

gentlemen from various parts of Canada have stated that they had both seen and heard of this wanton waste.

The Public Accounts Committee did not have time to fully investigate this charge, but on one occasion a resident of Valcartier being on the witness stand, was questioned and the following is a synopsis of the evidence.

Mr. Adam Aikens on the Stand.

BY Mr. McKENZIE:

Q.—Do you know anything about the burning of clothing, or of property, which appeared to be Government property on the premises? A.—Well, yes, sir; I saw clothes burning there in piles.

Q.—Did you offer to buy some of the clothing? A.—Yes, sir; I offered to buy a coat—me and Mr. Goodfellow and my father. The soldier was there; he was supposed to be the guide. I offered \$5 for the coat and he would not take it.

Q.—Those were the coats they were burning? A.—Yes, sir.

BY Mr. CARVELL:

Q.—Have you any idea as to the number that was being burned; you say you saw piles. How large were the piles? A.—I did not pay any attention to the size of the piles. They were fair sized piles.

Q.—Would they contain three or four, or how many? A.—I should say two or three hundred in large piles.

Q.—How many piles were there? A.—Several piles; eight or nine piles, so far as I could judge.

Q.—Were there any blankets in those piles? A.—Yes, sir, there were some blankets in the piles that I could see.

Q.—Were there any other articles of uniform, or necessities for the soldiers? A.—There were caps I think too; that is all I could see in the pile.

Q.—How many caps? A.—I could not see rightly. They were all in a pile.

MORE WASTE.

Public Accounts Investigation Brought to a Close

PREMIER'S STATEMENT

The Public Accounts Committee completed its partial investigation on April 14th. On the morning of April 15th, the last day Parliament sat, Sir Robert Borden undertook to sum up the evidence which had been taken before the Public Accounts Committee. The Tory Press has lauded him for his explanations and the stand he took. In one paragraph the Prime Minister stated:

"I spoke to the Minister of Customs (Mr. Reid) who is a member of the Public Accounts Committee, with regard to the scope of the investigation. I spoke to him in the presence of the Minister of Militia and Defence (Major General Hughes) and I informed him that we wanted the widest possible scope given to that inquiry. If there had been any wrongdoing in connection with political expenditures, we desired it to be investigated to the full."