

has been properly applied to the purposes of the survey, but that some of the vouchers are not as formal as they might have been. that vouchers not sufficiently formal.

29. Do you know how it is that if the vouchers are insufficient they come to the conclusion that the moneys were properly spent?—Mr. Taylor informs me so.

30. Is it only from information from others that you know the reason?—Yes.

31. In matters connected with the business of the Department, is the practice that you deal with them on your own responsibility or only after referring to the Minister?—The practice is to take the correspondence and reports as they come in, to have them endorsed, and every day, in company with the Chief Engineer of the work, or of any of the works on which the correspondence treats, to appear before the Minister and to read this correspondence and take his instructions. The intention of the Minister is that all orders should proceed from him. Practice of Department—Deputy Minister accompanied by Chief Engineer take correspondence and report to Minister and take instructions.

32. How does he convey his directions?—Verbally.

33. Are they noted by any person at the time?—They are noted on the backs of the documents.

34. By the Minister?—No.

35. By whom?—By myself sometimes, but not always so.

36. Then, as to most transactions which were discussed in that way, there would be some memorandum, either by the Minister or yourself, now extant?—Yes.

37. Are there any matters or class of matters over which you generally act, without reference to the Minister?—No; all our actions are under the general directions of the Minister, and he must have given some general order. No class of matters over which the Deputy acts without reference to Minister.

38. In the absence of the Minister himself is it usual that some other Minister should take the charge in his place?—Yes.

39. What is he generally called then?—The Acting Minister, as distinguished from the Minister himself.

40. Has that practice which you have described been followed generally with reference to the Pacific Railway transactions?—It has.

41. Do you know of any occasion or any period when it was not followed?—No; the endeavor is to follow it always.

42. Are the resolutions of the Governor in Council with respect to the Pacific Railway, communicated to your Department?—Yes; copies of all Orders-in-Council affecting the railway are sent to our Department. All Orders in Council affecting Pacific Railway sent to Department.

43. They are of record in the Department now?—Yes.

44. Was the direction or extent of the preliminary exploration of the Pacific Railway directed by the Department or left to the discretion of any other person?—The explorations were all discussed by the Minister and Chief Engineer very fully before they were commenced. Explorations discussed by Minister and Chief Engineer.

45. Who was the Chief Engineer?—Mr. Sandford Fleming.

46. From the beginning?—From the beginning.

47. How was he appointed?—He was appointed by an Order in Council on the 5th of May, 1871.