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PARSONS' DRUG STORE.

## The Enquiry Conducted by T. Hollis Walker, K.C.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 6.  
SIR R. A. SQUIRES CROSS-EXAMINED.

COMMISSIONER—Oh, it is this particular incident that you don't regard as serious. I thought you might have intended the Enquiry.

MR. WARREN—You did not think it mattered very much?

A.—No.

MR. WARREN—You took the statement, and for whose benefit did you offer to correct it? Did you offer to correct it for Mr. Curtis' benefit, or Mr. Miller's benefit?

A.—For nobody's benefit in particular. Here were certain things in his statement which were wrong in my opinion. I told Mr. Curtis they were not correct.

Q.—Did you tell him what the correct facts were?

A.—I don't know that I did. I did not go into elaborate discussion with Mr. Curtis concerning it.

Q.—Mr. Curtis swears that you told him what the correct facts were, and he took them down and transcribed them.

A.—I don't know whether he took down anything from my dictation or not.

Q.—Did you tell him what the correct facts were, whether he took them down or not?

A.—I don't remember any general statement which I contradicted. I can't remember what any particular set of facts were.

Q.—Did you tell him that certain facts were wrong, and did you tell Mr. Curtis the correct facts?

A.—My recollection is that I called attention to one or two things I said were wrong and that that was not so.

Q.—Did you tell him anything that was so?

A.—I don't remember whether I did or not.

Q.—Mr. Curtis says as a result of his interview with you, he took down another statement, which he transcribed in his own handwriting. If that is true, where could Mr. Curtis have got the facts except from you?

A.—I don't know whether he had any conversation with Mr. Miller or not.

Q.—You mean he took down more corrected facts and gave them to Miller?

A.—I have no recollection of having seen it. I did not authorize him to make any corrected version.

Q.—Did the corrected facts come from you or from Mr. Curtis?

A.—I have not seen, as far as I remember, any corrected version. I can't tell you what was in it.

Q.—I suppose if I were to offer you the corrected version you would say you could not recollect it?

A.—I did not see Mr. Curtis' memo, and if I did I have no recollection of having seen it. You see all this fussing around in connection with Mr. Miller was not regarded by me as of any importance whatever.

Q.—But, Sir Richard, does it not strike you that the Crown lawyers, finding that pride of evidence submitted to them have been corrected, have to take the matter seriously?

lawyers would have been glad to have them corrected before they became misguided.

Q.—But is not that for the Commissioner to decide whether they are true or false? Did you suggest that the Commissioner would like the brief of evidence?

A.—Don't be funny now. I know that it is for the Commissioner to decide whether evidence is true or false as given.

Q.—You have been Attorney General, have you not?

A.—Yes.

Q.—How would you view it if you found that evidence given, which you were going to submit to Court, had been corrected by somebody on the other side?

A.—If the evidence as presented to me were a correct view of the facts, and that it is for the Commissioner to decide whether it is true or false, and it was evidently right, I would rather have a correct statement than the wrong one.

Q.—Oh I see, you generally go to the other side and ask them to prepare your case for you?

A.—No, I have never done so.

COMMISSIONER—Did it ever occur to you then what the contents of that telegram in October were—the suggestion that Meany and Miller were prepared to water their evidence?

A.—It never occurred to me that they would water their evidence. They had taken a certain line, and had made certain statements, and whether their statements were true or false, I considered I had to follow them.

COMMISSIONER—Here is the telegram.

WITNESS (Reads)—"Understanding Meany willing consider your cheque and I.O.U.'s personal loan if same paid amounting twenty thousand. If this agreed to believe can show anything myself concerned was personal and outside any negotiations or communications between you and companies. When does Walker leave for St. John's. Reply Halifax Hotel."

MILLER.

COMMISSIONER—That suggests, does it not, that as far as you were concerned, both people were willing to water their evidence against you?

A.—It suggests that if \$20,000.00 were paid, they were prepared.

Q.—Of course they were willing for a consideration to water down their evidence.

A.—I am not prepared to give any consideration to it.

Q.—I am not suggesting, you were. In October you got that telegram and you believe it came from Miller?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And you also believed, I suppose, that he had authority to speak for Meany?

A.—They had been close friends.

Q.—Those two people were apparently willing for a consideration to water down their evidence against you.

