

Mr. Charles A. B. Brown was examined and produced vouchers for payment of his accounts with the Connell Coal Co. since 1908; he denied ever receiving any coal from the Connell Coal Co. for nothing, and never heard of any one getting any. He stated when he changed his account to the Connell Coal Co. in 1908 he was told by Mr. Wheeler that Mr. Wheeler would give him the lowest rate possible.

Q.—That was at the contract rate?

A.—I suppose so.

Q.—You heard your name mentioned when we were going over some of these cheques, and hand picked coal and so on, do you know anything about that?

A.—No, I supposed Mr. Wheeler would send me the best coal, being on the Board naturally he would do that, he would not send me the worst.

Dr. William W. Ogden stated that his account with the Connell Coal Co. began in 1908, that he had been dealing with Wheeler for years before that. He was asked:

Q.—Were you charged at the rate the Board was paying?

A.—I do not know; I paid what they asked me to pay; I did not ask any questions; I never do; when I order a thing that I do not specify, I pay without a murmur.

Q.—You did not make any arrangement as to the way in which the coal was to be handled for you or picked out?

A.—No.

Mr. Rawlinson in answer to the question:

Q.—You understood you were paying the market price or the school contract price, said,

A.—My reason in the firstplace was when I ordered I think a ton or something like that, one ton, I had a little conversation with Mr. Wheeler and I thought, some of the caretakers were perhaps not so pleased with the coal as others, and I think I spoke to Mr. Wheeler and he said, "Try it yourself, I will send you a ton up," and I said "All right," and I got the ton and following, what I think I followed on.

Q.—That ton was paid for in the ordinary course?

A.—Yes. Then I tried it for one winter; I did not have it the next year, because that contract came up in 1909.

Mr. Rawlinson said he remembered the discussion in the School Board in reference to coal tenders in 1909 when he was Chairman of the Board, and that a test was made after the tenders had been