NOTHING SENSATIONAL AT YESTERDAY'S SESSION OF THE POTATO ENQUIRY

H. Colby Smith the Only Witness Called Was on Stand for Entire Session—His Firm's Connection With Transaction Thoroughly Square and Above Board.

H. Colby Smith, of the firm of A. C. Smith and Co., was on the stand all day at yesterday's session of the potato enquiry and his evidence brought out nothing startling. Mr. Smith's evidence had not been finished when the session adjourned until November 21st. Between now and the date of resuming the enquiry an effort will be made to secure information through the Bank of Nova Scotia as to a payment of $5,000 that has been mentioned in evidence by several of the witnesses.

Morning Session.

To Mr. Hughes Mr. Smith said his firm had sold some culls most of which had been credited to the government account. About 200 barrels were sold in all, the sum realized being $45.30. This was credited to the Department of Agriculture. Witness did not recall having sold culls on the account of B. F. Smith. Witness said he did not give Mr. Daggett an item of $863.69 representing culls sold. He also said he made no purchase of 5,000 barrels of potatoes at $1.30 as shown in Mr. Daggett's statement. He had not received a cheque for $9,531.16 payable to A. C. Smith and Co., or the Bank of Montreal. He had not authorized Mr. Daggett to take that cheque to the Bank of Montreal or anywhere else and cash it, nor had he authorized that part of the proceeds of the cheque should be used to pay the note of $5,077.

Witness knew that $5,000 had been deposited to his credit in the Bank of Nova Scotia, Fredericton, on April 30. He did not know who made the deposit. It was an advance, made on account of his drafts. He had asked for an advance. He had met Hon. Mr. Murray and told him the bank was demanding payment of the drafts and something must be done. After this the payment of $5,000 was made. He might have told Mr. Murray that the banks required at least that amount.

Witness did not know if this had anything to do with the note for $5,077 but from the evidence he would suppose that it had.

Examination of Mr. Atherton's statement showed that there was no record of this $5,000 payment. Witness agreed that it was not shown, adding that neither were any of the drafts shown.

Before the Atherton statement had been made witness drew on the government for $9,201.95, the sum agreed upon under protest in the settlement with Mr. Daggett. The Atherton statement showed the balance due to witness' firm to be $12,902.24. The draft for $9,201.95 was accepted by Mr. Daggett for the department and when it came due Mr. Daggett submitted his personal cheque for $4,453.56 and the Cuban draft for $806.91. Witness drew again for the balance of $4,003.80. Mr. Daggett contended that the $5,000 payment should apply on the balance shown by the Atherton statement but witness had always contended that it applied to previous drafts. When the draft for $4,003.80 fell due $1,500 was paid on it and witness drew again for $2,503.80. This draft was also accepted by Mr. Daggett.

Witness had every reason to believe that the $1,500 payment was made on behalf of the government transaction and Mr. Daggett accepted his draft for the balance. There was an accommodation draft between witness and Hon. J. A. Murray for $1,500 but that was a personal matter and had nothing to do with the potato transaction. Witness did not know that it had anything to do with the Westmorland bye-election. The $1,500 payment made in Fredericton was, according to Mr. Daggett, intended to retire this draft and not to apply to the government account.

When the $2,500 draft came due the government paid nothing on it but Mr. Daggett sent witness a $1,250 cheque and witness borrowed $1,250 from Hon. J. B. M. Baxter and retired the draft. The $1,250 from Mr. Daggett as well as the loan from Mr. Baxter was personal accommodation to witness. The Daggett cheque was paid back and $506.85 of the $1,250 was repaid to Mr. Baxter. For the balance Mr. Smith said he was still indebted to Mr. Batxer and that gentleman had a claim on his estate for it. Witness thought the government still owed him in excess of $4,000.

In all the firm of A. C. Smith and Co. unloaded and stored 16,700 bbls. of surplus potatoes and was paid $6,680 for so doing.

The court then took recess.

Afternoon Session.

Resuming at two o'clock Mr. Smith said the shipments of potatoes came in to his firm as fast as they could be handled. He remembered twenty-four cars coming in in one day and had no reason to telephone or telegraph to any person to hurry the shipments along. He had received no instruction from Mr. Daggett to do so. Witness had not agreed to abandon claims of approximately $4,000. Most of that sum represented money that had been paid out and he could not abandon it. He did not give Mr. Daggett a charge of $1,900 representing a price of fifteen cents per package for barreling and bagging potatoes.

