

ANOTHER WITNESS CASE IN THE UNITED STATES

Jas. H. Corbett Doesn't Want to Testify Against Flemming

Big Contractor, Who is Charged With Paying \$10,000 to Premier to Secure His Contract, Crossed the Border About the Time the Royal Commission Was Named—Son Testifies to Father's Whereabouts After Strenuous Objection by Premier's Counsel—Commission Decides Contractors Must Tell of Their Dealings With Government—Would Recommend Cancelling of Contracts if They Fail to Do So.

Fredericton, June 30.—The Public Interest predominates. The Public Interest swept aside the objections of M. G. Teed today to evidence that seemed to have some bearing upon the production of facts before the Royal Commission. The rulings of the chairman, Judge McKewen, and Commissioner Fisher, in particular, were very important, broad and decisive.

The occasion came somewhat unexpectedly to all concerned in the inquiry, Hermann Corbett, a member of the firm of Jas. H. Corbett & Sons, contractors upon the Valley railway, was about closing his testimony when Mr. Corbett asked him where his father was. One question after another in rapid succession concerning the man whom Mr. Dugal in his charges said paid James K. Flemming \$10,000 in order to obtain his contract on the railway aroused all the objective force in the premier's counsel, Mr. Teed, who failed, however, to convince the commission that the evidence was not relevant.

AN IMPORTANT RULING.

In the course of the discussion Chairman McKewen laid down the broad principle that any person who was doing business with the province of New Brunswick should appear and give evidence if he was required to do so.

Commissioner Fisher took an equally firm stand that the public interest demanded that the facts should be got at.

From the evidence of Jas. H. Corbett's son, and the statements of Mr. Corbett, it was shown that the big railway contractor did not want to appear before the Royal Commission and give his evidence and that he had sent a letter to his son requesting him to see Mr. Corbett and ask him not to subpoena him. This Corbett Junior did but Mr. Corbett sent the messenger all the way to St. Catharines (Ont.) with the summons just the same.

It also transpired when the commission ruled that the contents of the letter must be given in evidence, that Jas. H. Corbett had asked his son also to see James K. Flemming, but he did not tell him what to say to Mr. Flemming nor did Corbett Junior see him.

The suggestion conveyed in the chairman's remarks that the commission might make a recommendation to the government in case any person whose evidence was needed refused to come and give it was most significant.

The evidence shows that Mr. Corbett left Canada about the same time as the Royal Commission got to work and has not returned since.

NOT CONTRACT WITHOUT DEPOSIT.

Some other evidence of an interesting nature was given by William J. Scott, who had the sleeper and lumber contracts. Scott was required to put up a deposit but did not do so and still obtained his contract, though it transpired he had a partner, George F. Burt, of Hartland, Carleton county, whom he got rid of afterward by paying him \$15,000.

This was Scott's evidence but he was not sure about his figures and will be recalled when it is understood that evidence will be given as to the exact amount Burt received in salary and for letting go of his share of the profits upon the contract.

Burt has been engaged in Premier Flemming's department in connection with the crown lands and was associated with W. H. Berry in assisting in the work of classification.

Titus Carter gave the commission an opportunity to announce a personal inspection of the road. When Mr. Corbett wanted the engineer's profiles of the railway put in evidence the Anderson counsel sarcastically inquired if he would not like the road put in evidence.

"I wish it could be," said Mr. Corbett. "I wish the commissioners could see this railway."

"We will," said Commissioner Fisher. That is what the commission intends to do.

"I am very glad of that," replied Mr. Corbett.

William J. Scott.

Wm. J. Scott, contractor for sleepers, posts, etc., on the Valley railway, was not on the stand before the Royal Commission many minutes before Mr. Teed began to object to his evidence.

This arose when Mr. Corbett asked if Geo. F. Burt, of Hartland, Carleton county, did not have an interest in his contract.

"Yes, he did," answered Scott, and then Mr. Teed objected.

Mr. Corbett—I do not see why Mr. Teed objects to this evidence. Chairman McKewen—How can it help us?

Mr. Corbett—I want to trace the money.

