

Public Accounts Committee.

Q. In your experience as agent of the Minister of Justice since, can you name any cases where you had other solicitors doing the work in connection with these titles?—A. We have only had a very few cases for the Minister of Justice.

Q. Take the Isaac case. Isaac got \$300. Isaac got \$300 and the government paid \$110.10 for looking after it. What was your charge to Isaac?—A. That is one of the things I do not feel I am supposed to give.

Q. Did Peter Moffatt come to you and ask you to take up his case or did you ask him?—A. He is a client of mine, I think I wrote him that if he had any claim we would take it up with the others.

Q. Now, Nancy McIntyre, for instance; did she approach you or did you approach her?—A. Nancy McIntyre is a widow, and Mr. Isaac told me that she wanted us to prosecute her claim with the others, and as I did not want to take a retainer that way, I wrote her.

Q. And how much did you charge?—A. I sent her the cheque, and she sent me \$5, and I took it and said no more.

Q. But you sent a bill for \$6?—A. She sent \$5 back.

Q. Do you remember meeting her on the bridge at Rosedale one day?—A. Yes, and she was very anxious to get her claim settled. I may say this was entirely non-political. My clients were both Conservatives and Reformers, and they were all treated alike. Then, you say I got \$365, and that the agent of the Minister of Justice seems to have charged over \$700. As a matter of fact, as their solicitor in these matters, a great deal of my time was taken away. I have made more money at the assizes in one day than I made out of this.

Q. The agent of the government charged for more than work, for instance: "Nancy McIntyre, \$40.25," and Mr. McLaughlin's bill was for \$6. His bill was \$6; he sent his bill?—A. But that is not true.

Q. Well, Mrs. McIntyre states—?—A. Well, I have Mrs. McIntyre's letter here, and as you are raising that question here, I had better read it. The statement made is just like all those put into *Hansard*—it is all untrue. The letter is dated July 11th, 1896, and is as follows:—

Mrs. NANCY MCINTYRE,
Rosedale.

Re FLOODED LANDS.

DEAR MADAM,—Are you interested at all in lands flooded by the raising of Cameron Lake? Mr. Isaac thought that you might be. If you are, I am engaged by a number of those who are interested to obtain a settlement, and would be glad to look after your interests along with the others. There will be no charge unless we obtain something. (I told her that because she was a widow.)

Yours truly,

R. J. McLAUGHLIN.

After that I received a reply from her. Here it is:

ROSEDALE, 7th July, 1896.

Mr. R. J. McLAUGHLIN.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to above, yes. I am interested to the extent of perhaps five acres, worth probably from \$25 to \$30 per acre. If you succeed in getting claim satisfactorily settled, I would, of course, be willing to allow you what would be fair remuneration for any trouble you may be at.

Yours truly,

N. MCINTYRE.

I do not think there is any excuse for saying she did not know I had been acting for her.