

Mr. Borden moved, seconded by Mr. Maclean (Halifax), That witness be allowed to give his reasons for refusing to answer the question put, and that he keep within reasonable bounds with regard to the importation of irrelevant matter into his explanation; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miller then continued his statement as follows: There was only one course for me to pursue, and that was for me to make an honourable fight against any intrigue. I have followed that course so far without fear or favour, and this is the first time that I have made any public reference to this case. I would not, I can assure you, make any reference at the present time if this unenviable publicity had not been thrust upon me. It is not with a desire to defy this Honourable House or any other governing body that I have acted in the way I have. I would like to have been able to have given the reasons for my action, and in my own way: because on the surface it may look as if I were protecting myself against possibly being incriminated, and it might also be suspected that I am taking this line of action in order to protect some person or persons connected with the Administration of the Government of the Dominion of Canada. Now, as to that, I have already stated under oath that I never paid any money to any Member of the Senate, or to any Member of the House of Commons, or to any official of the Government; and I now state that I never gave any remuneration of any kind whatsoever to any Member of the Senate, or of the House of Commons, or to any person in the employ of either the Senate or the House of Commons, either directly or indirectly. It might also appear at first sight that my action is based on stubbornness on my part, or a wish to defy the different powers. But I can assure you that such is not the case.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have tried here, as far as lies in my humble power, to make my reasons plain for declining to give to this House the desired information, and, as I claim to be an honourable man, I cannot conscientiously follow any other course than that which I have been doing. I feel satisfied that every Hon. Member of this House, if placed in the same position and in the same circumstances that I have been and am now placed in, would follow the same course. I therefore place myself in the hands of this Honourable House, feeling that I will get fair play, and I beg of the House that it be magnanimous enough to accept my explanation, withdraw the question, and discharge me from its custody.

Mr. Harvey (Counsel) then said: Mr. Speaker, shall I be allowed now to supplement the remarks made by my Client?

Mr. Middlebro moved, seconded by Mr. Meighen,

That Counsel be permitted to supplement the statement made by the Witness; which was agreed.

Mr. HARVEY.—Mr. Speaker and hon. gentlemen, I appreciate the indulgence you have given to my client, Mr. Miller, and I ask the privilege of speaking very briefly. I wish, in the first place, to call the attention of the House to the fact that the question as it is put has a tendency to put into Mr. Miller's mouth words that he never uttered at all. What Mr. Miller did state before the committee, and what he stated in court was that during the four or five years that these transactions with the Diamond Light and Heating Co. were going on, he had paid the sum of \$41,026 in connection with getting business for the Company. If you look at this question as it is put, it would appear to give out that Mr. Miller had stated something different from that. It covered all the business that he was able to get for the Company during these four, five or six years. It would be unfair to allow that question to be put and to be answered in that form, because it is not correct and does not represent what Mr. Miller said.

I desire to refer to the cases which are going on as a result of the difficulty between the Diamond Light and Heating Company and Mr. Miller, its former president and manager. Mr. Miller was deposed very suddenly from his position, and