

INDIANS BITTER IN TRENCHES; RESOLVED TO CRUSH GERMAN

The Canadian soldiers in Europe, extremely bitter against the Germans, said R. P. Cowan, of this city, returned Tuesday from a business trip to London and Paris.

"The story of the crucifixion of a Canadian sergeant by Huns has aroused the Expeditionary Force a firm resolve to show the Germans that this blood of war will not help the Teutons in their attempt to overrun Europe as a civilization.

"I have seen Canadian soldiers as they have been hurried to hospitals in England after having been wounded at the front; the men had been moved from the trenches to the hospitals, and it had been time to remove their clothing and boots, the mud which caked their bodies during days and nights of battle.

"The wounded were being moved continuously in an endeavor to relieve themselves from the terrible effects of the gas fumes from which they suffered.

"The British, French and Canadian Cross units are doing excellent work. A new line of railway has been constructed from Boulogne to La Bassee, and the wounded are now carried from the trenches to England in four to five hours.

"Red Cross steamers make six trips daily across the English Channel, and the wounded are subjected to only the shortest period of travel before they are under treatment in English hospitals.

"The trains and steamers are equipped with the latest appliances and devices for hospital work and corps of trained nurses are at hand.

"It has been said that the women of France are taking the places of the men in carrying on farming and gardening, but I did not notice any unusually large number of women at work in the fields of France.

"I have been in French trenches on business trips, from time to time, and I know that it is customary for French women to work at gardening and farming. The women of France, who are at such work during war time, are probably so engaged before the war.

"Business conditions are not good in Paris, but in other districts of France through which I passed, the war was conducted in quite a normal way. Paris is practically in darkness after 9 o'clock at night; theatres and other places of amusement are closed, and the boulevards are generally deserted after early evening.

"The French are confident that the Allies will win, but are sometimes inclined to be depressed when they learn that reverses have occurred. France adopted the use of gas against the Germans when the Huns were using this means to gain ground; Britain insisted on fair fighting even if the enemy resorted to barbarous methods of battle.

"The French have 'struck' considerable trouble in England and rioting has occurred, but the authorities are gradually gaining discipline over the workers to complete co-operation in the war against Germany.

"England presents little change since the war, and London is not so different as it was in the last year of the stirring events which threaten the security of civilization.

"A decrease in the number of automobiles and taxis is noticeable to one who has been in the metropolis before. The hotels are well patronized and prices are not so increased as the contrary, and the higher-priced hotels are reducing their rates in many cases.

"A new hotel, the Regent Palace, was opened while I was in London and, although the huge building required accommodation for 1,500 guests, all rooms were taken in two days. The hotel, a magnificent structure, is splendidly situated and is under the management of a firm of caterers of international reputation for excellence of service.

"Mr. Cowan, who represents the W. H. Thomas Company, attended the British industrial manufacturers' exhibition in London. The object of the exhibition was to show foreign buyers that British manufacturers were capable of producing goods of first class quality and that they were able to compete successfully with Germany for the foreign trade.

"The exhibition was a tremendous success and will be held next year on a larger scale. Attendance of representatives from countries throughout the world, except Germany, was expected to be in the thousands, and for the interest shown by the buyers. Excellent results are sure to follow.

"Cowan spent several hours at the camp of the Army Service Corps, near Folkestone, and he found the soldiers in the fettle. The men are being well treated by the officers, and are given the private every opportunity for seeing points of interest in London and other points within reasonable distance from the camp.

"Major McKean and Lieutenant Pidgeon recently provided entertainment at the Savoy Theatre, London, one evening.

Peace.
(Douglas Malloch in Chicago Tribune)
Take down the battered bugle
And let it speak again—
Let the drum's mad beat
In the sunlit street
Keep time for the marching men.

Unfold the tattered banner
To wave as once of yore
O'er the sleeping dead
Of the soldier dead
Who shall look on its folds no more.

Take down the battered bugle
And sound the old time note—
Let us listen still
To the message shrill
That comes from his ancient throat.

But the red and rusted rifle
The sword with the battle scar
Shall keep no more
To the breasts of men
Let them hang where they are, where they are!

Let Us Heed.
(Montreal Journal of Commerce)
The words of warning uttered by Lloyd George should not go unheeded in Canada. He makes it plain that the Anglo-German rivalry is not a matter of mere superiority of munitions, but also states that the Germans would have been driven out of Belgium and France long ago had the British supply of shells been adequate. It is imperative that more ammunition be furnished the armies at the front, and it is hoped that Canadian factories engaged in this work will be speeded up to their fullest capacity.

SOME LETTERS ABOUT THOSE INVESTIGATIONS, INCLUDING ONE FROM THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Those who heard the declaration of Premier Clarke when addressing the legislature the day of its opening respecting the appointment of Royal Commissioners to investigate all matters and any charges that might be brought against the administration will perhaps wonder what has happened, and it occurs to me that they were promptly made by Organizer P. J. Veniot respecting several transactions in the outside service of the public works department have not been followed up promptly by the royal commissioners. This is the more remarkable inasmuch as three members of the legislature were connected in one way or another with the charges made.

