length concerning the exploding of the fuses, which he suggested yesterday might have been the "pressure" brought to bear on the shell committee. Most of the options, he said, expired about the middle of May. While they were able to keep the most important of these, a \$4,000,000 option on aluminum, they lost two others of importance, and their array of sub-contractors was also somewhat disorganized. So far as raw materials were concerned, he stated they were in a poorer condition to manufacture on June 19, when they got the order, than on April 26, Patterson, he said, had made up his mind to cease negotiations when the order was received.

Harris and Allison.

Mr. Johnston, on cross-examination, sought to establish the relationship between Dr. Harris and Col. J. Wesley Allison. Witness said he knew Allison as usually as the result of a 14-year-old bond deal. A business man came to him in New York, saying he knew where \$500,000 of fuses were bought, and wanted to know if Dr. Harris knew where they could be resold. The witness said he took the business man to Col. Allison, who was in the Manhattan Hotel, but nothing came of the meeting. He only met Allison once since that and that was in a restaurant where they passed the time of day.

Dr. Harris in turn denied having done or having any dealings in regard to fuse dealings with Yorkum, Bassick, Craven or a "musical gentleman" named Lignanti.

At the afternoon sitting of the royal commission, Dr. Harris was examined by Mr. Helmhuth.

Dr. Harris explained that before he left the fuse manufacturing business he had been interested in a concern manufacturing equipment for the United States postoffice. Also he was the president of the Manufacturing and Contracting Company, a direct subsidiary in the Standard Primer and Fuse Company of Toronto.

Original Proposal.

He first sought information concerning the manufacture of fuses at the request of W. H. Banfield & Sons, who, the Canadian representatives of his American interests, A. Gen. MacDonald informed him, that the shell committee was the only medium through which to solicit fuse business. He told of his first interview with the committee, the proposal he laid before his business partner, Patterson, and the offer made by him with March, 1915, to manufacture 1,000,000 fuses at \$3.50 or 2,000,000 at \$4.90.

All the discussion up to this point, he said, had centered on the manufacture of fuses in Canada. This was because of Gen. Banfield's expressed desire at the first meeting, which was corroborated Mr. Patterson in his story of his efforts to secure loading facilities and the refusal of the committee to undertake the manufacture of component parts, Patterson and himself, witness said, endeavored also to secure experts in Canada, but failed. On April 24, they again met the shell committee and laid out the difficulties in the way of Canadian manufacturers before them.

The shell committee, he said, was very anxious to have the goods manufactured in Canada. It was at this time that Col. Carnegie went to New York and looked over the plant of the York and Albany Co. At the next meeting, May 7, the shell committee appeared to be pretty well convinced that manufacture of fuses could not be immediately started in Canada. Dr. Harris said he himself had not yet entirely given up hope. Eventually he was convinced by Patterson, who had more technical knowledge, he told him that 5,000,000 fuses could not be manufactured in Canada in ten years under the present facilities offered.

Witness remembered that it was on March 27, in Montreal, that his conversation verbally agreed that for a large order they would make the fuses at \$4.50. The shell committee said this time had not accepted any offer.

Heard of Lower Bid.

Mr. Helmhuth questioned witness concerning the raw materials and machinery options which subsequently caused Patterson to press the shell committee for action. Witness said they were for action, and produced one dated April 24, which expired the first week in May.

Dr. Harris in reply to Mr. Helmhuth's questions said he heard nothing of contractors for the 5,000,000 fuses order until the middle of May, when he heard they had been underbid in the \$4.50 order.

On May 21, Mr. Patterson came to Ottawa and inform the commission that if they could not get anything definite immediately, Patterson, he said, was very anxious to get into the business could get no satisfaction. It was as a result of this meeting that the shell committee wrote them on May 25, offering them a contract at a minimum price of \$4.25.

Mr. Helmhuth: Did you give the committee any hope that the price of \$4.25 was acceptable to you?

Witness: I don't believe it was. I told them I would take the advice of the committee, as far as possible and also to manufacture in Canada.

Mr. Justice Duff asked the witness

if he had, at the meeting of May 24, made the shell committee aware that Mr. Patterson had practically given up hope of getting fuse business. Witness said he did. He told the members that they were a little disgusted with the business methods of the committee. As a matter of fact, witness said they did lose one or two important options.

Witness followed the ground of previous witnesses, telling of the shell committee's efforts to get reduction in their price, and their refusal on the advice of Gen. Birnie. Witness agreed that on June 16, 17, 18 and 19, he was in Ottawa, and negotiations were going on continually. He had not expected a conclusion of the order and really had not thought it necessary to bring a lawyer. Witness said he was aware that competitors were in the field then. On the train from New York, on June 15, he rode with Cadwell, Yorkum and Bessick.