Mr. Teed, objecting vigorously to this course, Mr. Corbett asked: "You do not want me to say what I think or what I know." He then proceeded to ask:

Q.—To what extent was Mr. Burt interested?

A.—He had a half interest in the profits of the contract. How long did this arrangement continue?

Mr. Teed objected again and argued that these facts had no bearing on the inquiry, but the chairman said the facts should be stated so as to learn where the money went. It might be spent for influence or it might be spent quite properly.

Mr. Scott—The arrangement was short, only lasted a few months. Burt left some contracts.

Mr. Corbett—Did you purchase these ties direct or from Anderson, Wilson and Hay?

Witness—Some direct but most from Hay. I paid thirty-five cents and the railway paid me forty cents.

Mr. Corbett—And the man who got out the ties got thirty cents each. Now, how much did Burt get out of the contract?

Witness—Burt and I were each on salary as much as a month for a time, but I thought the profits were small and I offered to buy him out and paid him \$15,000 in addition to what money he had already received.

Mr. Corbett—How much had he received?

Witness—I cannot tell without my account book. I had no other partner.

Mr. Scott promised to bring this information later, and in answer to questions from the commissioners, said he made his contract on January 30, 1912.

D. W. Brown.

D. W. Brown, who was on the stand when the commission adjourned to St. John, resumed his evidence. Mr. Stevens conducting the examination. When questioned as to what it would cost to complete the railway, he said he could not give any satisfactory estimate. It on capital while construction was going

THE C. N. R. DEAL

(Canadian Liberal Monthly.)

WHAT THE PEOPLE OF CANADA GIVE.

Endorsement of Mackenzie and Mann's note for over \$360,000,000 without adequate security.

WHAT MACKENZIE AND MANN GIVE.

Not one cent of their own.

WHAT THE PEOPLE OF CANADA GET.

\$38,000,000 of stock which cost Mackenzie and Mann nothing and may be worth nothing; and a junior partnership in an insolvent concern.

WHAT MACKENZIE AND MANN GET.

Their debts paid by the people of Canada. Their profits secured by the government.

GOOD FINISH TO HOLIDAY SPORT IN SUBURBAN RESORTS

Weather Not Promising in Morning, But Afternoon Was Enjoyable in Country and Along River—Quiet in City.

St. Stephen, July 1.—The community was shocked to learn today that George A. Murchie, a member of the St. John River International Commission and of the firm of James Murchie & Sons, Calais (Me.), had passed away at Chipman Hospital at an early hour this morning.

He was operated on for appendicitis three weeks ago and was improving so well that his speedy recovery seemed assured. He took an ill turn about 2 o'clock this morning and before his physician arrived he had passed away.

Mr. Murchie was well known in this province in connection with his lumbering operations. Some years ago he carried on an extensive lumbering business at Magog, Quebec, under the firm name of Wadsworth, Kelly & Murchie.

For several years he conducted the firm's operations at Edmundston and for the past three years has been superintendent of the business at Milltown (Me.).

Mr. Murchie was a son of the late James Murchie, was 64 years of age and leaves a wife and one son, Harold, of Augusta (Me.), and brothers John, William, Skiffington, and Henry, of Calais; Charles and Horace, of New York; and Frank of Milltown (N. B.), and sisters, Mrs. Adam Gillespie and Mrs. Henry Eaton, of Calais; Mrs. Fred Hall, of California, and Mrs. Charles Eaton, of Princeton (Me.).

From an early age Mr. Murchie commenced to take an active interest in politics and he had held many important offices. He was for fourteen years a member of the Republican state committee and was five times elected mayor of Calais. He served in the Maine house of representatives in 1897 and 1899 and was a member of the state senate in 1901 and 1908.

He also served for two terms as a member of Governor Cobb's executive council.

He was appointed a member of the International St. John River Commission by President Taft and was a member at the time of his death. Mr. Murchie was among the best known men in the state and but few have had a more successful business and political career than his.

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DIE ON GUILLOTINE

German Woman and Lover Give Lives For Murder.

Paris, July 2.—By a curious coincidence the same day that saw a female prisoner guillotined in Germany saw a female prisoner's sentence to death commuted by President Poincaré to life imprisonment.

