

Q.—Neither directly nor indirectly? A.—No.

**Major General Sir Sam Hughes States Col. Allison Never Charged One Cent. His Work was a Labor of Love**

On the same date, January 3rd, 1916, Major General Sir Sam Hughes appeared before the Davidson Commission and the following is an extract from the statement which he gave to the Commission on that occasion:

"I may say that the British Government, and the Canadian Government as well, are in every sense under a deep obligation to Colonel Allison for his services. He never charged one cent yet for the transfer of thousands and tens of thousands of dollars worth of stuff across the river. I do not know how he did it, but I know that it was done, and he has never rendered his bill yet, so that anything he had done has been a labour of love."

**Another Side to the Story—Is a Gift a Commission?**

There was, however, another side to the story and on Sunday, Feb. 13th, 1916, Sir Charles Davidson, the royal Commissioner, hearing that Mr. Samuel M. Stone, Vice-President, of the Colts Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Co., of Hartford, Conn., was in the city of Ottawa, requested Mr. Stone to appear before him to answer some questions in connection with the purchase of the pistols above referred to.

The following is an extract of the evidence taken on that occasion with reference as to whether J. W. Allison was paid anything for his services in connection with the sale of these pistols to the Canadian Government.

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—Do you know of any commission having been paid by your Company in connection with these Canadian Government orders?

**Mr. Stone:**—Not a direct commission applying to the Canadian Government orders alone.

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—What do you mean by a direct commission?

**Mr. Stone:**—I mean that we have in our employment men who negotiate Government business for us, and who are working to secure Government business, year in and year out, in various territories. We have one man who has done a great deal of business for us in continental Europe, during the last two years, looking to the securing of contracts from three or four governments there. That man was very instrumental in assisting the Canadian Government in the securing of these arms, and to him we have given what I may call a present, or paid him an amount of money which is in return for general services rendered, or in negotiating or securing business at large, and trying to get business which he sometimes does not get. So that it may, in a sense, be called a present; whatever we consider a man of that kind to have been worth to us we give him a payment for it.

And following:

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—I want to put the question blunter, in view of statements that have been made; has Colonel Allison derived any benefit from these purchases, or will he?

**Mr. Stone:**—Colonel Allison it is to whom I have referred, that the Company has presented money to, for his general services to us.

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—He is the one you had in mind?

**Mr. Stone:**—Yes, anticipating your question. I may say that was for general services in Europe. Colonel Allison was with our President in London, and he went to France and spent a considerable time and a great deal of money over there in endeavouring to secure orders.

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—In connection with Canadian contracts?

**Mr. Stone:**—No, sir.

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—In connection specifically with these purchases?

**Mr. Stone:**—We have given to Colonel Allison sums of money for his general services.

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—In connection with government work?

**Mr. Stone:**—In connection with government work at large.

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—Define what you mean by the words "at large?"

**Mr. Stone:**—Throughout Europe and this continent.

Later on Sir Charles Davidson asked:

**Sir Charles Davidson:**—Had he (Colonel Allison) anything to do with securing for your Company these contracts with the Canadian Government?

**Mr. Stone:**—As I explained at the outset, Colonel Allison was used largely by the Canadian Government as a means of assisting them in getting arms. COLONEL ALLISON WAS SUGGESTED TO US FOR THAT PURPOSE AT THE OUT-START.

See pages 22-23-24 & 25 Official evidence taken before the Davidson Commission on February 12, 1916.

**Who Suggested Colonel Allison?**

Sir Charles Davidson asked Mr. Stone various questions in regard to how the Colts Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company came to deal with J. Wesley Allison and Mr. Stone explained to Sir Charles Davidson that Col. Skinner, First Vice-President and Chairman of the Colts Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing people had been in communication with Col. Allison.

The following is an extract from the evidence.

**Sir Charles Davidson:** Where was that order (for revolvers), given as between Colonel Skinner and Colonel Allison?

**Mr. Stone:** Either at Waddington or at Malone, N.Y., either at Colonel Allison's headquarters at Waddington, or Colonel Skinner's home in Malone, N.Y., which of the two places I cannot state. Colonel Skinner returned to New York after a conference with Colonel Allison and General Hughes, and the order was given at that conference. I am informed that the order was given at a place called Moira, where General Hughes was present.