After the adjournment of the legislature Mr. Veniot waited a reasonable time, as he promised, to hold the inquiries, but getting no word from him on May 10 he wrote him as follows:

Veniot Asks for Action.

Bathurst, N. B., May 10, 1915.
Mr. W. B. Chandler, Esq., Moncton, N. B.:
My Dear Sir,—Now that the work of the provincial legislature is over, I would very much like to have the investigation into the matters I laid before you, in March, touching the actions of certain government officials, I hope you will be able to start it on an early date, as many of the witnesses that I will require to give testimony cannot be available if the date is not soon arranged.

I would also call your attention to the promise made to me to seriously consider the holding of the investigation in the city of Bathurst for the costs belonging to this county. I will have a large number of witnesses, as you know, and it will both save expenses and time by holding it here.

As to the investigation of matters pertaining to Kent county bridges, the number of witnesses being so small, I think that each of these charges should be substantiated by an affidavit or statutory declaration of some person having knowledge of the matters.

The time and place of holding the Gloucester county investigation can be settled when we meet at Fredericton to take up the Kent county matters.

Yours truly,
P. J. VENIOT.

Consulting Mr. Baxter.

To which Mr. Chandler replied:

Moncton, N. B., May 12, 1915.

P. J. Veniot, Bathurst, N. B.:
Dear Sir,—Your letter of the 10th instant received. I mentioned the matters referred to by you to the attorney-general some few days ago. At that time the attorney-general told me that he could not tell me just then what arrangements would be made as to the hearing of the matters to be investigated. I will write to the attorney-general and call his attention to this matter.

Yours truly,
W. B. CHANDLER.

It will be noted that Mr. Chandler was appointed a royal commissioner with all the powers of that high office he says that he conferred with the attorney-general and that he is up to the decision as to what arrangements would be made to hold the investigation. Considering that the attorney-general is a member of the legislature, it cannot be affected by the investigation this cannot be regarded as other than a remarkable situation.

It is probable that Mr. Chandler and Mr. Baxter, who is a member of the legislature, will be called upon to investigate the matters referred to by you. It is probable that the investigation will be held in Bathurst, N. B., for the reasons stated above.

The fact that the Minister of Public Works wishes to make an inspection of this work should not delay fixing the date for the investigation in this matter. If he intends simply to make an inspection and not enter into the investigation of the wrong-doing alleged in the Gloucester county, he should have no objection to his doing so, but should his intention be to make a departmental investigation, he would think that it would be wrong for him to do so before you as a royal commissioner. Should he desire to investigate the matter before the royal commission begins, that is the intention of the minister, would you kindly make known to him my desire?

To your decision to hold the investigation into Kent county matters at Bathurst, I do not raise any objection, as the number of witnesses to be examined is not large.

I note with some surprise that you say that you think I should proceed from Bathurst to Gloucester county, a statutory declaration as to the charges made in connection with MacLean Settlement bridge, which is based on information furnished by him. You also make the same suggestion in regard to matters arising in Gloucester county.

In reply, I beg to submit that when you opened your court in March last, it was distinctly stated by the Attorney-General, representing the government, and concurred in by you, as royal commissioner, that such a course was not necessary; that you would investigate the matters in question, in the light of the suspicion of wrong-doing, appeared providing information of such wrong-doing was laid before the court, and that you would proceed with the investigation, which was the duty of the court. I do not raise any objection to the person giving the information should have any personal knowledge of the alleged wrong-doing. This matter is further supported by Premier Clarke, in the Legislature, when he made the announcement of your appointment as a commissioner to investigate the matters in question. It now appears from your letter to me that, after interviewing or hearing from the Attorney-General, he desires that you should depart from the court and proceed to Gloucester county, and have you insist upon statutory declarations being made by persons having knowledge of the wrong-doing before you proceed with the investigation. Such a course was not adopted when you investigated the matter of the \$29,000 between the Dalhousie Lumber Company, J. W. Bransley, and the Department of Crown Lands. This appears to me that your powers as Commissioner are exclusive and that the Attorney-General, through the Legislature, is interfering with the official action on trial, should not be permitted to interfere with the manner of procedure, especially when it has already been decided to proceed along certain lines.

In nearly every case, if not all, the statutory declarations you ask for or suggest would have to be obtained by one from persons who are already on your list of witnesses, and who would naturally be hostile witnesses, since they are implicated in the wrong-doing alleged. Under such circumstances you can readily see the impossibility of having them make statutory declarations. Called as witnesses and examined under oath, there is no doubt about their telling the truth. Should the Attorney-General persist in departing from the procedure already established, and you decide to require statutory declarations before going on with the investigation, a grave injustice will be done, and I will be forced to the conclusion that the Attorney-General is not anxious to have the whole truth made known to the public, but he would at first glance have it appear.