A.—I have not thought they would, for a consideration.

Q.—Did you not know it was a very dangerous thing for you, in the event of their watering their evidence, to alter the evidence submitted by the other side?

A.—Well, if a statement was palpably wrong, no.

Q.—It is to be regretted that you allowed anything of the sort to be done in your office, even the touching of such a thing, after that telegram. That telegram to me makes a great deal of difference in that portion of the case. That having been received by you, it seems to me extraordinary that you should allow in your office the evidence which was going to be submitted to the Crown lawyers, and for it to be altered in your office.

A.—Well if any statement in the document was wrong why should I not say so?

Q.—There was nothing improper done with it in your office?

A.—Nothing improper in any way done by me in my office. Mr. Curtis could not keep him out of the office—he was my junior. As a senior man, perhaps I could have personally kept him out of the office.

Q.—I wonder that you did not tell Mr. Curtis to do so, and I should think you would probably be able to give him a little assistance with your own boot. I don't consider it a satisfactory incident.

MR. WARREN—In your previous evidence on the 1st Paragraph of this Enquiry, you referred to some conversation you had with me and with Sir William Coaker, in which I asked you for an explanation of these matters which I brought to your attention. Did Sir William Coaker ask you for an explanation?

A.—I don't remember whether he did or not. I think my recollection is that you carried on the conversation for the most part.

Q.—Well Sir William Coaker was with me when I asked for an explanation of these matters?

A.—I am not sure of that.

COMMISSIONER—We had this portion of the case dealt with in connection with the Liquor Control Enquiry, and at that time we tried to avoid dealing with anything that had to do with the \$46,000. I don't know whether the \$46,000 was mentioned at that interview or not. He mentioned in his evidence then as to what conversations took place as regards the Liquor Control. I think you might ask him if anything in connection with the \$46,000 was mentioned in these interviews.

MR. WARREN—(To Witness): Was this \$46,000 mentioned?

A.—I think it was referred to by you.

Q.—Did I ask you for an explanation of it?

A.—No you did not ask me for any explanation. When you referred to the matter, I said that the Star had been helped during that year.

Q.—Now, Sir Richard, don't you think you had better give the whole conversation?

COMMISSIONER—I shall refer to my notes with regard to what you gave before. My attention was called to the matter by members of the party including Sir William Coaker. The first information of this charge was brought to you by members of the party including Sir William Coaker. Was the Attorney General's interview before?

MR. WARREN—Let me be quite clear on this: Sir Richard, was that the first interview you had about the matter, this interview I had with you?

A.—It was the first definite information. Rumours had been floating around for some time—there were different rumours every week.

Q.—Sir Richard Squires cross-examined by Attorney General.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—I understood you to say that Dr. Campbell had been to you about it?

A.—He came to me a couple of days before he left town on the 11th. He asked me to deliver a message to him from Meany saying that he wanted matters fixed up and that he wanted to be reinstated.

Q.—Do you remember whether Dr. Campbell was in town when I first spoke to you about those matters?

A.—No, I do not remember that.

Q.—Do you say that the first information you had of anything of the kind came from me?

A.—I heard a lot of rumours at the time.

Q.—Did not Mr. Gibbs go to see you before you saw me?

A.—I think so.

Q.—Was it not before you saw me?

A.—Well, I would not like to say who I would place first or second. Unfortunately, I made no note of the interview.

Q.—You made a note of lot of things. Now I think you resigned on a Monday?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And my letter was delivered at your house on Saturday evening?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And you had a Council meeting on the Saturday?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Can you swear that I was present?

A.—Yes, you were there and at which meeting I informed the Council.

Q.—What Council?

A.—The people of the Council who were present. I informed them that I was resigning. You set on my right and my recollection is that you made a note of some of the things that we were talking about.

Q.—Was that meeting held on a Saturday?

A.—Yes.

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A.—It was Friday or Saturday, my thought is that it was a Saturday.

Q.—I put it to you now that Mr. Coaker and I saw you on the Friday?

A.—I would not remember exactly whether it was Friday or Saturday, but I know that you saw me.

Q.—Yes, and I left the interview and Mr. Coaker stayed?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Can you remember whether Dr. Campbell and Mr. Gibbs went to see you before the Friday that Mr. Coaker and I went to see you?

