

self off your own bat, accepting the contracts, the acceptance of them, you know what I mean?—A. I gave you the list of tenders received, you see.

Q. You have?—A. I gave you that already with the awards on it, all on it, but then there are—

Q. I do not see it, it is not here.—A. Oh, I think so. I will see, but I think so. There were others awarded outside of that, and I thought that this schedule contained the whole.

Q. There were others awarded without tender?—A. Oh, yes, quite so. I explained that before. And now it seems that there was something back of the 15th of October.

Q. I want the whole of them, there is 1,200,000 ties. I want to see whether there was a contract for all of them, a tender for every one, or by private engagement, and the whole schedule.—A. Yes, all right.

*By Mr. Blair:*

Q. You have stated that the tender prices govern all the orders which you subsequently gave, did you not?—A. I did.

Q. I mean to say that when they would be outside, you would allow the prices of the lowest tenders?—A. Yes.

Q. Or that if you gave any order it would be an order which would be based upon the tender prices, whether the party himself had tendered personally in the first instance or not?—A. It would be the price that we had fixed for the year, after the tenders were received. Which would not be the lowest tender, at first, because we could not get all the ties at the lowest tenders. The first few people were very low, and some higher, there were a very large number.

Q. It would be based upon the tenders at all events, it would not be in disregard of the tenders that you would make any further orders?—A. I do not quite understand that.

Q. Perhaps I could make it a little clearer. You would not in giving subsequent orders allow prices and give orders, as though there had been no tenders at all invited, that is as a guide in the matter of prices?—A. The tenders certainly were the guide, certainly.

Q. Now let me ask you, Mr. Pottinger, do you remember as to when you gave the Ultican order?—A. I do not.

Q. You remember Mr. Ultican having the order to supply a certain quantity of spruce?—A. He had such order.

Q. Yes, he had such, did he get that from you? You authorized that?—A. Whether he got it direct from me or from the general storekeeper I do not remember.

Q. It was for spruce, was it not?—A. I believe so, or at least he had some spruce.

Q. I mean to say, he had a certain quantity of spruce that the department was to take from him?—A. Yes.

Q. He lives immediately alongside Mr. Culligan, does he not?—A. In the same district.

Q. Do you remember his name, is it Mr. John Ultican?—A. Patrick.

Q. No, I mean Culligan?—A. John Culligan.

Q. Mr. John Culligan, do you remember his coming down to Moncton and meeting you or myself in the car when I was down at Moncton, on one of my trips, or do you remember that and recall to mind what took place?—A. I do not remember at present.

Q. Could I suggest anything that would refresh your memory at all? Do you remember his complaining to me that you had given Ultican an order for a quantity of spruce, and that Mr. Burpee or somebody had been refusing to take his spruce, which was of exactly the same kind and quality and he thought it was not fair play. He had only had a small quantity. Do you remember that or any part of that conversation?—A. No, I do not at the moment. He saw me a good many times, complaining, and asking to have his ties taken, but I do not remember that at the moment.

Q. Do you remember finally agreeing with me that we should give Culligan, or rather take from Culligan, allow to be inspected what spruce ties he had made up to that date?—A. I do not remember that at the moment, just now.