Expected Time Extension.

Mr. Helmhuth: Did you exchange any confidences?

Witness: "No, sir, I didn't talk much with them."

Mr. Helmhuth: When you got the order what did you do with regard to starting the work?

Dr. Harris: We closed our options, worked night and day, and are working yet.

Mr. Helmhuth: Had anybody laid before you the foolishness of trying to make deliveries in the short time of six months?

Dr. Harris: Yes, Gen. Birnie told us we couldn't do ten months' work in four, but I thought we might get through it.

Sir William Meredith: Had you any hope that you could get an extension?

Witness: Yes, sir, it was so intimated to us, and Gen. Pearson said that he didn't see how we could deliver in five months, but if we made a good showing we would get an extension.

Mr. Justice Duff asked witness how many options they lost by the delay in securing the contract. Witness said many of the options were verbal. They were able to keep the most important option alive by renewals. But other very important ones were taken up on them about the middle of May. These were the options on the manufacture of component parts.

Witness said both these lost options were a decided injury to their facilities.

Mr. Helmhuth: How much of your own time did you devote to this business after you got the contract?

Witness: Nine-tenths—I might say all my time, night and day.

Mr. Helmhuth: I don't suppose you saw much about the technical part of the manufacture of fuses?

Witness: No, sir. I made an effort to learn once and I was ill for two days. (Laughter.)

No Middleman.

Mr. Helmhuth: What inducement did you use or was used by your partners to obtain this contract?

Dr. Harris: None whatever.

Mr. Helmhuth: Who, if anybody, approached you or your associates for any reward, commission or amount for obtaining the contract?

Dr. Harris: Nobody.

Mr. Helmhuth: Was there any suggestion that anybody else could help you?

Dr. Harris: None whatever.

Mr. Atwater, counsel for the International concern, brought out that the American concern made it its policy to furnish any Canadian concern desiring it with full information concerning the fuse business. They even got out 500 fuse manuals, which they sent upon request.

Gave Out Information.

Witness asked counsel for British Munitions Company, Montreal, asking details of practically all the International's business.

"We told them all our business," Dr. Harris said.

Communications asking similar favors came from the Williams Manufacturing Co., and the Canadian General Electric Co., and the latter firm was allowed to see two men all over the International plant.

E. F. B. Johnston took up the witness and said he was going to take up a question carefully avoided by Mr. Helmhuth.

Mr. Johnston: Did you ever, in the course of your negotiations in this matter, run across a gentleman by the name of Allison?

Dr. Harris: I did.

Witness said he met Allison first 14 or 15 years ago over a bond sale, so he knew him casually.

Mythical Rifle Deal.

George Arents, Jr., came to him and said he knew where there were 300,000 rifles to be purchased.

Mr. Arents said he would take him to Allison in the Manhattan Hotel, and see if he could buy them. Witness explained that the newspapers had reported Allison as a large contractor. They saw Allison, who laughingly told them about 5000 people owned those rifles. They were worth 50 cents apiece and he advised them not to put any money into them.

Witness absolutely denied that anything was said about fuse contracts. Only once after, Dr. Harris said, he met Allison, and that was in a restaurant, and he just passed the time of day. He heard later of Col. Allison investigating his financial standing and said he became suspicious.

He Grew Suspicious.

Mr. Johnston: Of what?

Dr. Harris: It was not a suspicion of him trying to harm me. It was just a business suspicion. I just thought something was on. (Laughter.) I thought possibly some proposition was going to be laid before me and I was told to be careful.

Dr. Harris said he found out where the enquiries emanated from through gentlemen whose business it is to find out such things.

Witness in turn denied talking fuse business or meeting men named Yorkum, Craven, Bassick and a musical gentleman, who, whether he or not was a count, was named Lignanti.

Found Order Was Split.

Up till May he agreed, he thought, there was a possibility of getting the contract for 5,000,000 fuses, although he knew he had competitors. He did not until some time later he learned that 8,000,000 of the order had been let. He said he did not know who had got the business and was not greatly concerned about it.

Mr. Johnston: You could have filled the whole order?

Dr. Harris: Yes.

Mr. Justice Duff: With regard to experts, were you much better equipped to fill the order on June 19 than in May April?

Witness: Yes, we had by that time secured more technical advice.

Mr. Justice Duff: But with regard to options on material, were you better equipped on April 26 or on June 19?

Witness: We were better equipped April 26. We lost several options subsequently.

Mr. Johnston wanted further information concerning these options.

