

that occasion he discussed with Henry the question submitted to him at that time by Senator McDougald himself prior to that hearing (B175-176). The last question submitted and appearing at B176 was as follows:—

Q. Now, page 928 deals with the last question submitted by you to Mr. Henry and answered by him, and to make the matter very short, you remember speaking to him about how expeditiously this general work of development should proceed, and you remember his answer was that it should proceed at once?—A. Yes, I remember that.

It should be added also that at the time Senator McDougald made his speech to the Senate in May of 1931, he was also a part owner with Henry in the agreement to sell the Sterling interests to Beauharnois and at the meeting of Senator Tanner's Committee, between April 20th and June 7th, did not disclose the interest which he held in Sterling at that time. In other words, throughout this whole development—he believed in development by private interests—he was at all times in a position to benefit from such development by private interests and advocated the completion of this development by private interests in all his public utterances and acts.

There is a further view of the matter which is of first importance. We find on page A995 a letter of the 25th May, 1928, from Mr. Geoffrion to Senator McDougald "that there now need be no delay in procuring the consent of the Dominion Government, as required by the Quebec lease." We also find throughout the whole period, interviews at Ottawa and in Montreal with Senator McDougald by Beauharnois lawyers, particularly Colonel Thompson, who was engaged in endeavouring to have the Order in Council passed at Ottawa, and although these individual items were called to the attention of Senator McDougald, his statement in all cases simply is that he does not remember what they were about. The inference is obvious, that he was approached by these various people to endeavour to procure the consent of the Governor General in Council, as later appeared in P.C. 442. In fairness to Senator McDougald, he denies that he saw the Prime Minister or any other Minister in connection with the matter. He does not impute any dishonesty to the gentlemen who interviewed him in connection with Beauharnois matters and made the charges therefor to the Beauharnois company (B177). So that it may be taken as established as a fact that he was consulted from time to time with a view to expediting and passing the Order in Council.

It would seem pertinent here to quote from the evidence of Mr. Griffith to show for what purpose certain Ottawa lawyers and among them Colonel Thompson were employed. Referring to Mr. Sifton, who in turn named the Ottawa lawyers, the following is quoted from pages B74-75:—

Q. And among those solicitors was the late Mr. Winfield B. Sifton?

—A. Yes.

Q. In what capacity was he employed by you? When I say you I mean you on behalf of the Syndicate?—A. I think he might have been described as a general legal adviser. He advised not only in respect of the preliminary proceedings but in respect to corporation matters and in respect to the power development, and in respect to the commercial and financial as well as in respect to legal matters.

Q. Was he adviser with respect to political persons?—A. Yes, we respected his advice in that regard.

Q. Shortly put, did you or Mr. Swezey have much knowledge of Ottawa affairs at the time you began to further your program in Ottawa?—A. No, I say we had practically no knowledge.

Q. And on whom did you rely with respect first say, with respect to advancing things in the government departments—on whose advice?—A. Well initially on Winfield Sifton's advice.