

Q. You mean to tell me, Mr. Murchison, that every cent listed there was actually paid to labour for labour?—A. That is my understanding. Even the payrolls were audited and every payroll was signed by every employee acknowledging payment of the money listed in the payroll.

Mr. CLEAVER: I am very glad that this point was brought up. There is not a dollar of profit there.

Mr. BURTON: I am very glad to have it cleared up. Would that apply to material as well?

The WITNESS: That would apply to the material.

By Mr. Burton:

Q. Would the contractor be in a position where he would also be the supplier of the material?—A. In connection with this contract I filed with the committee two supplementary contracts, one of which approved the supplying of certain materials by a subsidiary company. That contract provided that the cost chargeable would be wholesale prices authorized by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board plus a mark-up of 10 per cent.

Q. Would you mind, without going into the details, run over the overhead? What did the overhead consist of?—A. Superintendence, clerical, watchmen, water boys, checkers, field foremen, temporary buildings, handling material, trucking, temporary roads—

Q. Trucking by whom?—A. By the contractor; gasoline and oil, temporary buildings, temporary water, temporary power, temporary heating, telephone and telegraph charges, trucking and plant rental other than for house allowance, building permits, carloads, postage, sundry supplies and expenses, travelling expenses. If I could just refer for a second to the contract, this is clearly covered by the terms of the contract as well.

Q. That is right. Then, in addition to that you have the sum of \$55 a year for equipment?—A. Yes. Then there is unemployment insurance, vacation pay, W.C.B. assessment, that is Workmen's Compensation Board assessment and insurance. There is a discount of \$15.60 which I believe was a discount on the payment of the electric light bill or something like that. This totals \$13,889.77 which produced the average of \$1,736.22 and that agrees with the sessional paper to which Mr. Fleming referred.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, is the period of questioning over? We can excuse the witness and say that we thank him.

Mr. BURTON: I should appreciate it, Mr. Chairman, if you allowed me to say a few words before the witness retires. I may say that before I came to Ottawa to represent the constituency of Humboldt, I had heard of Mr. Murchison. Some of the stories I heard led me to believe he was a tough customer and others again that he was not quite so tough. I do want to say that, after having the pleasure of knowing the man and having him with us during these past days, I wish to move a vote of thanks to Mr. Murchison; also to Mr. Wymbs and Mr. Wurtle for the courteous manner in which they tried to answer our questions.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the motion carries unanimously.

The WITNESS: May I make one correction? A few moments ago, I referred to this general contract including 20 units at Chatham. That was an error on my part as there are 18 at Chatham.

Mr. FLEMING: Could we take up the question of procedure now?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. FLEMING: There is on the agenda from last night my motion with respect to calling two witnesses from Windsor. There has been some expression on that, Mr. Chairman, and I do not propose to argue the question any further. We have our minds made up on it, Mr. Chairman.