A.—Yes, I have had very many interviews with Mr. Gibbs or Dr. Campbell before that Friday.

COMMISSIONER—Who is Mr. Gibbs?

A.—The Hon. Mr. Gibbs, K.C.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—At the time Mr. Coaker and I went to see you that Friday afternoon was not this matter of the \$46,000 alleged to have been got from the British Empire Steel Corporation brought up?

A.—I think you mentioned it.

Q.—Did I not ask you what it meant?

A.—Yes, and I told you.

Q.—But did I not ask you what it meant particularly?

A.—I do not know the particular words you used, or that I used.

Q.—What did you tell me?

A.—I told you that the Company had helped out the Star during that period; and I have no hesitation in repeating it now. I recognized that the money was a 1920 transaction.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—Are you sure of that?

A.—No, I am not sure; but it was quite clear that it was a 1920 transaction that you were speaking about.

Q.—Did I mention the words 1920?

A.—I do not know that you did.

Q.—Now you correct me if I am wrong? You said that you got tired of financing the Star, that you lost a pile of money on the transaction and that the Company took it over to finance it?

A.—I do not remember using those words.

Q.—Is that the gist of the thing?

A.—The gist is that the Company had financed the Star during the period that you and I knew of as to the \$46,000 that was paid.

Q.—What did I know about it?

A.—You probably knew more about it than I did.

Q.—Why do you say that?

A.—It is just my guess as to what was probable.

Q.—To quote the words of my learned friend Mr. Lewis: "Are you not speculating?"

A.—I do speculate on times; but when I do, I do not always lose on my speculations.

COMMISSIONER—I thought we had been considering all the past few days the matter that the Company making contributions to campaign funds and not that they knew anything about the Star at all?

A.—It got a contribution as a political party organ.

Q.—But the contribution may or may not have gone to that channel. Had the Company given money to the Star at any time?

A.—I do not know what was in their minds at the time. I do not suggest that the Company had unnecessarily or had deliberately appropriated money for the Star.

Q.—That is what it suggests to me, namely, that the Company had passed out their money for the purpose of helping the Star.

A.—It is a different case in connection with the Star because the Star was always recognized to be used for political purposes. Supposing a serious financial situation confronted a candidate, he might get his bills paid through the Star office.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—Do you recollect what I said when you told me that you were tired of financing the Star and that the Company had taken it over to finance it?

A.—I do not remember what your reply was.

Q.—Would you recollect if I suggested to you what it was?

A.—I will tell you if I remember or not.

Q.—Did not I ask you if that went on when we were negotiating these various contracts?

A.—No, not to my knowledge.

Q.—Did I suggest to you what a blow it would be to the party if that sort of thing was known?

A.—No, I do not remember that.

COMMISSIONER—Are you sure that that did not take place?

A.—No, the only recollection I have of any remark made by the Attorney General to me was that he thought it was an improper thing to get subscription funds for the Star and in which contention I entirely disagree with him.

COMMISSIONER—The Attorney General says he told you, if that financing went on, and became known, while you were negotiating contracts that it would be a serious blow to your party. Now is it only that you do not remember; or are you prepared to swear that that statement was not made by him?

A.—That statement awakens no trail of consciousness in my mind at all that those words have been used; and if they had been used I would not recollect them.

COMMISSIONER—I am writing that down for a future occasion when I want to say "I do not recollect anything." "Awaken in my mind, etc." That is a new phrase to me?

A.—It may be critically correct though.

ATTORNEY GENERAL—Have you any recollection of my saying anything to you that I thought it was improper?

A.—Yes, my recollection is you said it was a Government newspaper and that it was a poor way to have it financed.

Q.—Now you say you have a recollection that I said it was a Government newspaper and should not be so financed?

A.—I do not ask for the others. Do you still say that it was a proper thing for a Party paper to be financed by the Dominion Iron & Steel Company or the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company or any other Company that would be under contractual obligations to the Government?

A.—There is no objection what—

(Continued on page 7.)



### Announcement I

To the Trade:—

We beg to announce to the friends and customers of J. F. Lynch, Esq., that we have now acquired the bakery and plant lately operated under the name of Lynch's Bakery—as new operators this bakery will be known as the "OUR OWN BAKERY."

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