While the potatoes were being handled in the sheds Mr. Daggett was frequently on hand and either wrote to him or spoke to him about the work not going forward sufficiently quickly. It was slow work culling potatoes and witness thought his men did as well as any others could have done. The potatoes were in bulk and were not barrelled until it was time for them to be sent to Cuba.

On instructions from Mr. Daggett his firm had paid an account of $401.60 to Mr. Boyce. Witness had sold a car of potatoes to the department at 80 cents per bbl. That car had been shipped in by B. F. Smith and was simply turned over to the department at the figure Mr. Smith charged. The invoice for that was dated Oct. 19th, 1914, and the car arrived on October 22nd. He would not be surprised if the contents of that car went into the surplus potatoes.

Mr. Smith was then questioned regarding the cheques with which Mr. Daggett's cheque for $1,250 was balanced. There were three of these, two for $500 each and the third for $250. The cheques were produced, identified and placed in evidence. That for $250 was endorsed by "The Gleaner, Ltd., James H. Crocket." One of the $500 cheques was endorsed by Howard Rogers and the third was not endorsed.

Witness said he did not know anything about payments to the Gleaner. The cheques were all made out to cash and given to Mr. Daggett. What Mr. Daggett did with them after receiving them Mr. Smith did not know. Witness was certain that the cheque for $1,250 from Mr. Daggett was a personal accommodation from Mr. Daggett and was not from the government.

Mr. Powell's Cross-Examination.

Cross-examined by Mr. Powell Mr. Smith said he had no hand in the preparation of the statement of abandoned claims and did not know who made it up. He sold no culls for B. F. Smith and never received money from him on that account. His firm had nothing to do with buying potatoes but merely looked after the handling and shipping. For this work they received twenty cents per package for the British and Belgian shipments which he thought was a moderate sum. There was a contract fixing that sum. For the surplus potatoes the price was raised to forty cents per package as there was more work about them. There was no contract for the surplus potatoes and this account Mr. Daggett finally disputed and a reduction was made although the witness protested against it. Mr. Smith then told again about the different drafts and payments thereon as related in his direct evidence.

His firm's connection with the potato transaction was square and above-board in every particular but witness did not consider that he received all the money to which he was entitled. The $1,500 previously referred to was put to his credit and applied to one of the drafts. The draft to Mr. Murray was altogether outside of government business and was a purely personal matter. So was the loan of $1,250 to witness from Mr. Baxter. Witness had repaid $506.80 of that amount and the balnce was still due.

To Mr. Hughes he said he did not receive a government cheque for $9,531.16.

To Mr. Powell he said his firm received the $5,000 payment previously referred to but did not think it was to be applied to the present claim.

To Mr. Hughes he said he did not know that the $5,000 deposited to his credit in the Bank of Nova Scotia had anything to do with the note for $5,077 in which Mr. Daggett and Mr. Jones figured.

Mr. Hughes then asked for time in which to trace the $5,000 payment through the bank and the hearing adjourned until Thursday, November 21st, at 11 a. m.

PEOPLE OF HALIFAX WILL GO TO CHURCH

Halifax, Nov. 8—Halifax people will celebrate the official announcement of the signing of an armistice by going to church At a meeting held to arrange a celebration in the event of a cessation of hostilities it was decided that services of thanksgiving should be held in all the city churches, and that these should form them ain feature of the festivities.

BRITISH CONTINUE GENERAL ADVANCE

Field Marshal Haig Announces Capture of Two Villages Between Mons and Maubeuge.

London, Nov. 8.—The British are continuing their advance along the active battlefront. Field Marshal Haig today announced the capture of two villages in the region between Mons and Maubeuge. The statement reads:

"Sharp fighting occurred in the evening in the neighborhood of Eclaibes and Limont-Fontaine, south of Hautmont. These villages were captured with a number of prisoners. Our advance south of the Mons-Conde Canal continued."

French Also Advance.

Paris, Nov. 8.—French troops resumed their advance along the whole front this morning. The war office today reports that French units have reached the railway junction of Liart, about twenty miles north of Rethel. The French early today captured Singly, less than eight miles south of Mezieres, and Francis, about one mile west of Sedan. Fifteen hundred prisoners and much material were captured yesterday.

The statement follows:—

"Our progress was resumed again this morning on the entire front. French advance elements reached Liart, thirty kilometres north of Rethel.

"Further to the right we captured early this morning Singly and Frenois and penetrated into the outskirts of Sedan. The number of prisoners taken yesterday was more than 1,500. The amount of material captured was increased considerably."