Witness: Lost \$100,000 in Options.

Dr. Harris said a large one for \$100,000 for aluminum they were for-

unately able to hold. The total value of those lost by delay of the shell committee might reach \$100,000.

The manufacturing and contracting company and his other Toronto concern, the Standard Primer and Fuse Company, he judged would have combined assets of \$300,000.

Mr. Carvell took the witness and wanted to know whether he received contracts for primers after April 19, 1915.

Mr. Helmhuth objected to Mr. Carvell's question. He said he had been refused permission to take up another contract, and the question was not pressed.

Mr. Atwater brought out in evidence that among the lost options was one with the Dupont Company to do the loading.

Witness agreed that this loss necessitated the erection and equipment of a loading plant of their own.

Mr. Nesbitt took the witness and asked: Do you know whether the market was rising about the middle of May?

Witness: It was, and in a very feverish condition.

Concerning the reduction in price from \$4.50 to \$4.25 on April 26, Mr. Henderson wanted to write to the committee had anything to do with the reduction.

Witness agreed that it was an element in a number of reasons.

Papers Vanished.

At this point witness asked permission to explain to the commission why he had not produced one or two seemingly important documents dealing with the contract.

Witness said: "I said, 'that we lost a great many' of the letters and papers from our office—just how we do not know. When we looked for copies of certain letters we were surprised to find that a great many of them had been taken. We are in a very peculiar situation in the United States and we find it necessary to employ several protective agencies to work for us. Mr. Patterson told you that one necessity of the business is expert tool makers. I want to tell you that another necessity is the service of protective agencies and a secret service."

Secret Service Employees.

Witness went on to say that he had had to employ in his New York office as many as four and five men at a time who in the guise of clerks had no other duty but to keep their eyes open. One of the men recently called in the United States, he said, a time been in the employ of his concern. "One has to be very cautious," he said, "and if on occasions one has a reluctance on my part to mention names, it is on that account. I will be very glad to see you and hand them in to the commission."

Witness said on this account also munition workers in many ways tried to work together.

Mr. Atwater: Have you reason to suspect that your employees or your plant or your papers have been tampered with?

Dr. Harris: Absolutely.

To Mr. Wallace Nesbitt witness told of having received a four million fuse order from the British war office which they had to refuse. As it was outside the scope of the commission, this question was pursued no farther, and the commission adjourned until tomorrow morning.

At the morning sitting highly technical evidence was given by Major Hawkins, formerly in the United States arsenal at Frankfort, and now expert with the International Arms and Fuse Company.

Major Hawkins, who said that with Col. Rogers Burnay, also in the company's employ, and one of the best known ordnance experts in the world, he was one of the comparatively few officers in the United States acquainted with fuse making.

Major Hawkins said he had been ordered to the international plant as a highly equipped one, being one of the first in the world, for instance, to be equipped for complete control of its atmospheric conditions. The plant was now turning out 16,000 fuses a day, and at the end of the month would be producing the full amount of its delivery under its contract, 20,000. The fuses were standing up well to the tests.

Major Hawkins told of the difficulties encountered by his firm, such as in getting machinery, training its employees, getting powder from the Dupont Company, which had been blown up three times etc. It took eight or nine months to build up a fuse manufacturing plant with expert employees. It would take a year without such expert advice.

The International Company had originally had a nucleus of thirty-eight men with actual experience in fuse making, and now had 2000 employees, many of them being women, who were in fact better adapted for some parts of the work.

Plots Against Company.

Major Hawkins also gave evidence as to trouble with the inspectors sent down by the Canadian Inspection Bureau and by Woolwich Arsenal, for which the International firm was also manufacturing gauges. These inspectors were "preachers, lawyers and other people" and had to be trained.

Examined by Mr. A. W. Atwater, K.C., for the International Company, Major Hawkins said that "malicious persons" had tried to put the plant out of business; abusive substances had been mixed with the powder with which the fuses were loaded; hand grenades had been thrown into the plant and threats had been made against the company's officials. As a result the guard had been increased and secret service men in plain clothes scattered through the factories, an expensive measure. Major Hawkins said he knew no better fuse making plant in the world than that of the International firm, which would soon reach the maximum of its production.

He had furnished information as to fuse manufacture freely to the shell committee and to Canadian manufacturers, including the Northern Electric Company, which was doing the assembling for the Russell Motor Car Company.

PRESENTATION TO L. MULKERN.

A presentation of a handsome traveling bag was made yesterday by the staff of the division district and city freight offices, to L. Mulkern, district manager of the Northern Electric Company, which was doing the assembling for the Russell Motor Car Company.

