

WEATHER FORECAST

Fresh Northerly winds; cloudy to-day and Saturday. Not much in temperature.

The Evening Advocate

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FISHERMEN'S PROTECTIVE UNION OF NEWFOUNDLAND

"By Union the smallest states thrive, by disunion the greatest are destroyed."

In every rank, or grade or small, This industry supports us all.

Vol. XI., No. 66.

ST. JOHN'S, FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1924.

PRICE: TWO CENTS

Quality Counts That is why the sale of

CENTRAL UNION, WORKER, MOOSE HEAD,

Is Increasing Daily TRY A PLUG

FINDING OF T. HOLLIS WALKER, K.C.

Report of Commissioner On Enquiry Into Public Matters in the Colony

To His Excellency Sir William Lamond Allardyce, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Newfoundland.

WHEREAS by a Commission bearing date of the twenty-second of December in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three, I Thomas Hollis Walker, one of His Majesty's Counsel, was constituted and appointed Commissioner to investigate and enquire into certain matters and things more particularly described and set out in the preamble to the said Commission and with as little delay as possible to report my finding upon the said matters and things.

Now I, the said Thomas Hollis Walker, having on divers days in the months of January, February and March in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-four held and conducted an investigation and enquiry into the said matters and things, at St. John's, in the said Colony of Newfoundland, and having carefully weighed and considered the oral evidence given and the documents produced before me and the comments and arguments of the parties interested, or their legal representatives, do hereby beg to report as follows:—

The first matter of enquiry was stated in the said Commission in the following terms:—"Allegations have been made that amounts paid to the Department of the Liquor Controller were not paid into the Treasury but were paid over to private individuals."

From August 1920 to June 1923 Mr. John T. Meaney was Acting Liquor Controller. His written appointment dated August 11th, 1920, recited that the whole question of legislation in reference to intoxicating liquor was to be referred to a Commission, and that meanwhile no permanent Controller would be appointed, and proceeded to appoint him Acting Controller as from August 1st. His salary was \$2500.00 a year, and he was expressly forbidden to receive any profits, brokerage, or commission in connection with any intoxicating liquors imported into Newfoundland.

Under the Acts of Parliament dealing with Prohibition Mr. Meaney as Acting Controller had charge of the importation and of the sale and distribution of liquor. He was subject to the supervision of a Board of Control, which however, does not appear ever to have met him or to have checked his operations in any way whatever.

According to his own evidence Mr. Meaney supplied liquors (a) against certificates of medical practitioners known as scripts, and (b) without scripts to any one who in his judgment needed (or wanted) it. He professed to regard sales without scripts as within his powers, but he was unable to show me, and I was unable to find any provision which afforded any justification for the practice. It was further elicited from him that he was in the habit of making considerable presents of liquor from the stores in his charge without payment or promise or expectation of payment.

and of receiving large sums by way of gratuity or secret commission from those who supplied liquor to the department; these matters (which he did not seek to excuse) do not directly affect the question which I have to decide, but they indicate the use (or abuse) which Mr. Meaney made of his position, and the way in which the Department was carried on under his management.

All money received from sales of liquor should have been paid into the Exchequer Account at the Bank of Montreal, in the case of sales against scripts all moneys received were handed over to Miss Power, the Accountant at the Department, and were duly transmitted by her to the Bank. The same practice should have been followed in the case of sales without scripts, whether such sales were proper or not, but in many instances this was not done. These sales without scripts were usually for cash, a small proportion only being credit transactions and brought considerable sums of money into Mr. Meaney's hands. He professed to keep a "special account" for them, but he did not enter in it all the sums that he received. Some he entered and paid over to Miss Power, who transmitted them to the Bank, but according to his own admission others were handed over by him to Miss J. G. Miller, (now Mrs. Harsant) who was in the employment of Sir Richard Squires, and purported to ask for and receive them as loans on his account.

Mr. Meaney denied that he made such payments to anyone else, and no other specific recipients were suggested or indicated in the course of the Enquiry. It appeared, however, from remarks made by Mr. Howley, K.C., (counsel for Sir Richard Squires) that an investigation of the books of the Department had recently been conducted by Mr. E. Watson, a member of a firm of accountants practising at St. John's, and it was hinted that some other instances might have emerged. It was extremely unlikely that such transactions, if they took place, would be disclosed in the books. Mr. Meaney certainly did not record there the payments which he made to Miss Miller, or the sales, the proceeds of which he thus diverted, and such vouchers or memoranda as he had were not shown to anyone. I thought it best, however, to procure the attendance of Mr. Watson and have his sworn testimony upon the point. I found that he had made a full examination of the books (concluded in January 1924) for the period from June 1921 to June 1923, during the whole of which Mr. Meaney was Acting Controller. A very large shortage was disclosed. The absence of any stock-taking made it impossible for Mr. Watson to give precise figures, but he estimated that it was not less than 100,000 dollars or dollars worth, and that it might be twice as much. The deficiency might be due to shortage of liquor or of cash or of both. It was not within the scope of the Enquiry to investigate allegations or suggestions of liquor shortage, and as Mr. Watson could not specify or discover any instance in which money paid to the

Department had not been paid, into the Treasury, but to a private individual, I could not see any justification for, or means of extending this section of the Enquiry beyond the original allegations of payments made by Mr. Meaney to or through Miss Miller.

Miss Power had no knowledge of the transactions with Miss Miller and though there were periodical audits, the misconduct of Mr. Meaney escaped detection, I do not see the slightest evidence that either Miss Power or the auditors knew or suspected that Mr. Meaney was withholding any of the money of the Department or paying it out to Miss Miller or anyone else.

The first payment to Miss Miller took place in November 1920. Sir Richard Squires was then abroad, and Miss Miller was in charge of his affairs. She had authority to sign cheques on his account at the Bank of Nova Scotia and on November 19th, 1920, she sent to Mr. Meaney and asked him to cash a cheque for \$1,000, which after some demur he did. Other cheques followed, the full list being:—

2020. November 19th ... \$1,000.00
" November 27th ... 1,000.00
" December 4th ... 1,055.00
" December 4th ... 900.00
" December 11th ... 500.00
2021. January 14th ... 350.00
" January 14th ... 500.00
" January 26th ... 500.00
" March 19th ... 1,100.00

a total of \$6,935.00. These cheques were all drawn on the account of Sir Richard Squires at the Bank of Nova Scotia, and signed "R. A. Squires, per J. G. Miller." In each case the amount for which the cheque was drawn was handed in cash by Mr. Meaney to Miss Miller, Mr. Meaney's evidence was that \$3,000.00 were provided out of his own money and the remaining \$3,935.00 were properly taken out of the money belonging to the Liquor Control Department; it was money which came into his hands as the proceeds of sales without scripts, and ought to have been paid into the Treasury. The counterfoils of the cheques were in Miss Miller's writing and besides stating the amounts in figures, contained in some cases the words, "Cash J. T." these being the initials of Mr. Meaney's Christian names. At some date after Sir Richard's return to the Colony, which took place in the early part of December 1920, Miss Miller repaid to Mr. Meaney \$4,000.00 which she obtained from Sir Richard for the purpose. According to Mr. Meaney's evidence he then repaid himself \$3,000 and restored \$1,000.00 to his Department. It has never been suggested that anything has been paid in respect of the balance of \$2,935.00, and that amount at least is still outstanding.

In March 1921 Miss Miller's authority to draw cheques was rescinded, but the transactions with Mr. Meaney continued with this variation— I. O. U's were given instead:—

Table with 2 columns: Date and Amount. Rows include August 11th to June 20th 1922.

A total of \$19,325.76. These I.O.U's were all signed by Miss Miller in her name only. I find that the amounts for which they were given were all paid to her by Mr. Meaney in cash, and that they were all taken out of the money of the Department, being proceeds of sales without scripts, which ought to have been paid into the Treasury. Nothing has been repaid in respect of these transactions.

In July 1922, Mr. Meaney made a further and final payment of \$550.00 in cash to Miss Miller, who paid the amount into the private banking account of Sir Richard Squires at the Canadian Bank of Commerce. No cheques or I. O. U's were given but Mr. Meaney retained the duplicate deposit slip as his voucher. His evidence was that he provided \$100.00 out of his own money and took the rest from the Department as in previous cases. No part of this has been repaid.

The total payments made by Mr. Meaney to Miss Miller were:—

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include (1) Against cheques \$6,905.00, (2) Against I. O. U's 10,325.76, (3) Against deposit slip 500.00.

of this \$3,100 may have been provided by Mr. Meaney himself, but I find that the balance of \$23,630.76 was improperly paid by him out of the funds of the Department which ought to have been paid into the Treasury. A sum of \$1,000 may have been returned to the Department after some months or weeks use, more than \$22,500.00 are still outstanding.

I find that Miss Miller, though nothing was said as to the source from which the earliest payments came was fully aware that the bulk of the money was taken from the funds of the Department. I find further that the whole of the money paid by Mr. Meaney to Miss Miller was applied by her to the purpose of Sir Richard Squires and for his benefit. A sum of \$400.00 was retained by her to defray the expenses of journeys undertaken by her in connection with her efforts to obtain money from him. Some was paid into his banking account, some was handed to him personally, and some was used to meet pressing claims against himself or his firm.

The Best Returns

Can be secured by using Ammonium Sulphate. It is the best fertilizer extant for hayfield or garden. By its use large crops are assured. Sold in large or small quantities by

The St. John's Gas Light Co.

Phone 81, Gas Works. N.P. Duckwan Street King's Beach Enquiries solicited.

For instance, a client of the firm had lost his all by fire, his claims had been adjusted, but payments were required and were made to him or on his behalf before his compensation was received from the Insurance Company. These payments were made by the personal cheques of Mr. Curtis who had then joined Sir Richard Squires in a partnership which did not include insurance business and Mr. Curtis was reimbursed on at least one occasion by money provided by Miss Miller from Mr. Meaney. Mr. Curtis appears to have taken it without enquiry, but I do not find that he had any knowledge that it had come from the Liquor Department.

The payments made to Miss Miller and the use she made of the money, her close and confidential business relationship with Sir Richard Squires and the evidence which she gave before me, directly raised the question of his complicity in her dealings with Mr. Meaney, and indeed a large part of the hearing of this first section of the enquiry was occupied by evidence and discussions on this important issue.

During the years in which these payments were made, Sir Richard Squires was away from the Colony from time to time, the approximate dates of his absence being:—

- From 3rd August 1920 to 6th December, 1920.
21st August, 1921 to 3rd October, 1921.
20th December, 1921 to 22nd January, 1922.
23rd June, 1922, to 14th December, 1922.

For some time before the first of these periods Sir Richard had taken a very active part and had attained a very prominent place in politics, and there can be no doubt that from 1919 to 1923 the greater part of his time was given over to political work. He was filling the highest office in the state, and was frequently compelled through the illness of colleagues to shoulder the burdens of other Departments of Government besides his own. The conduct of his law office was largely left to subordinates; after 1918 he ceased to call over, or check the office books and his own attendances at the office became irregular, infrequent, brief and hurried. In the summer of 1920 his partnership with Mr. A. Winter was dissolved, and when he left the Colony on or about August 3rd, the person really in charge of his affairs was Miss Miller.

Miss Miller entered the employment of Sir Richard Squires in September, 1916. Originally engaged as accountant she ultimately became in fact general manager of the office. As early as November 1917, Sir Richard authorized her to sign cheques, "Squires and Winter, per J. G. Miller" on the firm's account in the Bank of Nova Scotia and on 28th November 1919, he executed a power of attorney by which she was enabled to draw notes and cheques in his name, to pay or receive money for him and to manage for him all kinds of business with the Bank. He had come to place great reliance in her ability and honesty and devotion to his interests. She and her brother were also supporters of the political party which he led and it was expenditure incurred in connection with politics which was the chief cause of his financial troubles.

In August 1920 Sir Richard Squires had a private account at the Canadian Bank of Commerce and an office account at the Bank of Nova Scotia. His balance at the Canadian Bank of Commerce was drawn out during the month, and the only account upon which Miss Miller could operate was the one at the Bank of Nova Scotia. That account was overdrawn, notes on which Sir Richard was personally liable to the extent of \$20,000.00 were falling due in a very

short time, other claims were coming in and there was a recurring difficulty over the finances of the Daily Star, a political newspaper which was not paying its way, and for the upkeep of which Sir Richard was making himself responsible. Sir Richard left these matters for Miss Miller to deal with, he did not make any arrangement with the Bank Manager, who, after his departure expressed to Miss Miller strong displeasure that the twenty thousand dollars had not been provided for and refused to advance any more money or have anything more to do with notes signed by Sir Richard. Sir Richard had spoken to Miss Miller about the position before he went away, and there was a great conflict of evidence before me as to what instructions he gave to her. According to his account her only instructions were that he had signed and left with his secretary, Miss Saunders, certain notes which could be negotiated in case Miss Miller's own power to sign for him proved insufficient and his personal signature should be required. It does not appear that any such notes were ever put into circulation and Miss Saunders, who affirmed their existence, did not suggest that more than one was issued; she could not tell me, nor could anyone else, what had become of it or of the remainder; she thought that she had destroyed them. In any case this expedient could be of no avail. The Bank of Nova Scotia refused to touch Sir Richard's papers, and Miss Miller's overtures to another Bank met with the same response, and she was faced with the necessity of financing Sir Richard by some other means.

While still on his way to England Sir Richard telegraphed to Miss Miller (August 4th)

"Have telegraphed Goodland give you list Star accounts pay

Murphy immediately credit arranged also 1000 Star note Canadian Bank renew balance."

and again on August 7th "Cable me London Tuesday," and on August 11th she telegraphed to him in London "Satisfactorily arranged."

I accepted her evidence that the Star list, when it came, was appalling, and that it was followed by a constant stream of further claims. Sir Richard admitted that it was within the scope of her employment to meet the pressure by using her power of attorney to obtain accommodation or loans, and in fact she applied to her brother, through whom she obtained over \$40,000.00, and when he refused to supply more she went to Mr. Meaney.

According to her story, this was precisely what Sir Richard had told her to do—to exhaust her brother first and in the last resort to apply to Mr. Meaney. At that time she knew nothing of Mr. Meaney, but he was later, if not then, a friend of her brother whom he visited at Sir Richard's office. Mr. Miller having been given permission to use the room previously occupied by Mr. Winter. Why did she seek the help of Mr. Meaney? Was it of her own notion, or on a suggestion of her brother, or of Mr. Meaney himself? Or was it in accordance with the instructions of Sir Richard when he left her to cope with his finances?

It was clear at any rate that when Sir Richard repaid the \$4,000 he knew that assistance at least to that extent had been obtained from Mr. Meaney. The precise date of this payment it was impossible to ascertain, every witness concerned told a different story about it. It was a cash transaction, there was nothing to indicate where the money came from, and no receipt was given or asked for. Sir Richard himself put the incident as

ANNIVERSARY POLICY

On its 21st Birthday, The Crown Life launched its Anniversary Policy—one of the best combination policies ever issued by a Life Company.

Don't place that insurance on your life, until you have investigated this splendid policy—its popularity is phenomenal.

The Crown Life Insurance Co. TORONTO.

Phone No. 390, Law Chambers, Duckworth St., St. John's. C. J. CAHILL, Manager for Newfoundland. J. P. BURKE, General Agent.

FOR SALE!

Three Fine Schooners

With equipment complete in every detail, namely the "Gander Deal," "Gull Pond" and "Convention Fifteen." All three about sixty-seven tons each. Launched in the fall of 1923.

These schooners are in A1 condition and are ideal Labrador schooners.

For further information apply to

THE FISHERMEN'S UNION TRADING COMPANY LTD. ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D.

Mr. Outport Customer:



DON'T you remember the never fading dye, the enduring qualities were in the black and blue serges you got from us before the war? Yes, certainly! We can give you the same again. Our latest arrivals are guaranteed dyes and pure wool. Samples and style sheet, with measuring form, sent to your address.

John Maunder TAILOR and CLOTHIER

281 and 283 Duckworth Street, St. John's

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST OR A Heart of Gold

CHAPTER VII.

He did not see Adela at first; his cousin hid her as she shrank back, trampling from head to foot. This was the end of it all, she was telling herself wildly; Peter had seen her in Archie's arms, and would of course tell Mrs. Gaythorne.

