

submitted a price and was officially awarded the contract for the supplying of the coal for the Dominion Government dredges in B.C. for the fiscal year 1913-14 at the rate of \$5.25 per ton.

As time went on Mr. Kingham was surprised to find that no coal was being ordered and upon inquiry he ascertained that hundreds of tons had been purchased from a coal merchant at Victoria by the name of Kirk & Co.

Mr. Kingham made strong representations to the Government and eventually compelled them to appoint a Royal Commission to enquire into the matter. A Royal Commission was appointed and when the report was submitted to the Government it was found that Messrs. Kirk & Co., had been receiving \$7.00 a ton for the coal which they had supplied the Government and in all they had been paid by the Government \$3,814 more than Mr. Joshua A. Kingham would have received had the coal been supplied in accordance with his official tender.

Secretary of Conservative Association Received 50 cents a Ton.

Before this Royal Commission Mr. Nelson above referred to coolly confessed that he had bought the coal from Messrs. Kirk & Co. through the intervention of Mr. W. H. Price, Secretary of the Victoria Conservative Association and evidence was obtained which proved that Messrs. Kirk & Co. had given Mr. Price, Secretary of the Conservative Association 50 cents a ton for every ton they sold to the Government.

Mr. Nelson had to certify to these amounts and to declare in Court that he had certified to these amounts because of:

(A) "A feeling of gratitude" towards Kirk & Co. and then added:

"I have certified enough invoices as being of fair and just prices that I know are not fair and just."

Fenian Raid Bounties

Sir Sam Hughes could spend from \$11,000 to \$15,000 a year on travelling expenses, could squander hundreds of thousands of dollars on Military Camp grounds, but he also had one achievement which seemed to overshadow all the others, namely, that out of the 10,000 men who took part in the Fenian Raid, he has actually found over 30,000 who were eligible for the Fenian Raid bounty.

During the Parliamentary Session of 1912, Col. Hughes introduced and secured the passage of a Government bill which provided for a bounty of \$100.00 to every living veteran of the Fenian Raid strife. At that time the Government stated that the outside estimate of all the men who had been called out to do service during these raids was at most 10,000, and it was estimated that no more than 6,000 at the very outside would be still alive and entitled to the bounty.

In 1914, Sir Sam Hughes informed the House of Commons