AGRICULTURE AND COLONIZATION

Q. That does not exactly answer the question. Did it ever cross your mind that a part of this conversation was a private conversation?—A. You notice I did not use this publicly at all until my statement was challenged that permits had been improperly used and I felt justified in coming back as strongly as I could to defend myself from the inference that what I had said was not true.

By Hon. Mr. Edwards (Frontenac):

Q. Were your relations with Mr. Forke of such an intimate character that it occurred to your mind that he might impart to you information he would not impart to others?—A. No, sir.

By Hon. Mr. Stewart:

Q. You say your statement was challenged. Was that the statement made by Mr. Campbell?--A. Perhaps "challenged" is a little strong, Mr. Stewart, but some doubt was thrown upon the remarks I made.

Q. Was that the statement of Mr. Campbell at the same meeting?—A. Yes, that there were rumours.

By Hon. Mr. Ralston:

Q. Mr. Coldwell, will you just tell us exactly, as nearly as you can, what Mr. Forke said to you about Mr. McMurray. I want to see what the foundation of it is.—A. Mr. Forke told me quite definitely that Mr. McMurray had obtained these permits in large numbers; that he had obtained sufficient to meet his election expenses, and Mr. Forke's comment was "As you know, Mr. Coldwell, election expenses are large in a city like Winnipeg".

Q. And it is on that statement that you base your evidence given here to-day with regard to Mr. McMurray's part in the transaction?—A. The statement I have already made this morning. I have elaborated on that to some extent.

Q. I am asking you to elaborate as much as you please so long as you stick to what Mr. Forke said to you with regard to Mr. McMurray. Please repeat again what Mr. Forke said with regard to Mr. McMurray, and all he said.— A. Mr. Forke told me that Mr. McMurray had obtained large numbers of these permits which had been used in the manner I suggested—Mr. Forke suggested they had been sold, and that election expenses had been met in that way, and that election expenses in the city of Winnipeg were high. Those are, as near as I can remember, the effect of Mr. Forke's words.

Q. And I say it is on that statement that you base what you have said here this morning with regard to Mr. McMurray.—A. I do not quite see the point.

Q. Never mind whether you see the point or not. I am asking you if it is upon that statement that you base what you have said here this morning with regard to Mr. McMurray.—A. That statement, and on the fact that it was in connection with the sale of immigration permits that this conversation occurred, and that the sum of \$100 for these permits had been mentioned. On those statements I base the statement I have made here this morning.

Q. The sum of \$100 was not mentioned in connection with Mr. McMurray, but was mentioned in connection with another man, from the maritime provinces, I understand, who had said to Mr. Forke that there was \$100 in it for him.—A. For Mr. Forke?

Q. No, for the man.—A. Yes.

Q. That was the only occasion upon which \$100 was mentioned.—A. I would not say that was the only occasion, no sir.

Q. Is that the only occasion you remember now or will you tell me of another in connection with anything else where the sum of \$100 for permits was mentioned?—A. The conversation revolved around this particular point—

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[Mr. M. J. Coldwell.]