But if she was terrified, Archie was quite unembarrassed; possibly he had been in similar and even worse predicaments before. He faced his cousin coolly, and when he spoke there was not the least agitation in his voice.

'Oh, here you are! I was just coming to find you. Perhaps you can tell me where the book is that Miss Frome wants.'

Peter stared; the light was full on his strong, ugly face, and coming in abruptly from the darkness of the hall it dazzled him.

'What book?' Then his gaze went beyond his cousin to the girl covering in the background, and his expression changed. There was a moment's silence, then he said, in quite a different and more gentle voice:

'What book is it you want, Miss Frome?'

Adela answered at random. She gave the first title that came into her mind, a title which Peter had never heard, but he pretended that he knew it quite well. I think it's in the library,' he said, evenly. 'If you will come with me, I'll give it to you.'

'Good night, Archie,' she murmured, and it was a deliberate dismissal, and Archie could do nothing but accept it. He stood aside for Adela to pass; she eyed him furtively, but she would not raise her own voice.

'She never knew how she got out of the room or followed Peter to the library.'

He walked straight over to the shelves of books, which ran round three of the high walls. He kept his back turned to Adela while he pretended to search for the one she had mentioned; he kept up a little fire of small talk which needed no answer.

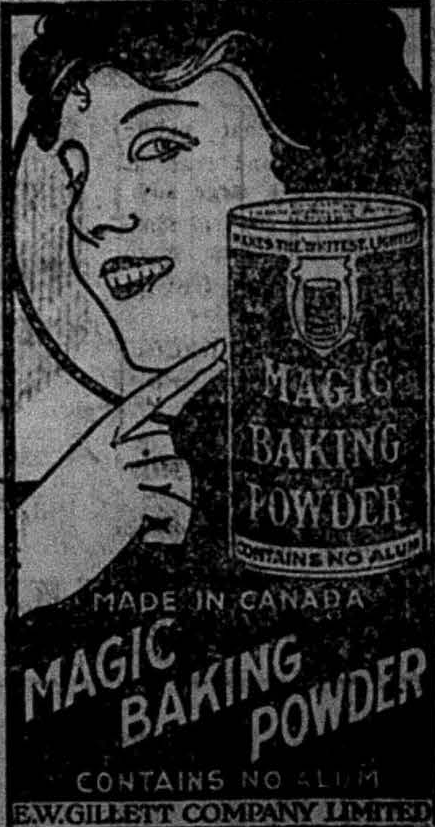
'It ought to be there; it was here, I know. You can always take books from these cases when you want anything to read. Most of them are dry and uninteresting; my worthy-uncle bought them because he liked their bindings. It's safe to assure you that none of them have ever been opened, let alone read.'

He took a volume down from the shelf and opened it; he stood for a moment pretending to examine the pages, then he moved quietly past Adela and shut the door. He came back to where she stood, his hands in his pockets, and looked down at her white face.

'So Beauty has been trying his hand on you already, eh?' he said dryly.

'Beauty! I don't know what you mean.'

Archie then, my estimable cousin Archie! He gave a short laugh.



'Are all women the same, I wonder? A handsome face and a glib tongue—is that all you want?'

She tried to face him indifferently. 'I don't understand you. I wanted a book; I could not sleep; I came down here and Mr. Gaythorne—'

He cut her short. 'It's not worth lying about,' he said.

She drew in her breath hard; there was a hectic spot of color on either of her pale cheeks.

'And now, of course, you are going to tell Mrs. Gaythorne that I was trying to entrap her son; and she will send me away. Very well, do so. I don't care!'

Her voice was reckless; she held her head high. Truscott walked back to the shelf from which he had taken the volume. He replaced it, closed the glass door and locked it; then he looked at her again.

'Good night, Miss Frome,' he said. 'I never heard of the book you asked for. I'll get it from Maudie's for you in the morning, if there is such a book,' he added, and his mouth twisted wryly into a smile.

Adela did not move, and he came a step nearer. After a moment he held out his hand.

'Good-night,' he said again. She looked up at him, when she put both her hands behind her back.

'Oh, I don't understand you,' she said hoarsely. 'One minute you are kind of you, and the next—'

CHAPTER VIII.

When Truscott stayed with the Gaythornes he invariably breakfasted alone.

Mrs. Gaythorne seldom put in an appearance before eleven, and as a rule Archie lounged down, yawning and irritable, in time for lunch; but on the morning following Adela's arrival, when Peter walked into the breakfast room, he found his cousin already there, standing at the window, staring into the garden.

He turned as Peter entered. 'Morning,' he said uncomfortably. 'Morning,' Peter answered. Is anything the matter?' he asked blandly. The two men sat down together; Archie refused anything but tea and toast. He hated breakfast, he said, it was an ungodly meal.

'You drink too much overnight,' Peter told him calmly. 'Rot! I'm worried.'

'If you're going to ask for money you might as well have stayed in bed for another couple of hours and saved yourself the trouble. I told you before that I've done with you. I don't trust you. I don't believe a word you say. You make promises over and over again and break them without scruple. I've done with you, so you need not take the discussion any further.'

He opened a paper beside his plate, and turned a broad shoulder on his cousin. Archie pushed his cup away; he was very pale, and his eyes had a furtive scared look in them; he broke out agitatedly: 'Don't say that, Peter. I know I'm a rotter! I know I'm everything you say I am, and worse. It's born in me; I can't help it. I have tried to go straight. I swear I have, and I can't. It's like some infernal hand on my shoulder dragging me back all the time. I've done my best...'

'A rotten bad best!' Peter said brutally. 'I know, but for God's sake—just this once, Peter...'

He broke off hoarsely, and there was a heavy silence; then Peter hung down his paper, and, turning, looked his cousin straight in the eyes.

'How much this time?' he asked. 'I'm afraid to tell you you are such a straight fellow yourself; you don't understand...'

'Oh, cut that... There was disgust in Peter's voice. 'How much?'

'Six hundred will do. It's more, but... He did not care to go on. To be Continued.)

'And the next?' he encouraged. She shook her head. He walked to the door and opened it for her. 'Good night, Miss Frome,' and this time she followed him slowly, like a child that has been scolded. Just as she reached him he barred her way.

'Years ago, when I was a small boy,' he said, 'I remember reading a story about a princess who wanted to find someone who would love her for herself alone, and not just because she was a princess and beautiful. Did you ever read it?'

'No.' 'Well, princess came from all over the land; handsome, and rich, and amongst them was an ugly one—a very ugly one—quite as ugly as I am; but the Princess could not satisfy herself that any one of them was disinterested, so she pretended to have an illness—a terrible illness that would disfigure her for life, and then she let all her lovers know of it, and invited them to come to the court again. Do you know how many of all the crowd accepted her invitation, Miss Frome?'

Adela shook her head. Peter smiled. 'One!' he said. 'Only one—the ugly man!'

Adela looked up at his wondering face. 'I don't see what you mean,' she faltered.

'I mean that it doesn't always do to put money on a horse because he is good to look at; there have been cases—many cases—where an outsider has romped home, you know. Good night. If you go upstairs quietly, nobody will hear you.'

Adela went slowly; she felt strangely excited, and her pulses were throbbing.

She had never met a man like Truscott before. She thought of the words Archie's sister had spoken that evening.

'You'll love him when you know him; every one does, and of his own vigorous denial; and you already—only an hour or two later—she had been held by something magnetic in his rough, unmusical voice by something in the steady regard of his nondescript eyes.'

When she reached the bend in the stairs, she turned and looked back into the hall; Peter stood there, a huge grotesque figure in the light from the open library door, his eyes watching her with a mocking, half-humorous smile.

Adela fled on up the stairs, came locked herself into her room, and lay in bed.

CHAPTER VIII.

When Truscott stayed with the Gaythornes he invariably breakfasted alone.

Mrs. Gaythorne seldom put in an appearance before eleven, and as a rule Archie lounged down, yawning and irritable, in time for lunch; but on the morning following Adela's arrival, when Peter walked into the breakfast room, he found his cousin already there, standing at the window, staring into the garden.

He turned as Peter entered. 'Morning,' he said uncomfortably. 'Morning,' Peter answered. Is anything the matter?' he asked blandly. The two men sat down together; Archie refused anything but tea and toast. He hated breakfast, he said, it was an ungodly meal.

'You drink too much overnight,' Peter told him calmly. 'Rot! I'm worried.'

'If you're going to ask for money you might as well have stayed in bed for another couple of hours and saved yourself the trouble. I told you before that I've done with you. I don't trust you. I don't believe a word you say. You make promises over and over again and break them without scruple. I've done with you, so you need not take the discussion any further.'

He opened a paper beside his plate, and turned a broad shoulder on his cousin. Archie pushed his cup away; he was very pale, and his eyes had a furtive scared look in them; he broke out agitatedly: 'Don't say that, Peter. I know I'm a rotter! I know I'm everything you say I am, and worse. It's born in me; I can't help it. I have tried to go straight. I swear I have, and I can't. It's like some infernal hand on my shoulder dragging me back all the time. I've done my best...'

'A rotten bad best!' Peter said brutally. 'I know, but for God's sake—just this once, Peter...'

He broke off hoarsely, and there was a heavy silence; then Peter hung down his paper, and, turning, looked his cousin straight in the eyes.

'How much this time?' he asked. 'I'm afraid to tell you you are such a straight fellow yourself; you don't understand...'

'Oh, cut that... There was disgust in Peter's voice. 'How much?'

'Six hundred will do. It's more, but... He did not care to go on. To be Continued.)

TO THE TRADE

You are now about to consider your spring orders, and if you take into consideration the earning power of our people at present you will order immediately and be ready to supply their wants when they come from the lumber woods, etc. Remember employment means prosperity and the sale of more goods.

We manufacture from the strongest leathers obtainable, and if you wish to deal in solid leather boots at moderate prices communicate with us without delay.

We wish all our Customers and consumers a prosperous 1924.

HR. GRACE BOOT & SHOE MFG. CO. LTD. HR. GRACE, NEWFOUNDLAND.

Furness Line

Passages arranged from St. John's, Nfld., direct or via Canada or the United States, to Great Britain, Europe, Bermuda and West Indies.

We sell steamship tickets by all Lines and shall be pleased to furnish sailings and rates upon request.

FURNESS, WITBY & Co., Limited, WATER STREET EAST.

We are now delivering the Best Coal on the market at

\$12.50 per Ton

This Coal is uniform size, contains no slack and no rock; this is not just Scotch Coal, this is Genuine

"BURNSIDE"

Also NORTH SYDNEY SCREENED \$13.50 per Ton.

ANTHRACITE COAL all sizes.

A. H. MURRAY & CO., LTD.

Coal Office Phone 1867.

Beck's Cove.

HALIFAX — CHARLOTTETOWN — ST. JOHN'S.

Farquhar Steamship Company

S. S. "SPES" leaves Boston, March 26th, and Halifax March 29th direct for St. John's. Leaves St. John's April 2nd.

For freight space, etc. apply to.

FARQUHAR STEAMSHIP HARVEY & CO., LTD., COMPANIES, HALIFAX, N.S. ST. JOHN'S, Nfld.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

TRAVEL ACROSS CANADA "NATIONAL WAY."

"THE CONTINENTAL LIMITED"

Leaves Montreal 10.00 p.m. daily for Winnipeg, Edmonton, Vancouver.

Superior all-steel equipment, consisting of Coaches, Standard and Tourist Sleeping Cars, Dining Cars and Drawing-Room Compartment-Observation Cars.

FROM ALL MARITIME PROVINCE POINTS the best connections are via

"OCEAN LIMITED" "MARITIME EXPRESS."

For further information, Fares, Reservation, etc. Apply to

R. H. WEBSTER, Acting General Agent.

ADVERTISE IN THE "ADVOCATE."

We'll Cure That Cough!

Get a 35c. bottle of

Stafford's

Phoratene Cough Cure



and take according to directions, and we are certain you will get rid of your cough in a very short time.

We do not say this cough mixture is a "cure all," but we do know from the enormous sale and testimonials of various people who have used it that IT WILL cure all ordinary coughs that are prevalent this time of the year.

PHORATENE can be purchased at almost any store or direct from us.

TRY A BOTTLE TODAY.

Manufactured and bottled by

DR. STAFFORD & SON,

CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS,

ST. JOHN'S.

Just ad. by

A WORD TO THE TRADE!

It pays you to get your printing done where you can obtain the best value. We claim to be in a position to extend you this advantage.

We carry a large stock of

Bill Heads, Letter Heads, Statements,

and any other stationery you may require.

Envelopes

We have also a large assortment of envelopes of all qualities and sizes, and can supply promptly upon receipt of your order.

Our Job Department has earned a reputation for promptness, neat work and strict attention to every detail. That is why we get the business.

Please send us your trial order to-day and judge for yourself!

ALWAYS ON THE JOB.

Union Publishing Co'y., Ltd

240 Duckworth Street, St. John's.

ADVERTISE IN THE "ADVOCATE"

Report of Commissioner On Enquiry Into Public Matters in the Colony

(Continued from page 1.)
have taken place in December, 1920, within a few days of his return to the Colony, when the amount outstanding on the cheques given to Mr. Meaney was \$3,955, and he swore that until 1923 he never heard that another cent had come to him from that source. It is certain that nothing more was ever paid to Mr. Meaney while Miss Miller went on giving him cheques and I.O. U's, throughout 1921 and far into 1922. There was against this the evidence of Miss Miller that the \$4,000 was a payment on account of a larger sum, and that from time to time she brought the later items to his attention and asked him to repay them. Mr. Meaney alleged similar requests on two occasions.

In the spring of 1921 considerable changes were made at the office of Sir Richard Squires. At the beginning of the year he had taken into partnership Mr. L. R. Curtis, who was dissatisfied with the way in which the affairs of the office were being conducted, and particularly with the practice of using the account at the Bank of Nova Scotia for other than purely office matters. Miss Miller was contemplating matrimony and the relinquishment of her post. Sir Richard had heard disquieting rumors as to the way in which the office had been carried on during his absence, and in one instance at any rate, he considered that Miss Miller had used her authority under the power of attorney, unwisely. As the result a new "trust" account was opened in the name of L. R. Curtis. Miss Miller's power of attorney was cancelled, Mr. Fraser was installed as accountant, and Sir Richard himself, by letter dated 21st March, 1921, announced his intention of calling at the office every morning at half past nine to deal with any business transactions which might have arisen during the previous day or might have to be attended to during the day. Mr. Fraser found the office books, a cash book and a ledger, in a deplorable state. They were incomplete and behind and they had not been checked or balanced for years, he did the best he could with them, sometimes writing in whole pages, month or years after the events from information gathered from Sir Richard Squires, and he made lists of doubtful items, some of which he had never been able to clear up.

These books were of very little use at the Enquiry; it was always difficult and often impossible to trace a transaction through them, and many important things were omitted from them altogether. Miss Miller was the person primarily responsible for them, but I cannot believe that Sir Richard was entirely ignorant of their state. Miss Miller stayed to assist Mr. Fraser until the end of July, when she was placed on a reduced salary. According to Sir Richard Squires this was paid her solely in relation to certain insurance matters of value to him, with which she was in close touch, and she had nothing to do with his finances beyond possibly conveying to him voluntary contributions from political supporters. According to her she was at his request procuring money for him chiefly by the aid of Mr. Meaney, until July 1922. Light was thrown on this controversy by several incidents including:

(A)—Insurance business was not a firm matter, but the personal concern of Sir Richard only; in the latter part of August 1921 Mr. Fraser found that the premiums collected by or for Sir Richard had not been paid to the insurance companies for over a year, and they were angrily demanding a remittance. Sir Richard asked Mr. Curtis to send a cheque on the trust account; Mr. Curtis asked Sir Richard first to put that account in funds; it was put in funds by the payment in of \$5,000. That payment was made by Miss Miller and the deposit slip bears her name.

(B)—On Dec. 1921, Miss Miller paid a sum of \$3,000 into Sir Richard's account at the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

(C)—On the 27th of July, 1922 Miss Miller paid a sum of \$500 into Sir Richard's account at the Canadian Bank of Commerce and left the duplicate deposit slip in the hands of Mr. Meaney.