As I have already stated before your court, on two different occasions, I have gone fully into the matters alleged, wrong-doing, and I am convinced of my ability to prove to the hilt any wrong-doing touching which I have laid information before you, but I am not prepared to be forced to do that which should not be expected of me, especially when, at the opening of the investigation, I fully complied with your suggestion made both by yourself and the Attorney-General in order to get down to a working basis. I am prepared to go on with the investigation, but wish to be treated in the same manner as was done in the matter of the first investigation held before you.

You will remember that in the Dalhousie Lumber Company case some witnesses were only sworn in instead of subpoenaed. In the cases that I have laid before you I would request that a subpoena be served on each witness, as I am not sure that I can rely on the fact that a subpoena has been served on each witness, as I am not sure that I can rely on the fact that a subpoena has been served on each witness.

I must now close for this time. I am sure that you will be able to get down to a working basis. I am prepared to go on with the investigation, but wish to be treated in the same manner as was done in the matter of the first investigation held before you.

Yours truly,
P. J. VENIOT.

A Change of Attitude.

It will be noted that the conditions necessary for an investigation have changed since the day Mr. Baxter made his statement in the Royal Commissioner's Court, when he said that any "hearing" or "inspection" of the matters referred to by you would be all that were necessary for an investigation.

Mr. Veniot replied very fully to Mr. Chandler as follows:

Bathurst, N. B., May 17th, 1915.
W. B. Chandler, Esq., Moncton, N. B.:
My Dear Sir,—Your letter of the 10th instant received. I note that you say you have heard from the Attorney-General with reference to matters referred to in my letter of a few days ago.

In the matter of the pay lists of the work done on Shippegan road, you say that you "are informed that the Minister of Public Works wishes to inspect the work on the Shippegan road referred to by you in some of the charges submitted, and I prefer not to arrange for any hearing as to this matter until after the investigation has been completed." The fact that the Minister of Public Works wishes to make an inspection of this work should not delay fixing the date for the investigation in this matter. If he intends simply to make an inspection and not enter into the investigation of the wrong-doing alleged in the Gloucester county, he should have no objection to his doing so, but should his intention be to make a departmental investigation, he would think that it would be wrong for him to do so before you as a royal commissioner. Should he desire to investigate the matter before the royal commission begins, that is the intention of the minister, would you kindly make known to him my desire?

To your decision to hold the investigation into Kent county matters at Bathurst, I do not raise any objection, as the number of witnesses to be examined is not large.

In the vicinity of \$80. The son's name was endorsed on cheque; the father received the proceeds of said cheque."

More Consultations.

After consulting with the Attorney-General, W. B. Chandler wrote Mr. Veniot as follows:

Moncton, N. B., May 18th, 1915.
Mr. P. J. Veniot, Bathurst, N. B.:
Dear Sir,—I have heard from the Attorney-General with reference to the matters referred to in your letter of a few days ago. From what he tells me I think I shall be able to arrange to take up the Kent county matters before very long but I am not able to name the exact date just at present.

The investigation into the Kent county matters will be held at Fredericton. I am informed that the Minister of Public Works wishes to inspect the work on the Shippegan road referred to by you in some of the charges submitted, and I prefer not to arrange for any hearing as to this matter until after the investigation has been completed.

My Dear Sir,—Your letter of the 10th instant received. I do not know just what the Minister of Public Works proposes to do with reference to the work on the Shippegan road, but I do not think he intends to hold a departmental investigation into the matter.

I have already given you the information I have with respect to this particular matter.

I will let you know as soon as the date for the hearing at Fredericton has been fixed.

I do not think the suggestions which I made in my letter to you of the 10th instant as to the holding of the investigation are unreasonable, and it seems to me that you should not object to complying with them if you can possibly do so.

I note what you say as to the service of subpoenas and will do my best to carry out your request.

Yours truly,
W. B. CHANDLER.

Mr. Veniot Gives the Facts.

Mr. Veniot then takes up all the charges in detail and gives his reasons for not making a departmental investigation. He states that he has already given you the information I have with respect to this particular matter.

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As a member of the legislature Stewart had no right to sell to the Farm Settlement Board, as he violated the Independence of Parliament by so doing. It was by the questions asked in Parliament that I discovered that \$15,000 was paid to Stewart, while the bank only received \$1,200 for it. Is there need of a statutory declaration in such a case?

In the matter of the Newbiggin steel bridge and the Frank Robinson case, \$25. It was by reference to the original account in the public works department, ordered brought down on request of Mr. Dugal, M. P., that I ascertained that such a transaction had taken place. I personally examined the check issued in favor of Frank Robinson, and personally saw by such observation that it was endorsed the check. I further personally know that the said Frank Robinson never worked on the said bridge in 1910.

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BENSON'S Corn Starch

Always order by the name BENSON'S in order to get what you want

Practically every grocer in Canada has BENSON'S.

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