

Q. Are you engaged there now?—A. I am not.

Q. When did you leave?—A. I resigned about two months ago or thereabouts. I left two months ago, but I resigned a little while ago.

Q. What were you engaged in before you commenced census work, say for a year previous to that?—A. Census work.

Q. Before you commenced the census work?—A. On the report you have before you.

Q. Oh, yes?—A. Throughout most of the year.

Q. You took up a very considerable question, determining the land values throughout Canada?—A. No I did not.

Q. Well, what was the nature of your work?—A. To determine the trend of values as indicated by the selling price.

Q. Was that intended to apply generally to Canada?—A. If it went far enough. But the work I did was simply experimental.

Q. At whose instance did you enter upon that work?—A. The Hon. Mr. Fisher's instance.

Q. Yes, how long have you known Mr. Fisher?—A. Since 1896.

Q. Are you quite sure about that?—A. Positive.

Q. I fear the minister has rather forgotten you?—A. No, I do not think so, not from what I read.

Q. Are you quite sure you have known him from 1896?—A. I have known him before of course, but not personally.

Q. And you undertook this work you say at the instance of Mr. Fisher?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he send for you?—A. No, I do not think he did. I was introduced to Mr. Fisher in 1896 by one of the members. I knew a number of the members, and it was really the result of a conversation, or several conversations, I might say.

Q. When did you commence?—A. It was in 1897, I did a few weeks' work, just as an experiment. Then it was off and on, until I went down to Prince Edward Island.

Q. Well, this report you give us here, is dated April 25, 1901. Did you make any formal report on the same subject?—A. No, not a formal report, it was just experimental work, altogether I was doing from start to finish. This contained the result of all the work I did.

Q. What work?—A. From the time I started till the time I finished.

Q. Well, here is a letter dated September 18, 1900, 'the Minister authorizes Mr. H. Washington to at once proceed to determine the trend of farm land values in the registry offices of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes.

Q. 'And for this purpose agrees to pay him transportation from Ottawa to the Island and back, and also \$5 a day for salary and expenses there, during the progress of this work and till its completion. On this account the Minister hereby authorizes the advance to Mr. Washington of \$100?—A. Yes.

Q. Was this the nature of your agreement with Hon. Mr. Fisher for the work?—A. At that time, yes.

Q. Was there any formal agreement?—A. No. At that time I think the work was temporary, from time to time and incomplete, because it was a mere matter of experiment.

Q. Never mind the experiment. Was this the first arrangement with Mr. Fisher until you entered this contract?—A. Yes, that particular work.

Q. Is there any other work referred to, in your report other than this particular work to which this letter contains a reference?—A. It really contained the result of my work in Prince Edward Island. If you cast your eye on the report, and what work was done previously, the data gathered previously is analysed in that report, as well as the data obtained, in Prince Edward Island.

Q. Did you ever have any arrangement with Mr. Fisher before?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. You were paid for the work?—A. Certainly, but it was only a small amount from time to time.