(D)—So late as August 1922 the Manager of the Bank of Commerce was dealing with Miss Miller with reference to deposits which should have been made to Sir Richard's letter of credit account.

In June, 1922, Mr. Meaney alleged that a burglary had been attempted at the Liquor Control Office; and a question arose with reference to a statement which he was alleged to

have made to the police officer sent to enquire into the matter, insinuating that Sir Richard was implicated. Pending investigation into the whole matter of the burglary Mr. Meaney was suspended from his office as Acting Controller; there had been other complaints of his management, such as an accusation of overstocking, but the events in connection with the alleged burglary formed the sole reason for his suspension. Soon after this rumors reached Mr. Meaney that criminal proceedings were contemplated against him; he had for some time been suspicious of Sir Richard's attitude, and he became very bitter against him; and after he had consulted his solicitor, his whole story was laid before the Minister of Justice.

My attention was called to the subsequent conduct of Sir Richard as bearing on the genuineness of the case set up by him at the Enquiry. Though he discussed the charges with Ministers and members of his party, he never attempted to offer any explanation of it, and he did not deny it. Though the Minister of Justice waited on him with reference to the charges, told him that he himself had seen the cheques and I. O. U's and used words which he (Sir Richard) took to be an invitation to explain, no explanation or denial was forthcoming. Though, according to his own evidence, he realized in December, 1923 from the term of reference then published, that he was implicated in this section of the Enquiry, he did not ask for inspection of the documents or for any particulars with regard to them, nor did he give any instructions to his counsel on the matter, and on the first day of the hearing his counsel, Mr. Howley, K. C., stated to me, and I have no doubt truthfully: "I would like to point out that I have now for the first time information that my client is interested in any way in this particular head of the Commission."

In my opinion Sir Richard had long known that he was implicated and the nature of the allegations that were being made against him, and while he was in Europe in October, 1923, he received a very significant telegram purporting to have been sent by Mr. Miller:

"Understand Meaney willing to consider cheques and I.O.U.s. a personal loan if same paid amounting to \$20,000 and if this is attended to believe can show anything myself concerned as personal and outside any negotiations or communication between you and companies."

As a matter of fact this telegram was not sent by Mr. Miller, but by a busybody who appears to have been trying to stifle enquiry; but Sir Richard did not know this, and believing it was from Miller, was content to treat it with contempt. His partner Mr. Curtis appears to have entertained different views, and his conduct in December, 1923 in interviewing both Mr. Miller and Mr. Meaney with regard to the statements they were furnishing to the Minister of Justice for use at the enquiry which was imminent, and in endeavoring to adjust the financial side of this liquor control question in the fond hope that this head of the Enquiry might be withdrawn, were in my opinion, to say the least of it, extremely unwise. The part played by Sir Richard in connection with Mr. Miller's statement did not raise my opinion of his straightforwardness.

That Mr. Miller would be willing to do anything he could to avoid the ordeal of the witness box can well be understood by anyone who saw or heard him during the hearing of the second section of the Enquiry. But Mr. Meaney's wish seems to have been to shield Sir Richard possibly with the hope of a renewal of his patronage and he made it plain to Mr. Curtis that he did not seek to avoid taking his own medicine."

On the score of credit both Mr. Meaney and Miss Miller had laid themselves open to attack, and criticisms on this head were properly made by Sir Richard's counsel. I was alive to the necessity, in view of their admitted participation in the wrong-doing alleged, of a very careful consideration of their evidence, and of the corroboration, if any, to be found in the documents and surrounding circumstances. Mr. Meaney was also put forward as being actuated by revenge, and though he was friendly enough with Sir Richard when those transactions began, it was clear that as time went on and the expected permanent Controllership was not bestowed upon him, he became suspicious and ultimately incensed. This was an additional reason

After Childbirth

The depression and nerve fatigue suffered by women blots out interest in everything. You need

The Asaya-Neural

Nervous Exhaustion

which contains Lecithin (concentrated from eggs), the form of phosphates required for nerve repair.

PREPARED BY
DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO.
MONTREAL

for scrutinizing his word, though I do not accept the contention that his evidence, which was given with engaging if shameless candour, is to be wholly disregarded. Both he and Miss Miller regarded the payments as of a temporary character, they expected Sir Richard would redeem them, that the money would be returned to the Department, and no great harm would be done. Moreover very little of Mr. Meaney's evidence directly touched Sir Richard on this head of the enquiry, and the question of Sir Richard's complicity depended much more upon the evidence of Miss Miller. It was suggested that she too had become Sir Richard's enemy, and had entered into a conspiracy with Mr. Meaney or had fallen under his domination. I could see no sign whatever of this. I could not see that she obtained or sought to obtain at any time a profit or advantage for herself; she never entertained a particle of enmity towards her employer, her relations with Mr. Meaney were never intimate, and her will was not subordinate to his. Her evidence was not entirely devoid of inaccuracies, and her memory was sometimes at fault; no single witness was called before me about whom the same might not be said, but I was satisfied that she was telling me the truth to the best of her ability and without any ulterior motive.

Sir Richard Squires on the other hand was at all material times a prominent public man, always open to attack and misrepresentation, and I have not omitted to regard his position and his attainments, his labors or his necessities, and the manner of his evidence. These were two elements to be considered in conjunction with the facts and findings which I have mentioned above, and the thousand and one details which came out in the course of the Enquiry, but of which I do not deem it necessary to make specific mention here.

On the issue of Sir Richard's complicity I find as follows:

1.—That before he left St. John's for Europe in August 1920 Sir Richard Squires included Mr. Meaney among those whom he specifically authorized Miss Miller to apply for financial help.

2.—That when Mr. Meaney was repaid \$4000 it was on account of a larger sum due, and that Sir Richard Squires did not in any way indicate to Miss Miller displeasure that she had been to Mr. Meaney or desire that she should not go to him again.

3.—That Miss Miller kept Sir Richard informed of all the various amounts that she had obtained from Mr. Meaney, and from time to time conveyed requests from Mr. Meaney that the amounts should be repaid. It may well be that Sir Richard did not at any particular moment know the exact total of his indebtedness. Mr. Meaney was too suspicious and too wary to bring into existence a written list, but he knew the approximate figure and he knew how substantial it was.

Miss Miller did not say that she had ever told Sir Richard in so many words that the money was coming from the Liquor Control Department. According to her it was understood. I find that it was. There was no need to tell him. It was obvious Sir Richard knew all about Mr. Meaney, his aggressive politics, his fluent pen and his slender purse.

Mr. Meaney had followed many callings. Immediately before he went to the Liquor Control he held a post on the staff of the Daily Star at \$35.00 a week, and his income was supplemented by other journalistic work both within and without the colony, and occasional participation in lumber ventures; he was a poor man, and as Sir Richard intimated he had to be fed and clothed by some one. He gave up the Daily Star at \$35.00 for the Liquor Control at \$50.00, retaining his other sources of income, so that his total increase was \$15.00 a week, and he was still a poor man quite unable to provide any large sum from his own resources. Sir Richard did not know until 1923 that he was feathering his nest by

taking forbidden commissions, and anything like \$20,000.00 in two years was entirely beyond his apparent resources. Sir Richard himself told me that no one could take large sums from Mr. Meaney at that time without the strongest suspicion that public money was being used, and that he would regard \$4000 as a large sum. Yet in December, 1921, no less than \$9000 was obtained for him from this source. I do not believe that he was ignorant of it, and I find:—

4.—That Sir Richard Squires realized in August 1920 that money might be obtained for him through Mr. Meaney from the funds of the Liquor Department, and that after his return he realized that it had been so obtained, and was being so obtained; that he accepted the use and benefit of over \$20,000.00, so obtained with knowledge of their tainted history, and made himself a receiver and an accomplice in Mr. Meaney's wrong.

THE BESCO TRANSACTIONS

2.—The second matter mentioned in the Commission was stated in the following terms:—

"It is alleged that while negotiations were in progress between the Government of the Colony and the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. Ltd., and the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. Ltd., respectively concerning the obligations of the said companies to the Government certain moneys were paid to the then Prime Minister by the said Companies."

Previous to the year 1920 the two Canadian Companies named had for many years carried on operations at Bell Island, Newfoundland, as well as in other places outside the Colony. Important matters in connection with their business in Newfoundland, such as export duty, were the subject of agreement with the Government, and on 31st December, 1919, such an agreement, which had lasted for ten years, expired by effluxion of time. Negotiation followed between the Companies and the Government as to the terms to be embodied in a new agreement, and continued intermittently until November 1920, when all the details were settled and a new contract was signed, which however had no binding effect until it received the assent of the Legislature on 12th August 1921. A general election in 1919 had delayed the opening of discussions about the new agreement, but all negotiations proceeded upon the basis, and the agreement when concluded contained a term, that it should relate back to Jan. 1st, 1920. It was also in contemplation that the two companies would shortly be federated or fused, their interests were identical and the agreement did not draw the slightest difference between them. A new company was in fact formed about May 1921, called the British Empire Steel Corporation (popularly known as Besco), by which they have been to a certain extent amalgamated, though each has retained for some purpose its own separate existence. Officers from Besco were taken from each of the companies, officers of one company became officers of the other, and it was sometimes difficult to ascertain which company a particular officer at a particular juncture was representing, especially when transactions were being dealt with which if they were for the benefit of one company would equally be for the benefit of both or all.

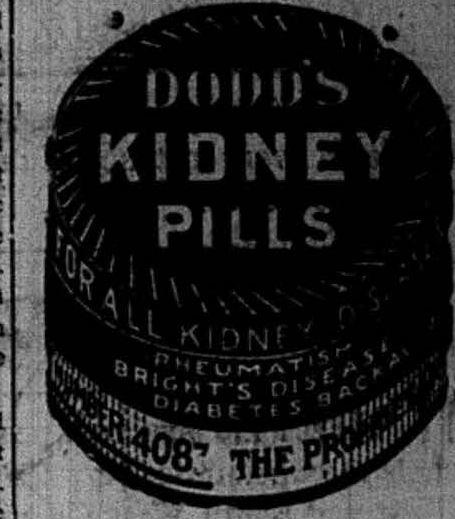
Early in August 1920 Sir Richard Squires then Prime Minister of Newfoundland left the Colony; he was absent until the early part of December. He left his financial affairs in the hands of Miss J. G. Miller (now Mrs. Harsant) his accountant and manager, who was the sister of Mr. J. J. Miller the accountant of the Dominion Co. at Wabana, Bell Island. During Sir Richard's absence Mr. Miller engaged in a series of transactions with the object and effect of relieving the financial pressure upon him, and the Bank of Nova Scotia in consequence transferred considerable sums of money, amounting in all to more than \$43,000, from the account of the Dominion Co. to that of Sir Richard Squires. The transactions were embodied in the following documents:—

(1) A 30 days draft dated August 3rd, 1920, for \$5973.75 drawn by "Squires & Winter, R. A. Squires, per J. G. Miller" on the Dominion Iron & Steel Co. purporting to be accepted by the Company in J. J. Miller's handwriting.

(2) A sight draft dated August 10th, 1920 for \$4000 drawn by R. A. Squires per J. G. Miller on and accepted by J. J. Miller.

(3) A sight draft dated August 14th 1920 for \$5000 drawn by R. A. Squires per J. G. Miller on and accepted by J. J. Miller.

(4) A sight draft dated August 16th 1920 for \$5000 drawn by J. J. Miller upon the Dominion Co. and purporting



to be accepted by the company per J. J. Miller.

(5) A 60 days' note dated August 16th 1920 for \$20,000 and interest signed by Angus MacDonald, Manager and J. J. Miller accountant under the stamped name of the Company placed there by J. J. Miller.

(6) A sight draft dated August 17th 1920 for \$2000 drawn by R. A. Squires per J. G. Miller on and accepted by J. J. Miller.

(7) A sight draft dated November 27th 1920 for \$1500 drawn by R. A. Squires per J. G. Miller on and accepted by J. J. Miller.

These documents were all delivered to the Bank of Nova Scotia, endorsed where necessary R. A. Squires per J. G. Miller; the amounts were charged against the Dominion Co's account, and with slight deductions for discount and bank charges were credited at once to Sir Richard's account. The actual credits were (1) \$932.88 (2) 3990 (3) 4990.45 (4) 4987.10 (5) 20039.85 (6) 1995.85 (7) 1496.25, a total of \$43432.38, but the figures and references in the Bank books conclusively established the correlation of the transactions.

I find that a sum of over \$43,000 was thus taken from the coffers of the Dominion Co., and placed in the coffers of Sir Richard Squires at a time when he was Prime Minister of the Colony, and while negotiations were in progress between the company and the Government concerning the obligations to be imposed upon the company as from January 1st, 1920, in a proposed new contract.

But Sir Richard himself was absent from the Colony at the time, and Mr. J. J. Miller was not the Dominion Iron and Steel Co.; and the time of the enquiry was mainly occupied in dealing with the questions—(a) whether Sir Richard personally instigated or adopted the payments or was in any way a party to them, and (b) whether they were made with the authority or assent or acquiescence of or were at any time adopted or recognized by, responsible persons at the head of the companies or any one of them.

Until the middle of 1920 Sir Richard was only slightly acquainted with Mr. Miller; they had come in contact over labor troubles at the Bell Island Mines, and in a recent by-election at Bay de Verde Mr. Miller had rendered some political service to the party of which Sir Richard was the head; but Mr. Miller was by reason of his sister's position easily accessible to Sir Richard; and by reason of his own convenient avenue of approach to the officials of companies; and when Sir Richard desired to confer with the companies on the subject of a new agreement, he utilized Mr. Miller to invite their representatives to St. John's, to introduce some of them to himself, and to arrange their meetings. Among those who came were Mr. McInnes and Mr. McDougall; the former was the Solicitor and a director of the Dominion Co., the latter was then President of the Nova Scotia Co. and afterwards became Vice-President of both Besco and the Dominion Co. Mr. McDougall was the chief negotiator, he had arranged the previous contract ten years before and Mr. McInnes was there to help with details of a legal character. These gentlemen arrived at St. John's in May and left again in June 1920, no decision had then been reached and the negotiations were suspended with an understanding that they would be resumed when Sir Richard should return from his contemplated trip to Europe, which was expected to occupy a couple of months or so. In fact Sir Richard did not leave till August or return till December, and meanwhile

on November 1920 an agreement was arrived at between Mr. Wolvin the President of the Dominion Co. and Sir Wm. Coaker who was acting for Sir Richard Squires. The financial position of Sir Richard in the summer of 1920 was not satisfactory, and he anticipated that large demands would have to be met during his absence or stayed off until his return. His office books were badly kept, and his Banking accounts were confused. He was in sole control of the campaign funds of his party, but he kept no record of them or separate account for them. They were mixed up with his private affairs and the affairs of the Daily Star,

an unsuccessful newspaper which he was financing; they had been depleted by a general election in 1919 and at least two contested bye-elections in the first half of 1920, and the only thing that is certain in this regard is that he was being called upon to pay out a great deal more than was being paid in. On his departure the difficult problems of his finances were left for Miss J. G. Miller his accountant and manager to deal with, armed with a wide power of attorney which enabled her to sign negotiable instruments in his behalf.

He had told Mr. Miller that he was \$80,000 out on the Daily Star, and had intimated that he would welcome help from him or his friends, and it is clear that some information as to his financial position was conveyed to both Mr. McInnes and Mr. McDougall when they were in St. John's. Mr. McDougall at any rate desired to help him, and borrowed from Mr. McInnes for the purpose; early in June 1920 the latter drew a cheque for \$4000 on the Bank of Nova Scotia, and this having been cashed and a further \$1000 added, a parcel containing \$5000 in cash was handed to Sir Richard Squires. A good deal of suspicious mystery seems to have surrounded this transaction, and Sir Richard himself was unnecessarily deceived as to its real origin. Though Mr. McInnes was entirely reimbursed some ten days afterwards, and did not in fact contribute a cent, Sir Richard's version at the enquiry was that the whole sum was a personal contribution from Mr. McInnes to help him for old acquaintance sake. Really it came from Mr. McDougall whom, as far as I know, he had never met before.