MISS MARJORIE TAIT

During the past winter the patriotism of Miss Marjorie Tait of 69 Belfair Avenue, has taken a practical turn. She has grown to be one of the best-known entertainers at the recruiting meetings of the 26th Beaver Battalion and she has given her services entirely free.

In the early part of the Beaver campaign, Miss Tait, who is only aged ten, sang in eight theatres a day for two weeks in succession, appearing at times with her sister, Miss Gladys Tait. The Tait sisters are cousins of Mary Pickford who recently won the prize contest put on by The Toronto World for the most popular moving picture actress with the Ontario audience.

FIGHT TONIGHT

Under the auspices of the Sportsmen's Athletic Association, Pte. Ted Price of the 170th, and Bugler F. Russell of the 180th will be matched to fight four rounds to a decision at the Star Theatre. Charlie Christie of the 180th and Pte. Fraser of the 170th will also go four rounds. This will in no way interfere with the regular show of the proceeds of the receipts of the Sportsmen's night will go to the fund of the association.

By Purifying the Blood
You Get Rid of Pain

Here is the Sworn Statement of a Lady Who Was Cured
by Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

Poison causes pains and aches, tired, languid feelings and derangement of the vital organs of the body. By ridding the human system of poisonous impurities Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills cure rheumatism, headache, backache and pains through the body and limbs.

As an illustration, we would refer you to the sworn statement of Mrs. Bergland. It is just such experiences as this that have made so many thousands of people enthusiastic about Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. Try it, why they plan to be found in the great majority of homes.

Mrs. O. Bergland, Dunkirk, Sask., writes: "I can highly recommend Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to all who are suffering from weak kidneys. I am suffering from headache and backache, had heart flutterings and was unable to sleep as was broken and unrefreshed that it was with difficulty that I could get any rest. I had rheumatism and always had a heavy feeling in the region of my kidneys. I was nervous and often dizzy. Reading about Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills led me to use them, and with the first dose, 25 cents a box, all dealers, most highly satisfactory results, and I can recommend them to everyone who wants to be cured of kidney troubles."

Mr. W. E. Johnson, Commissioner to take oaths, writes: "This is to certify that I know Mrs. Bergland and believe her statement in regard to Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to be true and correct."

Put Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills to the test when suffering from kidney trouble, sluggish action of the liver, kidneys and bowels and you will soon appreciate their value. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box, all dealers, most highly satisfactory results, and I can recommend them to everyone who wants to be cured of kidney troubles."

Edmonton, Bates and Company, Limited, Toronto.

Toronto is With Us Heart and Soul!

Right heartily have many friends come forward already with big, generous subscriptions. One lady gave \$5,000. A manufacturer, who employs many women, volunteered \$1,000. Cheques for \$500 are being received.

Women in at least one large factory have opened up a subscription list among their friends and associates. It is hoped that the spirit of giving will become contagious all over the land. For be it remembered there is but one hospital in all Canada where a woman, too poor to pay, may receive treatment by a physician of her own sex.

Why in the world haven't such necessary hospitals been amply provided long ago? This is the kind of suffering the generous public never hear about. Even the poor victims themselves haven't the courage to make known their plight—much less to accept attention from physicians of other than their own sex.

Everybody Wants To Help The Women's College Hospital

The Women's College Hospital with only a dozen public ward beds has shown how vast and pressing the need really is. Only ten months ago the present hospital opened. To-day it is turning away patients.

The campaign has started off with a swing. Endorsements and encouragement are heard on every side. Toronto is with us heart and soul. We hope, too, that our difficult message has reached the hearts of the good folks in the towns and cities of Ontario—everywhere.

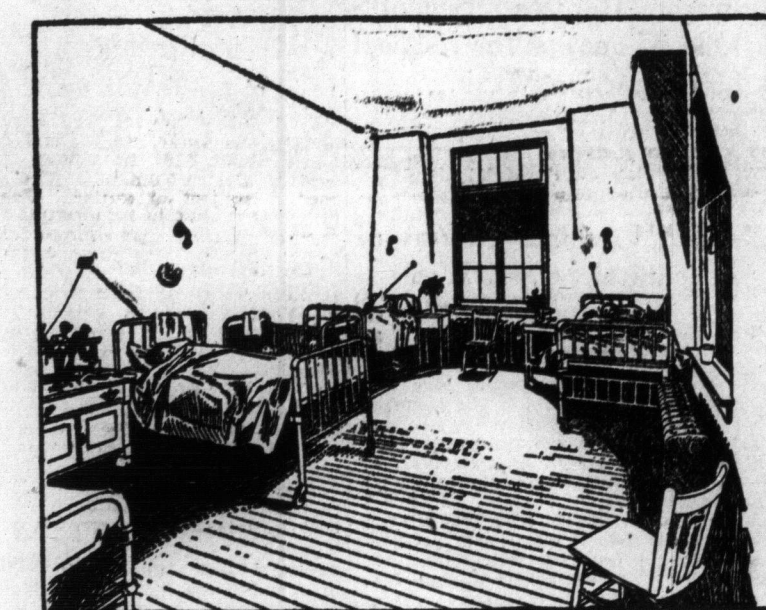
Everybody can help—everybody's help is needed. The new buildings must be begun at the earliest date possible. Let us all—EVERYBODY—join in and make this a rousing three-day whirlwind campaign of generosity. Let us make sure that not a dollar less than the \$120,000 needed will be subscribed. Oh, how those silent, suffering women will thank you—for some of them have waited for twenty years for this!

