

16. I had lunch that day with a provincial constable from Dauphin, a friend of mine. During our conversation he asked me if I would not like to have that case dismissed. He said 'I think I can arrange to have that dismissed today, I know the people pretty well that run this government.' 'Well' I said 'if you can get an honourable dismissal, with a regular acquittal, it will be all right; sure I would like to have it.' This gentleman, whose name was Rooke and I then went over to the provincial buildings. I stayed in the outside room while he consulted with Graham, the attorney general for the province. After about half an hour he returned and took me into Graham's office, and we shook hands, and Graham said, 'Mr. Rook has stated this to me, and we can arrange that all right, and I will telephone the magistrate, and you fellows go right up there.' We left the building, and went to the Provincial Court on Fort Street in the presence of Magistrate McMicken, and on our way I suggested to Rooke that I consult my solicitor. He said it was not necessary, if we could get this case dismissed with an honourable acquittal, that should be satisfactory. I said 'I will be satisfied if I have an honourable acquittal' and before entering the building we stopped and talked on the street, and I again told him that I had better consult my solicitor, and he said, 'It is not necessary, come on upstairs,' and we met Marsh Jackson and went into his room, and talked there for a minute or two, and then we all went into Magistrate McMicken's room, where I was supposed to get an honourable acquittal. I said to them, 'while I will be glad to get an honourable acquittal, this looks illegal, and I will get either myself or you people or my solicitor in trouble. I think I had better consult my solicitor before anything is done.' The magistrate told me that it was not necessary to consult my solicitor, if I would consent to elect to be tried by him instead of by jury, he would try me and give me an honourable acquittal there and then. I did not know what to do, but I finally consented to elect to be tried by him as he the magistrate suggested. The magistrate then said that he dismissed the case, and wrote something on the information. I then asked for a certificate of dismissal. He said, 'It is not necessary, you are honourably discharged. I have written on this information—on the document, and find no charge against you.' I insisted upon a certificate, but he said, 'Can't you trust your friends standing here that this case has been honourably disposed of?' I said 'Your honour, I have a great many more friends in the country, and I would like to have a piece of paper to show them, undoubtedly they have heard of my arrest.' He got excited, and said that it was not necessary, that the newspapers would come out with headlines, especially the Telegram, showing that I was honourably acquitted. I said, 'That is all that can be done. I am a free man.' He said, 'Yes sir, you are absolutely a free man, go where you will.'

17. I then came immediately and informed my solicitor of what had taken place. He said that I was entitled to that certificate,

Mr. OLIVER.

and he suggested that we return at once to the Police Court, and make another demand for the same, which we did, and two other lawyers. The magistrate was undecided. He said, 'I can't sign this until I confer with other people, and if you come here at 12 o'clock tomorrow, I will tell you what I will do.' We went the next day and he refused point blank to give me a certificate of dismissal.

18 I appeared on Saturday with my solicitor, and demanded a trial, and was told by the magistrate that the matter had been disposed of, and he would not hear it.

Sworn before me at the city of Winnipeg, in the province of Manitoba, this 9th day of November, A.D. 1912.

James Auld,

A Notary Public in and for the province of Manitoba.

W. B. SIFTON.

In this connection I want to draw the attention of the House to the intimate relations which existed between the election activities of the Provincial Government in Manitoba and the administration of justice in the province of Manitoba, a connection that I think will be found unique, a condition that is entirely extraordinary; and, when such a combination is directed against the election of members of this House it is distinctly an infringement upon the rights and dignity of this House, and it calls for action by the Parliament of Canada in protection of its rights and dignity. I am sorry to have to detain the House at this length, but I wish to still further establish this remarkable connection between the election activities of the province of Manitoba and the administration of so-called justice in the province of Manitoba. I read:

Canada.

Province of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

In the matter of an election holden on the 12th day of October, A.D., 1912, in the Electoral District of Macdonald in the province of Manitoba.

I, Hugh Mackenzie of the City of Winnipeg, in the province of Manitoba, Barrister-at-law, do solemnly declare that,—

1. On Saturday the 12th day of October, A.D., 1912, I was present at polling booth in division No. 2 in the Electoral District of Macdonald in the province of Manitoba, as the duly appointed agent of Robert Lorne Richardson, candidate in said electoral district at an election held on the said date for the election of a member for said electoral district to serve in the House of Commons.

2. That while polling was in progress a person representing himself as John H. Humphrey made application for a ballot in that name and duly recorded his ballot which was received by the Deputy Returning Officer and deposited in the ballot box. Said person who was unknown to me appeared during the time that Alexander Gunn, Mr. Richardson's local scrutineer, was absent from the polling both for the purpose of recording his vote in polling subdivision No. 3 in said electoral district. Later in the