In the absence of Mr. McDougall I was unable to investigate this incident fully, but I am satisfied that at the time that these officials were at St. John's negotiating in connection with the proposed Government contract they were both aware that Sir Richard was in need of money and indicated a disposition to help him. I do not doubt that Mr. Miller knew this too, and when August came and his sister in her difficulties applied to him, he considered that he would be fulfilling the wishes of his superiors and the hopes of Sir Richard if he did his best to help her. His position, however, was very vague, no precise amounts or method had been discussed, and his first step was to telegraph both to Mr. McInnes and to Mr. McDougall to the effect that Sir Richard was going away and required help. Mr. McDougall does not appear to have replied, but from Mr. McInnes came two telegrams:—

(a) Received on August 2nd:—
"Cable received too late for me to deal with."

(b) Received on August 3rd:—
"McInnes says will answer Miller message soon as can."

On August 5th he sent important letters to both these gentlemen in identical terms—"confirming telegram sent you on August 1st I

beg to say that this party sent for me and asked if it would be possible to arrange loan to meet some pressing obligations which had to be straightened out before he could get away on the next boat for his vacation. The reason for such reply was due to his leaving the matter so long last moment expecting cheques from parties which were past due. The amount is only required for a couple of months, and if you can see your way clear to help him out I am very glad to be in the interest of all concerned. He told me confidentially that the proposed looking to us to help him cover his present difficulties, and any action our people care to take would likely be reciprocated later in some other way." By "this party" Mr. Miller meant Sir Richard Squires, and I have no doubt that the words would be so understood by the recipients of the letters. The matter was urgent, and the nature of the proposed transaction was obvious. Mr. Miller seemed to be uncertain as to whether he had answers to these letters, and Mr. McInnes denied sending any answer at all. Mr. Miller, as he has said in his evidence "took a chance on it," he "sure thought his action would be ratified," and he carried out the transactions already enumerated until \$43,000 had been placed to the credit of Sir Richard Squires, when he declined to procure any more.

It will be noticed that several of the documents took the form of drafts drawn on behalf of Sir Richard Squires on and accepted by Mr. Miller, and I was much puzzled to know how such drafts came to be debited against the Dominion Co., who do not on the documents appear as parties in any capacity whatever. They were so debited in the Bank of Nova Scotia, and I was anxious to hear under what authority the officials of the Bank acted, and to have an account of this and other matters from Mr. Glendie, the then Manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia at St. John's. Unfortunately, however, he is now resident in Canada, and though efforts were made to procure his attendance at the enquiry, they were successful. I was not favorably impressed by the excuses which he put forward, or rather which his Bank put forward for him. With regard to the drafts of this particular class (amounting to \$12,500) there seemed to me to be the only two possible explanations—either the Bank was authorized or encouraged by some high official of the Dominion Co. to charge these amounts against the Company, or it was content to take Mr. Miller's word for it and put itself in a position of great peril.

The largest and most important of the documents was the 60 days' note for \$20,000, dated 16th August, 1920, purporting to be made on behalf of the Dominion Co., and signed by Mr. Miller and by Mr. MacDonald, the manager at Wabana. Mr. MacDonald

(Continued on page 4.)

The Union Export Company, Limited

NOTICE is hereby given that a general meeting of the Union Export Co., Ltd., will be held at the office of the Company at Port Union on the 24th day of March, 1924, at 3.00 o'clock in the afternoon, when the subjoined resolution will be proposed as a special resolution.

"1. That it is expedient to effect an amalgamation of this Company with the Fishermen's Union Trading Co. Ltd., and that with a view thereto this Company be wound up voluntarily, and that Sir W. F. Coaker be and he is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up.

"2. That the conditional agreement submitted to this meeting be and the same is hereby approved, and that the Liquidator be and he is hereby authorized, pursuant to section 218 of the Companies Act, to adopt the said agreement and carry the same into effect, with such, if any, modification as the said Liquidator may think expedient."

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that a further general meeting of the Company will be held on the 3rd day of April, 1924, at the same time and place, for the purpose of receiving a report of the proceedings of the above-mentioned meeting, and of confirming (if thought fit) as a special resolution the above mentioned resolution.

Dated at Port Union the 12th day of March, 1924.
J. H. SCAMMELL,
SECRETARY.

The Evening Advocate

The Evening Advocate. The Weekly Advocate. Issued by the Union Publishing Company, Limited, Proprietors, from their office, Duckworth Street, three doors West of the Savings Bank. W. F. COAKER, General Manager R. HIBBS Business Manager



To Every Man His Own

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

By mail The Evening Advocate to any part of Newfoundland, \$2.00 per year; to Canada, the United States of America and elsewhere, \$5.00 per year.

Letters and other matter for publication should be addressed to Editor. All business communications should be addressed to the Union Publishing Company, Limited. Advertising Rates on application. The Weekly Advocate to any part of Newfoundland, 50 cents per year; to Canada, the United States of America and elsewhere, \$1.50 per year.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, FRIDAY, MARCH 21st, 1924.

The Humber Development and Employment

On more than one occasion in the past year the Advocate has drawn attention to what it regarded as unfair and unjust discrimination against Newfoundland workmen on the part of the companies operating at Corner Brook, Deer Lake and Grand Lake. On these occasions we pointed out that the best possible was not being done with regard to the number of men employed and that, apparently, the contractors were making no appreciable effort to carry out the undertaking in respect of employment which was part of the unwritten agreement between the Contractors and the Government of this Colony.

We now make the statement that since the work of construction and development has begun to assume such proportions as warrant the employment of men for positions of a permanent nature and of a class removed from that of ordinary pick and shovel, foremen's or timekeepers' work, the Newfoundland Power and Paper Company, Limited, are again failing to live up to the undertaking to give Newfoundlanders such jobs as they are qualified to fill. In other words, the Company are continually importing into this country Englishmen and Canadians, and giving them positions which should, by every right, be given to Newfoundlanders. Instances of this are to be seen almost daily. For example, a recent issue of the North Sydney Herald has the following item:

Mr. John Christo arrived home this morning from Montreal, where he has been studying at McGill University, and will leave on Monday by S. S. Kyle for Humbermouth, where he has secured a position with the accounting staff of the Armstrong-Whitworth Company Limited.

We realize fully that there are many classes of work for which it may be difficult or impossible to procure men locally, but surely there can be no justification for sending out of this country to get qualified accountants. Even in the case of construction work, we have it on the very best authority that men were brought in here by the contractors to perform certain work which local tradesmen, engineers and others could have done much more efficiently. If the Newfoundland Power and Paper Company or the Armstrong Whitworth Company, now that the time is approaching for the employment of permanent staffs, are determined to import help while the people of this country have to go away in search of this same kind of work, the time has come for plain speaking and it were as well that the position should be placed before these concerns as it really is. When the Newfoundland Government gave the contractors certain concessions to enable them to establish in this country, it did not do so for the mere pleasure of having them here. The object of the Government was to create or encourage the creation of employment of our own people, whether they be laborers, clerks, tradesmen or any other class of workers. The country gave the concessions in return for employment for our people and every man who can be accommodated with either casual or permanent work should be served if the contractors are going to keep their part of the bargain. Furthermore, while there is a man in the Country needing a job and qualified to take those which the contractors have to offer, outsiders should not be brought in and given what justly belongs to those already on the spot, and who are fully qualified for the available positions.

The same complaint, in a less serious degree, has been voiced with respect to the Grand Falls mills, and while in the latter case the discrimination may not be as flagrant as in the former, there is no reason in the world why it should exist at all. There can be no two opinions on the question of what both these companies owe this country, and it should not be lost sight of by them that, however much their operations might mean to the country, the obligation is by

no means entirely with us. The Advocate shall not cease to condemn every instance of this kind of injustice that comes under its notice.

Bidding For Our Trade

Unless the business people of this city wake up to their responsibilities very quickly a good deal, if not all, the West and South West Coast trade will have been whisked away from under their very noses. Realizing the importance of the constantly growing trade of that section of Newfoundland influenced by the large industrial undertakings, ambitious traders in Cape Breton are losing no time in establishing themselves in what they regard as a very promising field of business. Not alone are old established firms in Sydney and North Sydney preparing to improve their acquaintance with our West Coast and extend their interests to that section, but new companies are being formed with the object of bidding for this trade which will be growing constantly from now on. It will be a serious matter indeed if Cape Breton firms come in and oust local concerns from their legitimate place in the trade with the West Coast; but should that happen, it will be because the Sydney people lay themselves out to give better service and better value than our own business people are able or prepared to give.

The extent of the trade to be done with the West Coast during the coming years will be beyond anything heretofore imagined. It must offer sufficient incentive for local firms, assisted by anything the Government can do, to insure for themselves the bulk of the business accruing from the establishment of pulp and paper mills and other industrial undertakings in the western section of the Island.

Keels, B.B. Held Big Union Parade

Toilers Leave Their Work to Parade Through Settlement, Showing Honor to F.P.U. Flag

Appreciate Pres. Coaker's Services

Editor Evening Advocate. Dear Sir, Please grant me space in your valuable paper to record a few items from this place. The F. P. U. Local Council held its annual meeting here on a recent date and the officers were elected as follows:— Edward Penney (of Chas.), Chairman (re-elected). Richard Mesh (of Wm.), Deputy Chairman (elected). Herbert Snow, Secretary, (re-elected). Robert Moss, Treasurer (re-elected). John Fitzgerald (of Henry), Door Guard (elected). On February 1st the Union flag was raised and the Union members, although working in the woods all the forenoon, assembled at the forenoon, assembled at the Union Hall at three o'clock in the evening to attend the parade. After the business of the Council was attended to we then formed in line and wended our way around the harbour headed by the Ensign and the good old F. P. U. flag. The L. O. A. band offered their services and kindly furnished us with music on parade, which was greatly appreciated. After a walk of about one and a half hour's we proceeded back to the Hall again where the kind ladies had a sumptuous repast prepared. This being finished, the young folks started to enjoy themselves by dancing, which they kept up until the wee sma' hours of the morning. We welcome Sir W. F. Coaker back again from his trip across the seas and greatly appreciate his strenuous work for the benefit of the fishermen and the good of the country in general. Long may he live to carry on such good work. Thanking the Advocate for space and hoping that I have not trespassed too much thereon. I remain, Yours sincerely, UNION MAN. Keels, B.B. March 11, 1924.

Drowning of William Quinton Redcliffe, B.B.

TRAGEDY OCCURRED IN SIGHT OF ATTEMPTING RESCUERS, WHILE VICTIM WAS SEAL-HUNTING.

Open Hall, March 10, '24. Editor Evening Advocate. Dear Sir—With your kind permission grant me space in the columns of your paper to record one more of those sad drownings that are still happening in and around our shores. I refer to the tragedy which overtook Wm. Quinton, Sr., of Red Cliffe, B.B., aged 60 years. Deceased left his home on Friday morning, March 7th, to go swatching alone. He travelled over land about a mile to Tickle Cove Point. From thence he proceeded on the ice and, travelling about half a mile from land, he met three or four men from Tickle Cove returning back who told him that the ice was moving and begged him to return, but on telling him they saw several seals, he decided to go on. Later he was signalled by three men on the ice from Red Cliffe, which signal he immediately obeyed, and started at a smart rate for the land. He was observed by these men to be coming all right, and in less than it takes to tell, from the time they looked back

until they looked again, he had disappeared. To get to him now was impossible, as the ice was rapidly opening and a lake of water had formed, which would take an hour or more to walk around. They hurried on shore and immediately launched out a boat, and search was made until dark, but no trace of anything could be found. Again on Saturday the ice having tightened another search was made far and near but no sign of anything could be found. He was one of those who was always ready to run any risk however great, and willing to do anything in his power to help his fellowman; loved by all who knew him. He was a member of L.O.A. Keels, and also of the R.B.P. of Port Rexton. Left to mourn him is a loving wife and one daughter, one sister and four brothers. He is gone we trust, to meet his loving son, who gave up his life in the Great War. A deep gloom is cast over the place and one and all sympathize with the bereaved ones in so sudden a calamity.

Dear brother, thy body is lying A mile or so from land, But we trust thy soul is gone To join the Angelic Band.

O'er thee the waves may rage, The billows howl and roar; But thy resting place is as near to heaven In water-as on shore.

Report of Commissioner On Enquiry Into Public Matters in the Colony

(Continued from Page 3.) Meanwhi, viz: in December 1920, Sir Richard had returned to St. John's. No doubt there was many things in the field of politics to claim his attention, but find it difficult to accept his evidence that he allowed three months to elapse before he made any enquiries of Miss Miller as to how she met such difficulties at the \$20,000.00 notes and the Daily Star accounts, especially too as he would have me believe that within a few days of his arrival he learned from her that she had done something quite contrary to his wishes in obtaining funds from Mr. Meaney. Be that as it may, however, he certainly heard of Miss Miller's activities in March 1921; according to his own account, she told him in that month that she had obtained accommodation through her brother, and that she expected that his company would 'pick it up' as a campaign subscription; she further told him that he had given her brother a number of cheques representing the several amounts. He did not express surprise at her brother's action or disapproval, but complained that the transaction should have been vouched by a Daily Star cheque. Miss Miller thereupon asked her brother to see Sir Richard, and take to him the cheques which she had drawn, and a few days afterwards these cheques were returned to Sir Richard, who after listing the items, including two sums of \$2,000 and \$380 respectively which had nothing to do with the Dominion Co., procured and handed to Miller what purported to be a Daily Star cheque for the agreed total of \$6,065.05 dated 28th March, 1921. As a cheque, this document was useless, it was insufficiently signed, it was on a Bank where the Daily Star had no account and in fact the Daily Star had not at that time any funds in any Bank. Sir Richard excused this transaction by telling me that the document was not intended to be used as a cheque, it was a mere receipt or voucher given to satisfy Mr. Miller's principals, that is to say, his company. Next day Mr. Miller paid it into the Bank and on April 2nd it was duly dishonoured. I think that the real object of this was obvious. The cheque was paid to the credit of the company, and the full amount was at once placed to the Company's credit, at that time the Company's fiscal year ended on 31st March and their annual audit followed at once. Thus for the moment a false balance was created and the matter hidden. The corresponding debit, when the cheque was dishonoured, was made after a new fiscal year had begun and time was obtained for the making of the satisfactory arrangement mentioned in Sir W. D. Reid's telegram a few days before.

Nothing more was done. No Claim was made upon Sir Richard or on Mr. Miller, and it became plain that the company had picked it up, and the money was a present. Sir Richard himself said that he concluded that it was a present from Besco or one of its constituent companies towards his campaign funds; that it, to himself, for Sir Richard Squires' campaign funds were as he admitted, for all practical purposes one and the same. He said that he never troubled to enquire how or when the money was paid to him, his bang book contained the items, in his ledger they were all entered to the credit of Mr. Miller, and the latter and his sister were easy accessible; I find that he knew all about them in March, 1921.

The total sum was large, no other company had ever contributed, more than \$5,000 to his campaign funds. It did not come from the pockets of individual officials whose political opinions might have coincided with his own, but from the resources owned by the Dominion Co. in its corporate capacity; in reality it was the money of the shareholders of a Canadian Corporation carrying on a very large undertaking of whose operations the works in Newfoundland were but a comparatively small portion. The Company as such had nothing to do with politics except in so far as its own business interests were affected, and the great if sole concern in this regard was to secure good terms in its contracts with the Government. In my view the handing over of the company's money to the Prime Minister of Newfoundland at any time material to this issue could only have been with the hope and object of furthering the prospects of the company by securing his favor, and that the recipient could not fail to realize it.

At the time when most of the money was in fact received for Sir Richard Squires active bargaining was temporarily suspended. Resumed during his absence the negotiations resulted in an agreement which required adoption and ratification by the Legislature before it could have any binding force.

At any moment active negotiations might recommence, and indeed suggestions of altering the agreement were made even before it was ratified. On 14th December 1920 Mr. McDougal was writing to Sir Richard to the effect that it was doubtful whether the proposed merger of the companies would go through, and added that the Government might be asked to make separate contracts defining the respective responsibilities of the two companies. In the following year the companies appear to have become alarmed at the magnitude of the obligations imposed on them, and on the 11th July, 1921, Mr. Gillis set out their proposals for modification in a letter addressed to Sir Richard in his capacity as Chairman of the Select Committee which was then considering the question of ratification. These proposals included reduction of export tax, extension of time for executing works, and elimination of blast furnace proposals. Nothing came of this, however, and the agreement was ratified as it stood. Similar suggestions were put forward in the Autumn, and subsequent attempts to obtain concessions on these heads had been constantly made, especially whenever the Government of the day has shown anxiety to keep the mines open and employment brisk in times of bad trade or labour unrest.