Please be generous. If part of your subscription may be paid down—the balance may be extended over a period of two years.

If our canvassers do not reach you in good time, send in your subscription by cheque, post-office order or registered letter to Mrs. F. G. Clarke, Campaign Treasurer, 11½ Queen Street East, Toronto. Make cheques and money orders payable to Mrs. F. G. Clarke. See coupon below.

Women's College Hospital and Dispensary

Campaign Headquarters: 11½ Queen St. East, Toronto; Telephone, Main 6490.



"Women's Work for Women's Need"

Campaign Committee—Lady Eaton (Convener); Mrs. A. M. Hewitts (Convener of Team Captains); Mrs. A. O. Rutherford (President of Hospital Board); Mrs. F. G. Clarke, Mrs. R. S. Wilson, Mrs. W. T. Harris, Mrs. F. H. Torrington, Miss Janet F. Anderson, Mrs. Plimpre, Dr. E. L. Skinner-Gordon, Mrs. J. Arthur Plimpre, Mrs. R. A. Biggs, Dr. Caroline Brown, Mrs. A. B. Fisher, Mrs. Arthur Peuchen.

Attach this coupon when sending subscription:—

Mrs. F. G. Clarke,
11½ Queen Street East, Toronto.
Madame: Please find enclosed the sum of \$.....
in aid of the fund for enlargement of the Women's College Hospital.

Name
Address

GOLD WATCH COUPON

TORONTO WORLD RECRUITING COMPETITION.

I think
who lives at
town or city
would make a good recruit for the 216th Bantams Battalion.
My name is
Address

CONSTRUCTION UNIT IS RECRUITING FAST

Hundred and Twenty-Five Men
Secured in Battalion Which
Started Monday.

ELDERLY MAN MISSING SINCE TUESDAY MORNING

Police Asked to Locate William
Prangley, Eighty-Two Years
of Age.

No. 1 Construction Battalion started recruiting Monday morning of this week and has obtained some 125 recruits. The idea of being able to "do one's bit" with one's own special line seems to appeal strongly to the men, particularly as there is such an urgent necessity for men trained in engineering construction work at the front at present. The officers of this battalion are all engineering men of experience and many of the recruits are men who have worked under them at various times through Canada.

The battalion headquarters, at 189 Queen Street West, is an extremely busy place at present, outfitting and drilling the new recruits, who are shaping up well. It is predicted that the battalion will be in France in less than two months, as it is to be sent overseas as soon as up to strength.

MONTREAL EMBARGO REMOVED BY GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

The Grand Trunk announce that the embargo that has been in effect for the last few days on L. C. L. freight and team truck cartage freight for Montreal, Point St. Charles, St. Henri or Maisonneuve, is entirely canceled, and traffic will be accepted by themselves or their carriage representatives as usual. This arrangement becomes effective at once.

Mrs. J. H. T. McKay, 525 Euclid Avenue, has asked the police to try and locate her father, William Prangley, 82 years of age, who disappeared from the above address Tuesday morning and has not been seen since.

It has been Prangley's custom to take short walks whenever the weather permitted. He went out Tuesday morning at 8:25 p.m. Canadian Pacific train at Toronto daily and arrive "Grand Central" terminal in the heart of New York City, without change en route.

Particulars from Canadian Pacific ticket agents, Toronto city office, 835 corner King and Yonge streets, Phone Main 6586.

Through Day Coach to New York, Leaving Toronto 8:20 p.m. Daily, Via C.P.R. and N.Y.C. Lines.

Commencing Sunday, May 7, day coach passengers for New York will board 8:25 p.m. Canadian Pacific train at Toronto daily and arrive "Grand Central" terminal in the heart of New York City, without change en route.