The French woman was a peasant who had abandoned two illegitimate children and poisoned her father with arsenic because he refused to give her money to continue her dissolute life. Her brother tried to reclaim her and died of the same poison a week later.

She was mentally unbalanced, but the jury, knowing well that she would not be put to death, found her guilty of murder without any extenuating circumstances.

Few people journeyed to Musquash, and the day was not marked by any special interest.

Lorneville attracted upwards of 100 people from the city, who spent the day in boating, baseball and other sports.

North Shore Weddings.

Newcastle, July 1.—At the manse, Redbank, yesterday, Rev. J. T. McCurdy, B. A., tied the nuptial knot for Robt. W. Sheppard, of Boom Road, and Miss Eva Harer, of Whitesville.

Miss Mary Annie Kirkpatrick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kirkpatrick, St. John, was married in St. Samuel's church, Douglastown, yesterday to John Hugh Brophy, of Blackville. Rev. S. J. Crombly, of Blackville, performed the ceremony, assisted by Rev. J. G. Cormier, the wedding taking place within the sanctuary on the steps of the altar with nuptial high mass. The bride was dressed in white brocade gown with white picture hat, and carried a white prayer book. Her bridesmaid was Miss Kathleen M. Holland, of Redbank, who was dressed in cream silk with hat to match. William Kirkpatrick, brother of the bride, acted as best man. A wedding breakfast was partaken of by the bride party and their immediate friends and relatives and the officiating clergyman at the home of the bride's parents, after which Mr. and Mrs. Brophy left for Newcastle to take the train for a honeymoon trip to Boston and New York. They will reside at Bathurst where Mr. Brophy has a responsible position with the Bathurst Lumber Company.

No Wonders.

"I used to go to the theatre just as a tired business man would."

"Why did you give it up?"

"I found that it was the plays that were giving me sleep."

Robert S. Ward, a former Chatham boy and a veteran of the first contingent sent to South Africa during the Boer war, is running for the Manitoba Legislature as the Labor party's candidate in Elmwood constituency. Mr. Ward's name was suggested by the Manitoba Labor party and he has been elected to the position of the party.

At this point Mr. Teed objected to the contents of the letter.

Chairman McKewen—What is the witness should answer the question?

Commissioner Fisher—"I think so too."

Chairman McKewen—"I have received a communication, a letter, from James H. Corbett. I have not got it, however, I burned it."

Mr. Corbett—Tell me the contents of the letter.

At this point Mr. Teed objected to the contents of the letter.

SAYS RELATIONS AN ARMED CAMP

HON. GEORGE A. MURCHIE DEAD

Member St. John River International Commission Succumbs After Operation for Appendicitis—Was Prominent Lumberman.

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Lansdowne in More Peaceful Mood

Agrees to Pass Second Reading of Amending Bill

Says He Will Move Exclusion Amendments in Committee Stage—Belief Now That Settlement of Home Rule Question is in Sight in View of the Threatened Blaze in Ulster.

London, July 1.—When the bill to amend the Irish home rule bill came up today for second reading in the House of Lords, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Unionist leader, announced that as Ireland was one vast armed camp it was necessary to find a way out of the calamity which was threatening. The Unionists therefore, he said, would give the amending bill a second reading and include amendments during the committee stage in regard to the areas to be excluded from the operations of the home rule bill, the duration of the exclusion, and the government of the excluded areas. The Unionists, he concluded, would not agree to the second reading of the home rule bill itself.

Lord Lansdowne added that his action in doing this was dictated by the necessity of averting the horrors of civil war. The amendments to be introduced in the committee stage would be directed solely to making the bill a really adequate exclusion bill.

With a touch of pathos he said: "The peers are so fast bound by the meshes of the peerage that there is no other course open to them which would be likely to prove effective."

Most of the other speakers were equally conciliatory in tone. The notable exception was Lord Willoughby de Broke, the leader of the "die hards" who moved the rejection of the bill.

The Archbishop of York, said, that the East of Angles wanted no part in an election but a settlement in some form. Irish self-government, he declared, was now inevitable.

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