

Connell Coal Co. and the Fred Armstrong Company, Limited, respectively. Mr. Hodgins on behalf of the School Board asked that the Inquiry be postponed until after vacation as it would be practically impossible for the officers of the Department to devote the time necessary for the investigation until after the holidays were over. Mr. Cowan was also unable to proceed on behalf of his clients. The matter was accordingly adjourned until after vacation. Before, however, the resumption of the investigation Mr. H. L. Drayton resigned his position as Counsel for the Corporation and his successor was not appointed until some time later. Mr. Hodgins had also been appointed to the Supreme Court Bench, and his successor had not been appointed. However, on the 29th November, 1912 I resumed the Inquiry and was attended by Mr. G. R. Geary, K.C., who had been appointed in the meantime as Counsel for the City of Toronto. Mr. A. C. Neighington appeared on behalf of the Board of Education, but stated that he wished the matter to stand until the successor of Mr. Hodgins had been appointed by the Board of Education. Mr. M. K. Cowan, K.C., was present for the Fred Armstrong Co. and the Connell Coal Company. I proceeded with the examination of Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Fred Armstrong and directed their books of account to be produced.

Having previous to this time, received information that some of the builders had been substituting hemlock for white pine in the construction of the schools, I examined Mr. William Williamson as to the conditions of the Riverdale High School. He stated that there was hemlock used instead of white pine and Georgia pine contrary to the specifications in connection with this building, and that there was a difference of \$8 a thousand between Georgia pine and hemlock and \$5 difference between white pine and hemlock, and that in using hemlock instead of what was specified, the builders had obtained a considerable advantage over the Board of Education.

I immediately employed Messrs. Robert Jessemin and James Craddock to inspect a number of these schools with reference to the quality of lumber that had been placed therein by the respective builders and to report generally on how the work and material complied with the specifications.

Mr. E. Perceval Brown, having been appointed solicitor by the Board of Education, was notified of the proceedings and on the 28th February, 1913 was able to attend for the first time, when the