AFTER INFLUENZA

The Grip, Fevers, and Other Blood Poisoning, Prostrating Diseases.

The best course of restorative treatment, purifying the blood, stimulating the liver, building up the whole system, is:

Hood's Sarsaparilla, the standard blood purifier, before eating.

Hood's Pills (cathartic, mild and effective) as needed.

These two great medicines work in perfect harmony, improve appetite, aid digestion, relieve biliousness and constipation. They make convalescence real, rapid and perfect. They are also of service in the prevention of disease and the preservation of health.

Each is good alone; both are good together. Get them today.

"I see the papers say now that the Kaiser is almost distracted."

"If that's true, his condition must be improving. He went clean daffy four years ago."

VICTIMS OF LA GRIPPE.

Left Weak, Disheartened and An Easy Prey to Other Troubles.

A Nova Scotia Man Tells How He Found New Health and Strength.

If you have had an attack of la grippe, or Spanish influenza you are not out of danger until your blood is restored to normal.

Influenza leaves behind it weakened vital powers, thin blood, impaired digestion, and over-sensitive nerves. In this condition the system becomes an easy prey to deadly pneumonia, bronchitis, nervous prostration, rheumatism and even consumption. Ask anyone who has had an attack of influenza what their present condition of health is and most of them will answer "Since I had the grippe I have never been really well." This general feeling of weakness will continue until the blood is built up again, and for this purpose nothing can equal a fair treatment with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. From first to last dose these pills make new, rich red blood which reaches every organ and nerve in the body, and through this weak, despondent victims of influenza are transformed into cheerful, healthy, happy men and women.

Among the many victims of la grippe who proclaim the value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is Mr. Amos Kaulback, of Petite Riviere, N. S., who says:—"I was taken down with a severe attack of la grippe, or influenza. After a time the early symptoms of the trouble left me, but I did not regain my usual strength, and I had always been a strong man. There were times when I felt I could hardly crawl about and I was so run down I could scarcely go about my business. I continued taking medicine but it did me no good. Then I found the trouble was affecting my digestion and the disagreeable feeling from this added to my general misery. I was finally advised to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I decided to try them. I had only been taking the pills a few weeks when I found my strength returning, my appetite improved, and still continuing the use of the pills a few weeks more found me restored to my old-time vigor. I can most strongly recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to all who have passed through an attack of influenza, as a safe medicine for renewing their strength."

You can get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills through any dealer in medicine, or by mail at 50c. a box or six boxes for $2.50 from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Hot Water for Sick Headaches

Tells why everyone should drink hot water with phosphate in it before breakfast.

Headache of any kind, is caused by auto-intoxication—which means self-poisoning. Liver and bowel poisons called toxins, sucked into the blood, through the lymph ducts, excite the heart which pumps the blood so fast that it congests in the smaller arteries and veins of the head producing violent, throbbing pain and distress, called headache. You become nervous, despondent, sick, feverish and miserable, your meals sour and almost nauseate you. Then you resort to acetanilide, aspirin or the bromides which temporarily relieve but do not rid the blood of these irritating toxins.

A glass of hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate in it, drank before breakfast for awhile, will not only wash these poisons from your system and cure you of headache but will cleanse, purify and freshen the entire alimentary canal.

Ask your pharmacist for a quarter pound of limestone phosphate. It is inexpensive, harmless as sugar.

If you aren't feeling your best, if tongue is coated or you wake up with bad taste, foul breath or have colds, if digestion, biliousness, constipation or sour, acid stomach, begin the phosphated hot water cure to rid your system of toxins and poisons.

What will You say?

When the war is over and won,

—when the war worn soldiers come back to Canada and home,

—when the cost is counted, the cost in precious lives, in the limbs, eye-sight and shattered health of our noble fighters in the battle lines—the cost in money, in sacrifice and in self-denial—

What part will you have played?

Will you have the right to cheer and say:—

"I did my best—I saved and denied myself—I lent every cent I could rake and scrape to help my country and our fighting boys—I can claim a full share in the glorious Victory because I did everything I could"

—Or, will you have to slink shamefaced and conscience-stricken away from the cheering crowds to your own mean solitude?

If you buy Victory Bonds—the duty of to-day—now—to the limit of your ability with every dollar you can raise—then—and only then—can you say:

"I have done my best"

Issued by Canada's Victory Loan Committee, in co-operation with the Minister of Finance of the Dominion of Canada.

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Buy Victory Bonds