In December, 1921 Mr. Meaney went to Montreal. Sir Richard Squires was already there and they were soon in touch with labor troubles and negotiations in respect of a Government contract with a cable company in New York. Mr. Meaney was asked about negotiations alleged to have been had during that visit with the object of procuring further financial assistance for Sir Richard. Mr. Lewis (of counsel for Sir Richard Squires) strongly objected to the admission of evidence of this or any other attempt to obtain further money, unless and until it was alleged and shown that an actual payment resulted. It was not suggested that the company paid anything after 1920, and he argued that the Commission referred only to money paid and I was not entitled to investigate allegations of unproductive efforts made in subsequent years. At a later stage of the enquiry in the course of his final speech to me, Mr. Lewis took another point. The Commission refers to 'negotiations... concerning the obligations' of the companies and he argued that from 31st December 1919, when the old agreement expired, to 12th August 1921 when the new one came into force, there were no obligations of the companies at all. The joint effect of these two objections was somewhat curious; if there were no obligations at the time of the payments and no payments at the time of the obligations and that was an end of the matter, the enquiry on this head need not have taken a day, the personal issues that had been tried out at great length were wholly irrelevant, and I was not entitled to make any report with regard to them. In my view these objections were jointly and severally bad. With reference to obligations, I hold that the suggested construction is contrary to both the words and the spirit of the Commission. I hold that the enquiry was not restricted to negotiations for the alteration of obligations already in existence and that my jurisdiction and duty extended to the investigation of the allegation that payments were made while negotiations were proceeding as to the obligations which should be included in a new agreement which was to define, and ultimately did define, the rights and duties of the parties from the time when its predecessor expired. I also decided to receive the evidence of subsequent efforts alleged to have been made when the question of possible variation of the ratified agreement had arisen. The whole of the events might well be parts of one campaign or system, and it was likely that in the later incidents specific references to the earlier ones would occur (as in fact they did), and it was certain that light would be thrown upon the whole subject, and upon the attitude of the companies and their officials and Sir Richard Squires respectively towards transactions of the kind involved.

I am satisfied that on the occasion of this visit to Montreal (December 1921 and January 1922), Mr. Meaney suggested to Mr. McDougal, at that time Vice-President of Besco and of each of its constituent companies, a further payment to Sir Richard, and that this was done with the knowledge and approval of Sir Richard himself. The figure put forward by Mr. Meaney was \$100,000, and the consideration was to be the elimination of the burdensome expenditure clauses in the agreement. Mr. McDougal asked him whether the \$100,000 was to be in addition to the \$51,000 already paid, Mr. Meaney could not explain or understand this figure of \$51,000 but it bears a striking resemblance to the sum arrived at by adding together \$46,000 the amount

Report of Commissioner On Inquiry Into Public Matters in the Colony

(Continued from page 4.)
of the Daily Star cheque and \$5,000 the amount contained in the mystery parcel, of which Mr. Meaney had not heard at the time when he gave his evidence. Mr. MacDougal was disposed to make some contribution, but he demurred to the extent of the request, and after reporting this to Sir Richard Mr. Meaney returned to Newfoundland without having concluded anything definite.

Shortly after this (viz: on 11th Feb. 1922) Miss Miller then at Bell Island sent a telegram to Sir Richard which decoded read as follows:—

"Following to-day very confidentially had, confidential letter from party Montreal stating that during personal interview with Meaney he Meaney left him under the impression that Government was holding back his appointment and matter appeared to worry him somewhat being myself personally in touch you party Montreal wishes you to know that he would appreciate any pressure you can bring to bear Meaney has been instrumental with party in negotiating another 100,000 over and above the 40,000 which has already been disposed of in full party also request confirmation sent in private code to Montreal that his request is granted or otherwise icebound since Monday last."

Sir Richard did not answer this, and a few days later Miss Miller still at Bell Island sent him another telegram dated 14th February:—

"In case there should be any misunderstanding re message sent you Jim advises that party Montreal wishes reply sent in his own private mining code which we have here and not in code delivered you Monday."

To this also no answer was sent, but when Miss Miller returned to St. John's he told her that it was a foolish communication and did not discuss it, and at the enquiry he told me that he regarded it as the production of a crazy person. He made no attempt to ascertain who that crazy person was, and he did not take the matter up with Mr. Meaney. I cannot accept his explanation. He must have understood perfectly well the allusion to 40,000, he knew that Mr. Meaney was clamouring for permanent appointment to the office of Liquor Controller and I am convinced that he was no stranger to the only other matter mentioned viz: the \$100,000 proposition.

In the following month (March 1922) Mr. Meaney himself was in communication with Mr. MacDougal on the subject. On 27th March Mr. Meaney telegraphed:—

"Party is satisfied to grant request as discussed in Montreal in January in the event of this going through would you send necessary authorization to finalize matter?"
On 22nd March Mr. MacDougal replied:—
"Referring your cable twenty-seventh we are prepared carry out our part arrangement made Montreal whenever matter finally completed see details telegram Gillis to Miller to-day."
And Gillis telegram to Mr. Miller was:—
"Vice President has given instructions to me advise you as follows: 'Referring Meaney's message 27th of March we are prepared carry out our part of arrangement made in Montreal whenever change in agreement including elimination smelting furnace and capital expenditure clauses and remission export tax becomes law', advise Meaney."

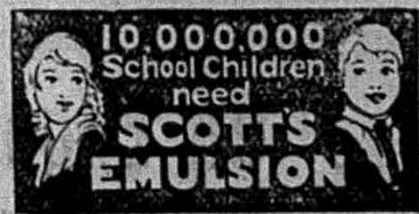
There were other communications about this time from Mr. Gillis to Mr. Miller which left no doubt in my mind that Mr. Gillis at any rate believed that his superiors knew of the transactions of 1920, and far from repudiating them were considering in 1922 the possibility of further commitments for the accommodation of Sir Richard Squires. The agreement however, was not altered, and the matter was allowed to sleep until 1923, undisturbed by the audit which

took place at or after the close of 1922. In January 1923 Mr. Meaney was again in Montreal, this time accompanied by Mr. Miller. Arrangements for this visit seem to have been under discussion the previous December and Mr. Meaney fearing that he was going to be left out wrote to Mr. MacDougal on 19th December, 1922.
"You will remember that I was with Sir Richard Squires in Montreal and New York last December and January participating in certain negotiations between you and Sir Richard. One matter proached by me as a quid pro quo for certain concessions connected with the Wolvin-Coaker contract was left in abeyance. It is, I believe, the intention of Sir Richard to make a move for the elimination of the objectionable clauses for which I in conjunction with Jim Miller have been working for a year. But he aims at shortening the conduct of negotiations and; that matter between him and yourself from me to an emissary of his own." On the same day Mr. Miller wrote to Sir Richard Squires on the subject:—
"Before Mr. MacDougal left here three weeks ago I had a conversation with him regarding matters pending in relation to the elimination of the two clauses... while he was here he asked me to go to Dr. Mossdell with a trusted representative of his to discuss the matter so that Dr. Mossdell would obtain some information for certain members of the executive particularly Dr. Barnes regarding the reasons for the amendment of the contract. There MacDougal's representative assured Dr. Mossdell that should the clauses be eliminated they would be prepared to enlarge their mining forces to 4000 men instead of 200 or 2200 as at present... he told me that for the benefit of all concerned he preferred to continue the discussion of these matters with Meaney as he had opened matter and had his confidence also that he wished for me to arrange to go to Montreal early in January and if we are to discuss these matters he would ask that Mr. Meaney come along with me."

Sir Richard's answer did not refer specifically to Mr. Meaney who accordingly obtained leave of absence and went. There were at the moment no labour troubles, or pending arrangements about cables, and it is obvious that Mr. Meaney went to take up again his unfinished mission of the previous year, to discuss again and if possible settle the terms upon which the onerous clauses might be eliminated. On this visit Mr. Meaney asked Mr. MacDougal for \$200,000 and was told that such a large sum was quite out of the question. Meanwhile labour troubles arose at the Mines, and some ten days after Mr. Meaney's departure from Newfoundland Sir Richard also set out for Canada. On his arrival at Montreal he was told of Mr. Meaney's failure and decided that the matter must stand over for the present. There was however one remarkable incident during the visit of Sir Richard which requires to be mentioned specifically. Sir Richard had an interview with Mr. Wolvin, the president of Besco and made statements about Mr. Miller which conveyed to Mr. Wolvin the suggestion that the Company's money had not reached Sir Richard but had been appropriated by Mr. Miller himself. Sir Richard told me that he had no intention of making any such imputation, but it is clear that Mr. Wolvin, so understood or misunderstood his remarks. Mr. Wolvin threatened Mr. Miller with criminal proceedings for embezzlement and ultimately

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children
In Use For Over 30 Years
Always Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*

FOR SALE!
ONE GORDON PRESS
Size of platen 10 x 15, in good condition.
Appl:
UNION PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
Advocate Office.



10,000,000 School Children need SCOTT'S EMULSION

officials of the Company were sent to Newfoundland to investigate the matter. On 24th February, 1922, Mr. Gillis wrote on behalf of the company to Mr. Miller.
"I have received a letter from Montreal under date February 17th instructing me to make no further payments to Mr. J. J. Miller either for salary or expenses. The letter further stated that the collection of the amount overdrawn by you while in charge of our office at Wabana was to be taken in hand by the controller. I am given to understand this action has been taken on account of some statements made by some statements made by high officials of Newfoundland to the effect that your story as to the disposal of this money is absolutely in error." and in a later message Mr. Gillis wrote:
"The big man down there has evidently thrown you over and dented having received anything from you."
Mr. Miller was ill at the time, and he handed this correspondence to Mr. Meaney, who on 6th March wrote a long and somewhat incoherent letter to Sir Richard Squires, enclosing a copy of Mr. Gillis's letter. Next day there was an interview between Mr. Meaney and Sir Richard of which the two persons present gave me wholly different accounts. I accept Mr. Meaney's version that Sir Richard asked him to get in touch with the investigators and keep him (Sir Richard) out of it. Mr. Meaney got into touch with them as soon as they arrived and on 22nd March he wrote to Sir Richard.
"The matter we discussed at Dr. Campbell's on Wednesday night, 7th instant has been disposed of satisfactorily to all concerned and will not be referred to you. My chief object was to dispose of it in this manner, and I directed it along these lines. You'll hear nothing more of it."
The investigators duly inquired into the matter with the result shown by the certificate dated 26th March, 1923, which they handed to Mr. Miller:—
"To whom it may concern: This is to certify that Mr. James J. Miller lately employed by Dominion Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., as chief accountant at Wabana has correctly accounted for all cash under his control, and that he has left the Company voluntarily and with the best wishes of his late associates."
That certificate was signed by Mr. Tasman, the chief accountant at Sydney and on his return home he for the first time caused these monies to be entered in the company's books. They were charged as debts against J. J. Miller, who was known to be quite unable to pay them and in the accounts similar amounts were written off as bad debts, but at no time was any entry made or claim suggested either against Sir Richard Squires who had had the money, or the Bank who had paid it away.
In July 1923 Mr. Meaney had been suspended and matters were moving to a crisis. Mr. Miller asked for the return to himself of the \$40,000 Daily Star Cheque and Mr. Gillis in reply wrote under date July 11th 1923:—
"I received your telegram to-day requesting return of Daily Star cheque which was given to you in exchange for the company's vouchers made on special account at Wabana. As this matter as far as your special interest was concerned was covered by Mr. Tasman's report our Comptroller Mr. Doak can see no reason why the cheque should leave the possession of the Company."
Obviously the matter was regarded as at an end, the help given to Sir Richard had been adopted and recognized. Indeed the only thing since the Daily Star cheque was given and dishonored in March 1921, which he had been able to galvanize this affair into the semblance of life, was a suggestion in Mr. Wolvin's mind that the money after all had not found its way into the hands of Sir Richard Squires, and when that suggestion was disproved, it was allowed to rest again. That rest, I do not doubt, would have been permanent had it not been for this Commission.

I do not think that fine distinctions should be drawn as to whether or not at a particular moment negotiations were being actively carried on. I regard all material times before the 12th August 1921 as falling within the period of negotiations for the determination of the obligations of the companies to the Government and the subsequent period as one of negotiation for their revision. I held that such periods "while negotiations were in progress" within the meaning of the Commission, and I am

driven to the conclusion that the responsible officials of the Dominion Company during such periods were willing to give and did give timely financial assistance to Sir Richard Squires then Prime Minister of the Colony out of the funds of the Company accordingly. Though under the circumstances and in the absence of the chief officials of the company I cannot specify by name the individuals who were party to the payment.
This is the inference that I find my conclusion is consistent with the facts and documents. That the matter was kept secret and was not brought before a board meeting or before the shareholders, I can well understand, that it was conducted solely by underlings I cannot believe, that there were high and responsible officials who became aware of it and were in sympathy with it, who adopted it and made themselves parties to it, I am firmly convinced.
Of the members of the Board Mr. McInnes was the only one to attend the Enquiry, and I must accept his denial that he himself authorized or knew what had taken place. He explained his telegrams of August 2nd and 3rd by evidence that the later in receipt was really the earlier in despatch, though this was hardly likely to be apparent to Mr. Miller; and the action of the Bank of Nova Scotia (of which he was a director) he described as an irregularity. Mr. Wolvin, (President of the Dominion Company and of Besco) was not available, nor was Mr. MacDougal who has now entirely severed his connection with the Companies, but evidence was given by officials of less prominence—Mr. Gillis, Mr. Tasman, Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Miller, Mr. Gillis knew nothing about the payments until after they had been made, and he had no power, and did not purport to ratify them. He brought them promptly to the attention of others to whose departments they were properly belonged. Mr. Tasman was content to let things alone, and Mr. MacDonald's association with the matter was small and the result of ignorance. Mr. Miller of course, is in a very different position, he made himself the go-between to finance Sir Richard Squires out of the resources of the Dominion Company, and his letters show that he fully appreciated the nature of the benefits which the Company might look for in return. His credit was attacked in strong terms by Mr. Lewis, counsel for Sir Richard Squires, and he was denounced as embezzler, thief and forger. I do not think that this was justified, so far as his relations to his own employers and to Sir Richard were concerned his actual authority was vague and indefinite, but I am satisfied that he acted in good faith, and with a simple desire to help the one and carry out what he conceived to be the wishes of the other. The money of the Company did not find its way into his pockets, but into the pockets of Sir Richard Squires, and he did not deserve the abuse and obloquy heaped upon him on behalf of the man whom he had served. Moreover his evidence was not the main or the deciding factor, and I relied far more upon the documents and the testimony given by Sir Richard Squires himself.

It is clear that in March 1921 Sir Richard knew that he had had the money and in what sums, though he was not sure then whether it was to be regarded as a loan or as a gift. I can well understand that his necessities would tempt him to retain it even if he disapproved of its being procured from such a source, but I can see no sign of disapproval, and I find that he did not disapprove, but that on the contrary help from the companies was precisely what he was hoping for when he left the country in August. No one could have supposed for a moment that Mr. Miller could have produced anything substantial from his own resources and the idea that he could have collected a sum like this from anonymous political supporters is simply ludicrous. As time went on Sir Richard's hopes that it was a gift grew stronger, and when in August he was at Montreal, and no suggestion of repayment was made, the last shadow of doubt was removed. It was contended by Mr. Lewis that the Company had still a right to sue Sir Richard for the money, and he invited me so decide and to hold in consequence that the charge made in this commission must fail. Though for three years Sir Richard has had the gratuitous use and and benefit of the Company's bounty, I do not say that it is impossible for them to revise the opinion expressed by Mr. Jenks, their own counsel, that it would be "bad business" to sue him! I must not be taken to be encouraging such litigation, but I shall not prejudice the result of it; I do not agree that it would provide a conclusive or any test for the question which I have to decide. To my mind financial as-

istance from the Company at such a time and under such circumstances would be equally objectionable whether it took the form of accommodation only or of actual cash lent or given. Sir Richard accepted that help regarding it as a gift, the money was paid to him, and I find that the allegation in this paragraph as far as he is personally concerned is proved.
One of his instruments was Mr. Miller, with whom I have already dealt. Another was Miss Miller, now Mrs. Harsant. Her position was one of great difficulty and anxiety, and I should wish to make every excuse for her, but she had knowledge of the facts and ability to appreciate them, and she ought not to have allowed the pressure upon her employer to blind her to the dubious nature of the methods adopted to relieve it. At a later stage Mr. Meaney came upon the scene; he was worrying about his own position with reference to the money taken from the Liquor Control Department, as he said in a letter to Mr. MacDougal (19th Dec. 1922) he was in a very awkward predicament unless he was in a position to insist upon the discharge of certain outstanding obligations which he lent heavily upon him. He hoped to find the means of covering up one wrong by participating in another.
Though I look upon the incident of the \$5,000 parcel with grave suspicion, on the evidence before me I do not find that the Nova Scotia Company or any of its officials as such paid any money to Sir Richard Squires.

