

*By Hon. Mr. Ralston:*

Q. And sufficiently friendly to feel that he would respect a letter you gave to a friend?—A. Yes.

Q. And you gave that letter knowing that the friend was going to have something to do with regard to the Immigration Department?—A. I did not. That is the very point; I did not.

Q. What did you expect he was going to do with it?—A. He told me he was coming down to Ottawa on a trip, that he knew certain members of the Cabinet; he had never met Mr. Forke, who was a new Minister, and he would like to drop in and see him. That was his explanation to me.

Q. Then it was purely a personal visit and the letter you gave to him was not on business matters at all?—A. No.

Q. Is that so?—A. That is so.

Q. And you discovered what his real business was, namely, to attempt to get permits, and, as you say, the matter of your own personal honour was involved?—A. Yes.

Q. And therefore you called on Mr. Forke to explain to him that when you had given that letter of introduction you did not understand the errand on which this man had gone?—A. That is correct.

Q. And you did not ask Mr. Forke his reason for refusing the permits at all?—A. No.

Q. And he went on to talk with you. By the way, this conversation was just between the two of you, with regard to his difficulties in the department?—A. Yes.

Q. As a friend?—A. In connection with permits. The letter I gave had raised the question of permits.

Q. But that did not raise the necessity of Mr. Forke giving you this information about refusing permits, did it?—A. Mr. Forke took the occasion to do so.

Q. He took the occasion to tell you about his difficulties in the department?—A. Yes.

Q. You were not a public man; you were not bound to receive that confidence from him or bound to demand it from him?—A. No.

Q. And you were not there in any official capacity which required him to communicate this information to you?—A. No.

Q. It simply raised whatever personal conversation and personal explanation by you to him as to why you had given this letter of introduction to your friends?—A. That construction can be placed upon it.

Q. And Mr. Forke went on to explain what his difficulties were. Would you not say that that was purely because of your friendship with him? Do you think he would talk to anybody else as he would to you, anybody not an official connected with the department?—A. I do not believe he would talk to anybody just like that.

Q. And he would not talk to anyone except somebody in whom he had confidence?—A. Yes.

Q. And you say that about four hours afterwards you retailed this conversation to Mr. Edwards?—A. Yes.

Q. And when you got on the platform at Regina, even then you did not think it well to give the information which you gave until after Mr. Campbell had spoken?—A. No.

Q. It was only when Mr. Campbell sort of put you on your mettle?—A. That is hardly correct. I think Mr. Campbell was there and he will tell you that I was not heated.

Q. I did not say you were heated, but you were very much more definite in your second speech than you were in your first?—A. Certainly.

[Mr. M. J. Coldwell.]