

Paquette

that. I agree with Mr Gordon, so far as that is concerned, but, he is a hard man for his employees. That was one of the reasons why we wanted him discharged. He was always doing something wrong to the employees, and keeping them fighting among themselves. That is the reason we wanted him discharged

Q I understand that when you went before the Minister of Labor and asked for this Commission you promised the Minister that the men would go back to work during the enquiry ?

A Yes

Q Now, will you tell the Commissioner how the proprietors of the mills have used the employees since that interview with the Minister of Labor ? How have they looked upon the intention of the workmen to go back to their work ?

A Well, people who have worked in those mills-- and I am not speaking of Montreal alone now (for I heard that the position was the same in Valleyfield)-- these men went to see the Minister of Labor, and there were three hundred people right there in his room and in the hallway. He said "We shall give you this investigation, but we want you to go back to work in the meantime". They agreed to this, but, at the present time you will find men who have been working in those mills, and who have been replaced by others-- men who have worked there for twenty years, and, their only crime is-- well, I don't know what it is. There are some of them men who voted against the strike, but who were manly enough

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