The third matter mentioned in the Commission was stated in the following terms:—"Allegations have been made of wrong-doing in the Department of Agriculture and Mines during the years 1922-1923 in relation to the expenditure made for the relief of destitution and known as "Pit-Prop Account" and also in relation to the expenditure upon the Model Farm."
In the period that followed the cessation of active operations in the Great War the Colony of Newfoundland encountered serious troubles and difficulties. Markets were closed and trade upset, unemployment was sit-

and numbers of the people were on the verge of starvation. This state of things became pronounced in the year 1920 and grew worse in the succeeding years of 1921 and 1922. Early in 1921 the Government devised a scheme of relief by which work was to be found for the necessitous and the perils of want averted. Hitherto the law had prohibited the exportation of unmanufactured timber, this it was proposed to relax to the extent of permitting the production and sale of pit-props and pulpwood. By an Order in Council dated 21st of January, 1921 it was provided that the Governor in council should permit:
1.—The cutting, taking and carrying away from ungranted Crown lands of timber for exportation;
2.—The exportation of unmanufactured timber by such persons as may be approved to the Governor in Council and who shall enter into such agreement therefor as may be approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Mines
3.—The sale either within or without the Colony of timber cut upon ungranted crown lands by such persons as may be approved by the Governor-in-Council and who shall enter into an agreement therefor approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Mines
4.—The purchase of timber cut upon ungranted Crown lands by such persons as may be approved by the Governor-in-Council charges as follows:
1. That Dr. Campbell had been guilty of misappropriating the funds of his Department.
1. That when Dr. Campbell left the country in July, 1923 he fled from justice.
3. That indictments were prepared and the Government authorities were taking steps to bring him back to stand his trial.
4.—That large misappropriations and misuse of funds (in other words graft) were made by Dr. Campbell and divided up between himself and Sir Richard Squires.
In my view paragraph 1 was already before me, possibly also paragraph 2.

(Continued on page 4.)



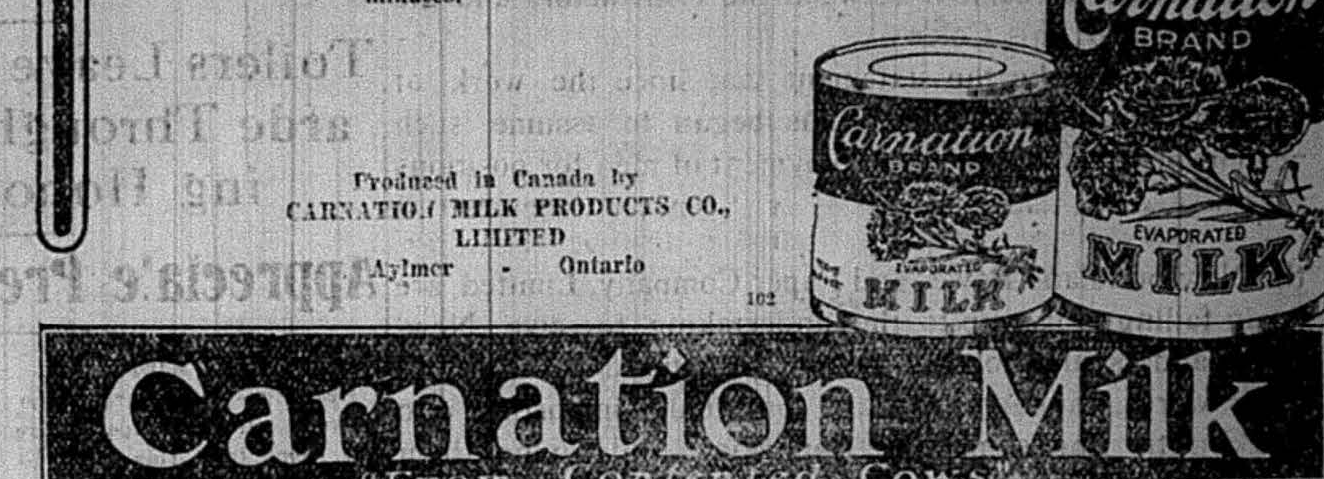
Carnation—For Baking

YOU will find Carnation Milk a wonderful aid to good baking. Use it in your fillings and icings as well as for creaming vegetables, making soups and gravies. Serve the coffee with Carnation. Use it diluted in tea (one part Carnation, three parts water.) Use it undiluted with fruits and cereals.

Carnation is just pure fresh milk, evaporated to double richness, kept safe by sterilization. Order several tall (16 oz.) cans or a case of 48 cans from your grocer.

Cook with Carnation Milk. Write for our Recipe Book containing over 100 tested recipes.

GINGERBREAD: 6 tablespoons water, 2 1/4 cups flour, 1 cup molasses, 2 tablespoons Carnation Milk, 1/4 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon soda, 1 1/4 teaspoon ginger, 1/2 cup butter or lard. Sift dry ingredients together. Add liquids to molasses. Combine mixtures, add shortening and beat well. Pour into greased shallow pan and bake in moderately hot oven about 25 minutes.



Produced in Canada by **CARNATION MILK PRODUCTS CO., LIMITED** Ontario

Carnation Milk

From Contented Cows

The results from a financial point of view were disastrous. There are

THE PIT PROP ACCOUNT

3. That the third matter mentioned in the Commission was stated in the following terms:—"Allegations have been made of wrong-doing in the Department of Agriculture and Mines during the years 1922-1923 in relation to the expenditure made for the relief of destitution and known as "Pit-Prop Account" and also in relation to the expenditure upon the Model Farm."
In the period that followed the cessation of active operations in the Great War the Colony of Newfoundland encountered serious troubles and difficulties. Markets were closed and trade upset, unemployment was sit-

Report of Commissioner On Enquiry into Public Matters in the Colony

(Continued from Page 5.)
 4; but I invited Mr. Howley to assist me, especially as regards paragraphs 2 and 3, by information as to the source of these allegations so that although I was doubtful whether they really fell within the scope of the enquiry, I might send for those who were responsible for them. His answer was that he knew only of popular rumours and the columns of a Canadian newspaper placed me in a difficulty which was solved by a timely statement made by Mr. Warren, who was Minister of Justice in July 1923, that no indictments were drawn or steps contemplated against Dr. Campbell and that he (Mr. Warren) had never heard or thought that Dr. Campbell fled from justice. No one in the course of the enquiry expressed any other view, and I declare these two paragraphs of idle and probably malicious gossip to be untrue. I would add that from the first to the last no suggestion whatever was made against Sir Richard Squires, and there was no evidence that he was a party to the misuse of any funds belonging to the Department.

The contracts which were made under the order in the year 1921, were in a form drafted by the Minister of Justice which after reciting the order provided, among other things:

1. The Government shall permit the contractor to cut on Crown lands and to sell in the Colony of Newfoundland or to export therefrom—cords of pit props or pulpwood.
2. The contractor agrees to pile the pit props.
3. The Government shall not be responsible for losses by flood, fire or larceny.
4. Should the contractor fail or be unable to sell or dispose of all or of any of the pit props or pulpwood cut under this agreement the Government agrees to purchase whatever amount the contractor has failed to sell or dispose of at the rate of six dollars per cord provided:

- (a) The contractor shall first have made a bona fide attempt to sell such pit props or pulpwood.
- (b) The contractor shall furnish to the Government satisfactory evidence of his attempts to sell the same.

Agreements were made in this form with thirteen contractors, and wood was cut, but no sales were effected. Some of the contractors were able to show that they had made substantial efforts but the majority were in the first instance unable to furnish satisfactory evidence of this. It was however, common knowledge that the state of the market made sales practically impossible and ultimately the Government took over the whole cut at the agreed price. In fact this proved to be a very bad bargain the cost to

the Department was \$192,597.21, a good deal of the wood was stolen, and the Department's own attempts to sell at a later date had very unsatisfactory results.

For the following season a new form of contract was devised. Sales by the contractor were eliminated and from the first the Government agreed to take over the whole of the wood at a fixed price per cord. The contracts were originally offered at four dollars, but the Government were compelled to give five at first, and later to add a bonus of 50 cents. The dimensions of the wood were altered, and all of it had to be clean peeled. Like its predecessor this contract was permissible only, it did not bind the contractor to cut a single cord and the operations conducted under it proved equally unprofitable. It contained a clause (No. 5) which provided "that the Minister of Agriculture and Mines may from time to time prior to the time above stated make payments on account of wood cut by the third contractor to the extent of and in such proportion of the whole amount provided hereunder as may hereafter be determined by the Governor-in-Council." It does not appear that anything was ever determined by, or even brought before, the Governor-in-Council in this connection, but many and large advances were made not only on account of wood cut, but also on account of wood to be cut, which might or might not be cut, and before a single cord was cut. This contract was certainly in form more favourable to the Government than its predecessor and it was difficult to find contractors who would undertake its burdens. Most of those who did accept it were unable to pay for the supplies without which the operation could not be started, and the various stores were unwilling to provide them on credit without a Government guarantee. The contractors on the recommendation of the members for their District, and in many cases the contractor or the money to become due under it was at once assigned to the provider of supplies to whom the Dept. thereupon made advances. It may be, as Dr. Campbell stated, there was no other way of meeting the situation in remote districts before navigation closed for the winter but in the result there were many contracts on which the amounts advanced far exceeded the value of the wood cut under them. For instance a number of contracts were made in the names of employees of the Fishermen's Union Trading Company on the recommendation of Sir W. F. Coaker, and four were assigned to that Company:

Brown's contract showed \$2,250.00 advanced and wood cut worth \$1462.00.
 Yetman's contract showed \$2,250.00

paid nothing. Similar contracts with deposits or guarantees made with the Herwood Lumber Co. appear to have carried through without loss. Another special contract was one made by William Dawe and Sons on 9th December 1921 by which the contractors agreed to cut 400,000 feet of hard wood; advances of \$5,190.00 have been made by the Department, nothing whatever has yet been received in return.

Towards the close of the year 1921 negotiations were opened with the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co. at Grand Falls which culminated in an agreement dated 2nd December 1921, by which the Company undertook to buy from the Government 20,000 cords of pulpwood at \$7.50 a cord delivered at Grand Falls or other specified place by the 31st October 1923 and on 5th September, 1922 a similar agreement for a further 10,000 cords was made, providing for delivery by 1st May 1923 on the shore of North Twin Lake at varying prices. Mainly for the purpose of fulfilling these contracts the Department tried the experiment of cutting wood without the intervention of contractors. On the recommendation of a Mr. Scott three Districts were selected and three managers appointed viz.—Curran for Glenwood District, Goodyear for Skull Hill District, and Moore for McCuish District and contracts were made between the department and managers dated 8th July 1922, 10th July 1922, and 23rd September 1922 respectively. The contracts were alike in terms and conditions, and Curran's may be taken as a type. By his contract, after a recital that in order to relieve destitution it had been decided to initiate logging operations in the vicinity of Careless Cove on the Gander River to be known as the Curran operation, he was appointed at a salary of \$200 a month to take full charge and management of the cutting of pulpwood there and of its transport to Grand Falls he was to employ 100 men to be maintained by the Government, and the Government was to find the necessary supplies and to deposit to his

advanced and wood cut worth \$780.00
 Groves' contract showed \$6,000.00 advanced and wood cut worth \$2,184.00
 Several of the contracts were assigned to Mr. McKay either personally or as an assignee of Steer Brothers including:

Gillard where \$8,208.00 were advanced against wood cut worth \$6,175.00.
 Tulk, where \$8,408.00 were advanced against wood cut worth \$3,475.00
 Jennings, where \$9,003.00 were advanced against wood cut worth \$8,739.00.
 Budden, where \$15.00 were advanced against wood cut worth \$8,739.00.
 A curious piece of history was disclosed in connection with these contracts in the names of Bragg, Pelley and Stanford respectively, the moneys due or to become due being in each assigned at an early date to Messrs. Hickman. Payments were made by the department up to the full value of the wood cut; the contractors however still owed money to Messrs. Hickman, who sued them to judgment and issued executions. The sheriff levied on the wood, and sold it to Messrs. Hickman themselves at prices ranging from 25 cents to a dollar a cord; interesting questions will arise in the legal proceedings which are pending in respect of these seizures, but the effect up to the present time is that the Department has nothing whatever to show in return for the advances. Another cause of loss on these operations was a deplorable spirit shown by the people themselves; relief meant to them payments or supplies without work and men would secure supplies, work a few days and disappear; pilfering went on everywhere and always, and there were instances of schooners sailing into some quiet bay and taking away whole cargoes of wood from the dumps. The truth is that very little regard was paid to the contracts at all, the essence of the whole scheme was relief, but it was hoped that some return in the shape of wood might be secured, and the machinery of apparent contract with private individuals was adopted because the custom of the country was unhappily made clear that the inhabitants would not put forth their best efforts on behalf of the Government. The expedient certainly failed to accomplish its object, the real meaning of the movement was universally known, and the general attitude was succinctly summed up in the cabin man's cant repeated to me at a later stage—"Pit Props pays for all." In some instances (Gillard's contract, assigned to McKay, was one; Groves' contract, assigned to the Fishermen's Union Trading Company, was another) the suppliers insisted on a condition that the advances should not be recoverable if sufficient wood was cut, and in my view it is doubtful whether any of the advance or any part of them, can now be recovered. Without their supplies would not have been sent, the scheme would have been brought to a standstill at a critical time, and direct relief would have been necessary, probably to the same amount. Contractors and suppliers were used to enable relief to reach the destitute, but it cannot have been intended that the cost should come out of their pockets when they were not at fault.

Another form of transaction in which the Department engaged was exemplified by a contract entered into with M. E. Martin on the 24th Nov. 1921, by which the cutting of pit props was financed. Mr. Martin undertook to cut about 10,000 cords and the Government deposited \$30,000 in the Bank against which he could draw on presentation of scale sheets at the rate of three dollars a cord, the contracts being bound to refund at the same price as when the wood would be shipped any wood not shipped by the 30th November, 1922 was to become his property and he was to be immediately liable for it at the same rate. The full sum of \$30,000 was deposited in the Bank and in three instalments and Mr. Martin has repaid \$21,380 for 5,320 cords at \$4 a cord another dollar having been added to the price by supplemental agreement to cover the cost of barking. He has, however, been allowed to draw out the whole \$30,000 and the prospects of recovering the difference appears to be remote. On 8th July, 1922 he made another contract of the same kind which has been treated by the Department in a still more improvident manner—the contractor has been allowed to draw out deposits of \$35,000 and up to the present has re-

ceived nothing. Similar contracts with deposits or guarantees made with the Herwood Lumber Co. appear to have carried through without loss. Another special contract was one made by William Dawe and Sons on 9th December 1921 by which the contractors agreed to cut 400,000 feet of hard wood; advances of \$5,190.00 have been made by the Department, nothing whatever has yet been received in return.

Towards the close of the year 1921 negotiations were opened with the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co. at Grand Falls which culminated in an agreement dated 2nd December 1921, by which the Company undertook to buy from the Government 20,000 cords of pulpwood at \$7.50 a cord delivered at Grand Falls or other specified place by the 31st October 1923 and on 5th September, 1922 a similar agreement for a further 10,000 cords was made, providing for delivery by 1st May 1923 on the shore of North Twin Lake at varying prices. Mainly for the purpose of fulfilling these contracts the Department tried the experiment of cutting wood without the intervention of contractors. On the recommendation of a Mr. Scott three Districts were selected and three managers appointed viz.—Curran for Glenwood District, Goodyear for Skull Hill District, and Moore for McCuish District and contracts were made between the department and managers dated 8th July 1922, 10th July 1922, and 23rd September 1922 respectively. The contracts were alike in terms and conditions, and Curran's may be taken as a type. By his contract, after a recital that in order to relieve destitution it had been decided to initiate logging operations in the vicinity of Careless Cove on the Gander River to be known as the Curran operation, he was appointed at a salary of \$200 a month to take full charge and management of the cutting of pulpwood there and of its transport to Grand Falls he was to employ 100 men to be maintained by the Government, and the Government was to find the necessary supplies and to deposit to his

credit in the Bank of Montreal the amount of each fortnightly pay sheet. In the result each of these contractors showed a heavy loss. In Curran's case the expenses, including wages, provisions, horses and equipment exceeded \$80,000; at the close of the operation he agreed to take over what was left of the outfit at a valuation of \$6,833; this has not been paid and he has now made an assignment; the net result of this operation being a loss of about \$20,000. Goodyear's showed a loss of \$18,000, and Moore's of as much as \$84,000. There was also a small operation of the same kind in Avalon costing \$20,000, which proved unprofitable; and altogether the loss on the Government's logging operations cannot be less than \$130,000.

One of the causes which contributed to the disastrous result was the selection of the district in which Moore's operations were carried out. The Minister of Agriculture and Mines was badly advised and the place proved unsuitable and the cost of transport to and from it enormous. But there were other causes for which in my opinion he was entirely to blame. One was in relation to supplies—these were arranged and forwarded by the Minister himself and he distributed the patronage among a number of people in St. John's many of them retail tradesmen in a small way of business and some of them not tradesmen at all. My attention was called to many of their prices which I found to be very much in excess of those ruling at the time among the bigger houses along Water Street. No attempt was made to ex-

amine or compare the prices charged they were never looked at, and in my view much public money was thus wantonly wasted. There was no evidence before me that anyone in the Department derived any pecuniary advantage from this practice, but it was an instance of bad management and extravagance. Another matter which the goods reached their destination the Government's representative on the spot was not supplied with copies of the orders or invoice so that deliveries might be adequately checked, and it must remain doubtful whether all the goods paid for were really sent. As an example of lack of care and proper attention to detail—over and over again there are among the goods sent up steel casks worth ten dollars each, but except in one or two instances, there is never a sign of any enquiry after them or of the return of any of them or their value to the Department.

Criticism was directed to the great loss which occurred on horses especially in connection with Moore's operation, and the facts and figures were certainly startling, but after hearing the evidence I have come to the conclusion that this is to be accounted for by the nature of the work and the conditions under which it had to be performed.

The operations under the 1921 contract had left or should have left the Department in possession of a considerable quantity of wood which it was expected would be enormously increased by the operations under the second form of contract, and it became necessary to see about selling. Efforts were made to interest foreign buyers, and in the latter part of 1921 there were negotiations between the Minister and a Mr. Johns, which, however, did not come to anything. The market at the time was bad, and though it improved somewhat in 1922 purchasers continued to be very hard to find. Early in May 1922 Sir W. F. Coaker, then in New York, came into touch with a Mr. Rogers, who made an offer for the wood and ultimately entered into an agreement dated 13th May 1922 by which agreement he undertook, by which he agreed to purchase 70,000 cords of pulpwood at \$5.00 per cord for hand-peeled wood and \$7.00 for roased wood, and to take and pay for as much wood as could be reasonably moved by him during the year 1923; he was to pay and to pay \$25,000 to be held by the department as a guarantee for his performance of the contract. This had all the appearances of a satisfactory bargain but it was never carried out. The government had not the wood to deliver, the contractor never took a cord or sent a ship, his gages arose about hand-peeled and clean-peeled and in the spring of 1923 each party was claiming the other for the deadlock. The question was submitted to the Minister of Justice who advised that as the Government could not possibly supply the wood which they had promised steps should be taken immediately to cancel the contract. Delay, for which the Minister of Agriculture and Mines was in no way responsible, occurred before this advice was acted upon, and meanwhile the position of Rogers was strengthened and the terms on which he insisted before he would give up his bargain were very unfavorable to the government in the end a new contract was entered into, dated 16th June 1923 by which it was provided "(Par. 2) The amount of 70,000 cords... is hereby reduced to the number of cords actually deliverable by the Government."

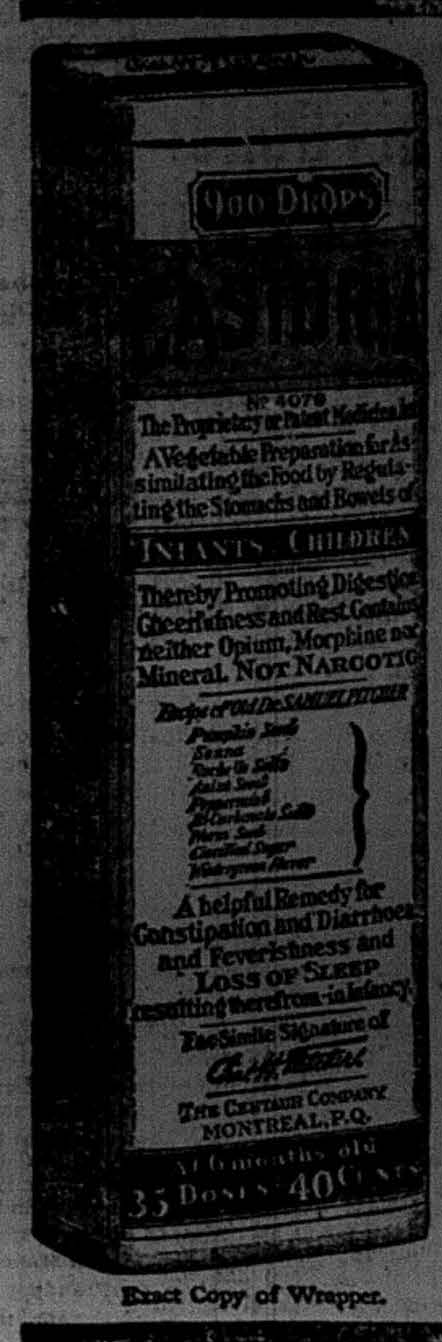
"(Par. 3) The entire quantity of rough wood delivered by the Government shall be paid for by the contractor at the price of \$2.00 per cord."
 "(Par. 4) 18,000 cords of clean peeled pulpwood shall be secured by the Government and delivered in accordance with the terms of the contract at \$5.00 per cord.... The Government shall also have the privilege if it so desires, of substituting 41 he same price roased wool for the said clean peeled wood or of cutting and sap-peeling new wood as part of the said 18,000 cords."
 "(Par. 5) The delivery of the said 18,000 cords and other wood shall be made between 15th July 1923, and 15th October, 1923."

This was in form an unsatisfactory bargain and in execution it was more unsatisfactory still. The total amount brought in by it hardly exceeds \$120,000, against that must be set the heavy expense of roasing and hand-peeling, and Mr. Rogers alleging many breaches of it on the part of the Government has instituted a huge claim for damages which is still pending in the courts. I think that there has been gross mismanagement in this matter. The original contract was made without adequate enquiry into the power to perform it and when the inevitable trouble over it arose the Government was frightened into its improvident successor. Sir W. F. Coaker who actually negotiated the first

contract denounces the second and disclaims any responsibility for it; Dr. Campbell does not profess to have sufficient knowledge on the subject to be able to deal with the sales, and he left the matter to his colleagues on the executive council; a mysterious individual named Colishaw was mixed up with it in some undefined way and was originally to have had a commission of a dollar a cord out of it; he was not available as a witness before me, and I was not able to probe this matter fully outside the department of Agriculture and Mines. I am satisfied that there was no wrongdoing in the department in relation to it.

To enable the Government to perform this contract with Rogers the Minister of Agriculture and Mines made a contract on the 9th June 1922 with Charles Bryant of Port Union, by which it was provided:

- 1.—The contractor agrees that he is in possession of necessary and suitable machinery to undertake the work of roasing pulpwood and that he is ready to proceed with the work immediately.
- 2.—To roase not less than 20,000 cords of unroased pulpwood on the bank within 100 feet of high water mark in the various harbors or other places indicated by the Minister or his agents.
- 3.—The Minister undertakes to provide not less than 20,000 cords of unroased pulpwood on the bank within 100 feet of high water mark in the different harbors and places in which pulpwood has been cut and delivered on Government account or before it is delivered to the contractor for roasing. Each cord to contain 138 cubic inches of unroased pulpwood. But should the Minister be unable to provide 20,000 cords the contractor is to be paid at the rate of \$2.25 per cord for the difference between the amount delivered and the twenty thousand cords hereinafore provided. Payment of such difference to be due and paid on 31st December, 1922.
- 4.—To pay the contractor fortnightly on the certificate of the scaler or inspector appointed by the Minister at the rate of \$2.25 per cord of 133 cubic feet of unroased pulpwood ex-



CASTORIA
 For Infants and Children
Mothers Know That
Genuine Castoria
 Always Bears the Signature
 of
Dr. J. C. Hathcock
In Use
For Over
Thirty Years
CASTORIA
 THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

Unclaimed Letters Remaining in G.P.O.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>B.
 Baker, Miss Elsie, Bannerman St.
 Byrre, Mrs. J., Hamilton St.
 Broomfield, Mrs. J., Goodview St.
 Burniel, Mr. Allandale Road.
 Brown, Miss N., Tower St.</p> <p>C.
 Clark, Mrs. G., Duckworth St.
 Cameron, Mr. S., (late) Greenspond.
 Cox, C. Rhodes, General Delivery.
 Cox, Mr. Thomas, St. John's.
 Cummings, Mr. Theatre Hill.</p> <p>D.
 Davidson, I. M., c/o General Delivery.
 Dealey, Miss Edith, (late) Topsail.
 Driscoll, Mrs. L., Cabot St.
 Delaney, Miss Agnes, Water St. West.</p> <p>E.
 Esher, Mr. L., Queen's Street.</p> <p>G.
 Glass, Miss M., Water St.
 Greene, Miss Mary J., Lime St.</p> <p>H.
 Halliyard, Miss E., Bonaventure Ave.
 Harpum, H. E., c/o General Delivery.
 Hearne, Mrs., Burton's Pond Rd.
 Hofferman, Hans, c/o General Delivery.
 Hough, Norman, St. John's.
 Howse, Mrs. H. A., P. O. Box 1161.
 Hollands, Mr. Henry, c/o Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Earle.</p> <p>J.
 Johnson, Miss Sophie, Leslie St.
 Joy, Wm. J., South Side Rd.</p> | <p>K.
 King, Mr. James, (late) South Brook-pital.</p> <p>M.
 Milles, Mrs. Sarah, Spencer Street.
 Mc.
 McDonald, Mrs. N., St. John's.
 McDonald, Miss Sadie, Hamilton St.
 McCarthy, Miss M., Allan Sq.
 McDonald, Mr. O., c/o W. H. Jackson</p> <p>P.
 Parsons, Mr. Allan, King's Bridge Rd
 Porter, Mr. Frank, St. John's.
 Penny, Mrs. Jos. (late) Bishop's Falls
 Poole, Miss Lydia, c/o G. P. Office.
 Parsons, Master H., Forest Rd. Hoo-tottle, Miss Jessie L., Queen's Street.
 Power, Miss K., Pennywell Road.</p> <p>R.
 Reid, Miss A. F., Queen's Road.
 Rogers, Mrs. W. B., Gen. Hospital.
 Ryan, Miss Mary, Forest Road.
 Royal Stamp Co., St. John's.
 Roberts, Mrs. Jos., Duckworth St.
 Ryan, Miss M., Queen's Road.
 Reid, Mr. Albert, Pennywell Rd.</p> <p>S.
 Saunders, Mr. D. A. L., c/o G. P. O.
 Snellgrove, Capt. John, St. John's.
 Smith, Mrs. Duncan, St. John's.
 Spurrell, Miss Amy, Monroe Street.</p> <p>T.
 Twain, Miss B., New Gower St.
 Thorne, Jack, B., St. John's.</p> <p>W.
 Wake, Geo. T. (P.C.), St. John's
 Walsh, Mrs. R., Belvidere Street.
 Walsh, Martin, Mt. Scio Road.
 Walsh, Mrs. L., Nagles Hill.
 Walsh, Thos., Nagles Hill.
 Walsh, Mrs., Allandale Road.
 Walsh, Miss Ida, Quidi Vidi Rd.
 Williams, Miss Maud, 3 Chotin St.</p> |
|--|--|

cept as provided in paragraph three hereof. The Minister undertakes to have such certificate issued promptly each fortnight.

5.—To reimburse the contractor to the extent of one half the cost of the removal of the roasing outfit incurred by him in moving the same from harbour to harbour or place to place where the wood has been deposited by the Minister for roasing.

And by a letter written the following day the Minister undertook to bear the additional expense of assembling or delivering all piles under 100 cords to the roasing machines when placed for operation in the different bays. This operation which at a very early stage was taken over by the Fishermen's Union Trading Company from Bryant, (indeed it was in reality the Trading Company's contract from its inception) also proved extremely costly. To hasten the output the Government bought two additional machines and later bought the five machines from the company, subsequently selling the whole seven at a considerable loss, and they supplemented the roasing with hand-peeling at a high price. Altogether some 14,000 cords of wood were dealt with at a cost of about \$37,000. The Trading Company appear to have made a profit of \$10,000 out of it, but it is difficult to see where it produced any advantage to the Government.

But the districts in which there was wood to be cut were not the only ones in which there was destitution, and the Government embarked upon various schemes of unremunerative work with the object of providing relief. The most important of these was embodied in a contract dated 3rd August, 1922, and made with the Anglo Newfoundland Development Company by which it was recited that the Company in response to the Government's urgent appeal for assistance in finding work for unemployed had agreed to anticipate certain works which in the ordinary course of its operations might have to be carried out during the next few years. The work in question included the making

(Continued on page 7.)

For Sale!

One "Oswego" Power Paper Cutter
 30 inch blade, about four years in use practically as good as new.
 ALSO
 ONE NEW HAND LEVER CUTTER,
 30 inch blade.
 For further particulars apply to
 UNION PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
 Advocate Office.

Report of Commissioner On Enquiry Into Public Matters in the Colony

(Continued from Page 6.)

that the splits have been consumed in various public institutions, but there are no records of this and the department has not been credited with a cent in respect of it.

In the winter 1921-22 there was reason to suppose that everything available in the way of food was being eaten, and that the proper reserve of seed potatoes was not being maintained, and the Government in fear that there would be no crop in the autumn resolved to supply seed to poor persons and to treat this as another form of relief to be included in Pit Prop account. They consulted with members of House of Assembly from whose estimates it appeared that the probable cost would be about \$45,000. This was considered too high, and the scheme was launched on a basis of \$30,000; in fact \$57,876 were spent upon it. The carrying out of the scheme was attended with many abuses; there is no doubt that seed potatoes were obtained under it by persons who were not of the class that it was intended to benefit and by persons who had no facilities for planting, and never intended to plant, that a considerable quantity disappeared as food and that little or no work was ever given in return. The distribution in St. John's East which was under the control of Mr. Bayly, an official of the Department of Agriculture and Mines was not in any way described as 'scandalous'. The office was besieged all day and although Mr. Vinnicombe, the member for the district attended with the object of helping Mr. Bayly to discriminate, he does not appear to have done much good and the affair degenerated into a mere scramble. Throughout the island the organization appears to have been inadequate and faulty, and as many districts have obstinately refused from making proper returns, full details cannot be ascertained. The conclusion of the matter, however, is better than one would have expected there was quite a fair crop in the autumn, and it has not been found necessary to repeat the experiment.

Individual items in the Pit Prop account were brought before me in great numbers, the majority being satisfactorily explained. Many would not have needed explanations if proper records had been made and vouchers preserved; some at this distance of time could only be explained by guesswork. But there are two matters which in my view deserve and require to be specially dealt with—(a) Dr. Campbell's cab fares charged to the account; (b) payments made for extra

him ask the inhabitants for support. Another cabman deposed to driving him with Mr. Fitzgibbon about the same time. I can see no indication that relief was more exacting than usual during those two months and though election time is calculated to increase the chances of disorder I cannot think that that was enough to account for the difference. I felt forced to come to the conclusion that the cabs charged to the Pit Prop Account in fact included a large number of the minister's electioneering drives. Dr. Campbell agreed that there might be some overlapping but he declared that as a set-off there would be found among his election expenses cabs which were really hired on the business of the department. Unfortunately, however, returns of election expenses are not insisted on, and there are no records that I could examine and his idea appeared to me to be merely a guess or a forlorn hope. No doubt the strain of a contested election superimposed upon the labors and worries of his office might make him careless and forgetful even where he ought to have been punctilious, and mistakes might have arisen here and there, but this discrepancy was too marked. When the Model Farm Account came under review an equally startling set of figures were disclosed—January \$97, February \$110, March \$284, April \$440 and May \$310. In the month of April no less than \$821 were charged for cab fares against the account, under his control, about four times as much as was sufficient two months before. Mr. Bayly, the secretary of the Agricultural Department could not suggest any reason for the increase and I can only find it in the election.

I find that the allegation that Dr. Campbell paid his own private cab fares to a very substantial amount out of the public funds under his control is fully proved.

From the Pit Prop Account, from the Model Farm Account and from the Relief Account under the office of Public Works money was paid to officials in the public service by way of extra remuneration; in one or two cases formerly by an order in Council, but generally by the simple direction of the Minister concerned. I do not doubt that the administration of relief in all its forms entailed a great deal of extra work and that many, perhaps all, of those who received this additional pay richly deserved it. It certainly is not necessarily misconduct in them, or their chiefs, to think so; but it is questionable whether the right methods were adopted and whether the safeguards which the law provides were heeded. It is expressly provided by the audit act (section 34) that no payment shall be authorized by the comptroller and auditor general for any extra salary or additional remuneration of any kind whatsoever purporting to be payable to any deputy head officer or to any other person permanently employed in the public service." In each of these cases the official from the audit department who actually conducted the audit was among the recipients of the minister's bounty. I do not say that he did not deserve it, but a practice under which a minister distributes among his staff at his own discretion presents from the public funds and adds a similar gift to the only person whose duty it is to check his actions seems to me to be fraught with mischievous possibilities and not to be in accordance with the law of the land.

During the hearing I was several times reminded by witnesses "this was relief and not a business proposition," and that seems to have been the view of all classes. But it is not mine. It is true that the question of profit and loss was not the main consideration but business methods and business principles were still essential, and it was a business proposition in the sense that it deserved and required that the best should be made of it and that it should be carried out on business lines, and with due appreciation of the fact that it was the administration of a great public trust. Generosity to those in need of relief did not necessarily exclude justice to those who had to pay for it. The means were novel and experimental; relief was the first thing that it was not the only thing to be thought of, and in my view money was lavishly and often recklessly poured out and sometimes selfishly and improperly received. For some of the steps taken I could find no adequate authority in law, but I accept Dr. Campbell's statement that no new move was made without consultation with his colleagues in the Council. Much new and difficult work was thrown upon him and his unalterable staff and they worked early and late to achieve what I think was too much for them; I cannot altogether wonder, if they did not always wait for formalities. Fresh phrases, foreign to its ordinary scope, were continually being added to the labours of the department; even the burden of the prevention of disorder and the shadowing of agitators was laid on the

MRS. MISENER'S AGES AND PAINS

Vanished After Using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Branchton, Ont.—"When I wrote you for help my action was mostly prompted by curiosity. I wondered if I, too, would benefit by your medicine. It was the most profitable action I have ever taken, I heartily assure you, for through its results I am relieved of most of my sufferings. I have taken six boxes of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Tablets and a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Blood Medicine, and I can honestly say I have never been so well before. I had suffered from pains and other troubles since I was fifteen years old, and during the 'Great War' period I worked on munitions for two years, and, in the heavy lifting which my work called for, I strained myself, causing pelvic inflammation from which I have suffered untold misery, and I often had to give up and go to bed. I had doctoring for several years without getting permanent relief, when I started to take your medicines."—Mrs. GOLDWIN MISENER, Branchton, Ont.

Write to the Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Cobour, Ontario, for a free copy of Lydia E. Pinkham's Private Toilet Book upon "Ailments of Women." C

remuneration given to members, to the auditor and to the police.

Among the cheques issued out of the Department were a large number given to cabman in respect of hire for the ministers. In the period from 1st June, 1922 to 23rd May, 1923 the total reached \$1,218 an average of a little over \$100 a month. During the first eight months, however, that figure was never approached while the last four showed—February \$103, March \$123, April \$375 and May 23rd, \$123. Dr. Campbell's evidence was that throughout the summer and autumn he was using his own motor car and had little need of cabs. Assuming that to be true and ignoring the earlier items, the figures for the winter months are sufficiently startling. From \$73 in January and \$103 in February to \$256 in March and \$375 in April is a big rise which followed as it was by a sharp fall in May, suggests some special activity in the two heavy months. And there was a special activity, for on the 3rd May there was a general election and Dr. Campbell was a candidate for St. John's West. One of the cabmen to whom were paid \$21 on April 20th and \$31 on April 25th, and who drove Dr. Campbell as no other time, described how he used to call for Mr. Fitzgibbon. Dr. Campbell's fellow candidate, pick up Dr. Campbell, and drive them canvassing, how he saw Dr. Campbell go to houses and heard

him ask the inhabitants for support. Another cabman deposed to driving him with Mr. Fitzgibbon about the same time. I can see no indication that relief was more exacting than usual during those two months and though election time is calculated to increase the chances of disorder I cannot think that that was enough to account for the difference. I felt forced to come to the conclusion that the cabs charged to the Pit Prop Account in fact included a large number of the minister's electioneering drives. Dr. Campbell agreed that there might be some overlapping but he declared that as a set-off there would be found among his election expenses cabs which were really hired on the business of the department. Unfortunately, however, returns of election expenses are not insisted on, and there are no records that I could examine and his idea appeared to me to be merely a guess or a forlorn hope. No doubt the strain of a contested election superimposed upon the labors and worries of his office might make him careless and forgetful even where he ought to have been punctilious, and mistakes might have arisen here and there, but this discrepancy was too marked. When the Model Farm Account came under review an equally startling set of figures were disclosed—January \$97, February \$110, March \$284, April \$440 and May \$310. In the month of April no less than \$821 were charged for cab fares against the account, under his control, about four times as much as was sufficient two months before. Mr. Bayly, the secretary of the Agricultural Department could not suggest any reason for the increase and I can only find it in the election.

I find that the allegation that Dr. Campbell paid his own private cab fares to a very substantial amount out of the public funds under his control is fully proved.

From the Pit Prop Account, from the Model Farm Account and from the Relief Account under the office of Public Works money was paid to officials in the public service by way of extra remuneration; in one or two cases formerly by an order in Council, but generally by the simple direction of the Minister concerned. I do not doubt that the administration of relief in all its forms entailed a great deal of extra work and that many, perhaps all, of those who received this additional pay richly deserved it. It certainly is not necessarily misconduct in them, or their chiefs, to think so; but it is questionable whether the right methods were adopted and whether the safeguards which the law provides were heeded. It is expressly provided by the audit act (section 34) that no payment shall be authorized by the comptroller and auditor general for any extra salary or additional remuneration of any kind whatsoever purporting to be payable to any deputy head officer or to any other person permanently employed in the public service." In each of these cases the official from the audit department who actually conducted the audit was among the recipients of the minister's bounty. I do not say that he did not deserve it, but a practice under which a minister distributes among his staff at his own discretion presents from the public funds and adds a similar gift to the only person whose duty it is to check his actions seems to me to be fraught with mischievous possibilities and not to be in accordance with the law of the land.

During the hearing I was several times reminded by witnesses "this was relief and not a business proposition," and that seems to have been the view of all classes. But it is not mine. It is true that the question of profit and loss was not the main consideration but business methods and business principles were still essential, and it was a business proposition in the sense that it deserved and required that the best should be made of it and that it should be carried out on business lines, and with due appreciation of the fact that it was the administration of a great public trust. Generosity to those in need of relief did not necessarily exclude justice to those who had to pay for it. The means were novel and experimental; relief was the first thing that it was not the only thing to be thought of, and in my view money was lavishly and often recklessly poured out and sometimes selfishly and improperly received. For some of the steps taken I could find no adequate authority in law, but I accept Dr. Campbell's statement that no new move was made without consultation with his colleagues in the Council. Much new and difficult work was thrown upon him and his unalterable staff and they worked early and late to achieve what I think was too much for them; I cannot altogether wonder, if they did not always wait for formalities. Fresh phrases, foreign to its ordinary scope, were continually being added to the labours of the department; even the burden of the prevention of disorder and the shadowing of agitators was laid on the

MARCH WINDS bring Tender Skins

To protect your face and hands against all chafing, roughening effects of the Spring winds, simply rub in a little Zam-Buk before retiring at night. This makes the skin smooth and flexible and clear of all blemishes. Besides valuable soothing and emollient properties, Zam-Buk has far-reaching medicinal virtues which quickly overcome all sore, irritated or inflamed conditions. It purifies the whole tissue and removes the underlying causes of eczema, salt rheum, pimples, blotches, etc.

Miss Rosa Wallace of Menie, Ont., writes: "My hands were all roughened and sore through the Spring winds. But Zam-Buk soon healed and made the skin fine and smooth. It was the most soothing skin balm I have ever used."



MEEHAN & CO., DISTRIBUTORS.

shoulders of Dr. Campbell and his energy overflowed into the office of Public Works when the minister in charge of that department refused to continue a line which had become ruinous by reason of the abuses which accompanied it, and he was not unknown in the department of Public Charities. The Department of Agriculture and Mines was overworked and undermanned, the only economy effected was economy of staff and the inevitable result was inefficiency. The work was done in haste, one might say in panic, it was attended by looseness, irregularities and mistakes which made possible impostures from without, and put in the power of officers to steal a profit from the turmoil. The record is in the main a record of rash and bad bargains; rendered disastrous by the conditions of the times and the temper of the people, and of public money poured out in alarming profusion without care and without safeguards. It was a costly business, it was bound to be, but it need not have been so costly. I am not unmindful of the difficulties inherent in the problem, aggravated by elements peculiar to Newfoundland, the configuration and climate of the island, the extent and distribution of its population, the nature and amount of available transport—but I am satisfied that many things would and should have been done more carefully and more economically. In relation to his cab fares Dr. Campbell directly misused and misappropriated portions of the public funds under his control which throughout were badly and wastefully administered by him. The pit prop account is still unpassed by the auditors because among other things—

For many payments there are no vouchers at all.

For many the vouchers have not been certified.

The prices paid for supplies are too high.

For many of the lump sums paid for relief there are no returns whatever, and the same thing with regard to seed potatoes.

The auditor also called my attention to a matter which seems to me to be a particularly gross case of mismanagement, the pit prop account. Out of it Dr. Campbell paid away \$300 to improve the means of access for the young scholars to the Methodist Centenary Hall. The work was not done by the District and had nothing to do with relief. I was puzzled to know why this matter ever came before Dr. Campbell, then the Treasurer of the institution gave me the reasons—(a) because Dr. Campbell had more money at his disposal than the ministers of roads and education, and (b) because he was a prospective candidate for the District. The event justified his judgment and the incident reminded me that a candid witness had told me that I did not understand Newfoundland politics. At the outset of the enquiry this was undoubtedly true, but as time went on I came more and more to realize the great part played by politics in many of the matters which came up for discussion. The key to many of the problems with which I was confronted the mainspring of many of the actions which I questioned, was to be found in the word "politics." Politics caused the distribution of contracts for supplies among petty profiteers, crowded the rockheads and model farm with shirkers, scattered seed potatoes among all who asked for them, poured out money all over the island without care or check and accounted for the phenomenal growth of every form of relief on the approach of a general election. Relief was not business, it was politics. I find that Dr. Campbell improperly used his opportunity as Minister to advance his political prospects and exploited the situation to that end. This in my view was misconduct.

Mr. Turner, Mr. Bayly and Mr. Ryan, members of the staff who were called before me, in my opinion did their best under very trying circumstances.

I find that Mr. McNelly misappropriated \$120,000. From March to October 1922 a relative of his, named Summers was acting as a scaler at a salary of \$120 a month including board. In July McNelly prepared an additional cheque for \$120 made payable to Summers or bearer, and placed it before the Minister, who signed it, there being more than that amount due to Summers at the time. McNelly cashed the cheque at the Bank and devoted the proceeds to his own purposes. Summers knew nothing of this matter being subsequently paid his salary in full.

The evidence given in relation to this section of the enquiry was very voluminous and full of detail. It would serve no useful purpose to attempt to deal with all of it, or even with all that influenced me and I content myself with the general verdict given above.

MODEL FARM

In the year 1920 a model farm was started on the Topsail Road in the neighborhood of the Lunatic Asylum. Its area was about 75 acres, the bulk of which was Crown property; a part (25 acres) was rented from Mr. Fraser and some additional land belonging to Dr. Campbell himself was occupied and used without any agreement made or rent paid or asked for. It was a stock farm, on each of the three parts of it there were buildings, and the only crops grown were hay and turnips. It was placed under the control and management of the Minister of Agriculture and Mines and for its upkeep the Legislature each year voted a special sum distinct from the amount allocated to Agriculture generally. The accounts kept in the department did not maintain this distinction, only one account was kept for everything, but the items referable to the farm were carefully extracted by the Secretary, and it appeared that for the year 1921-22 their cost was over \$18,000 against a vote of \$12,000, and for the year 1922-23 the cost was over \$24,000 against a vote of \$15,000. In the summer of 1923 after Dr. Campbell had ceased to be the Minister, the farm was given up, and the greater part of the stock and implements were sold by his successor. My attention was called to a number of items in the accounts, most of which were satisfactorily explained. There remained—

(a) \$26 for Christmas cards and envelopes.

(b) \$25 for certain copies of Christmas publication.

(c) \$12.50 for a medal given as a prize for an athletic contest.

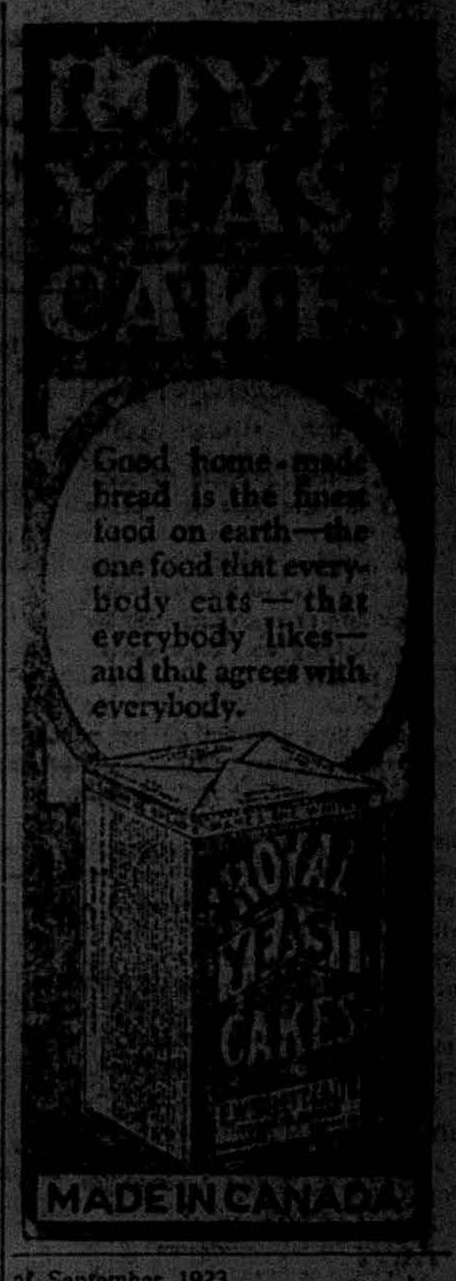
(d) \$1500 the cost of installing electric light.

(e) Payments to members of the staff and the auditor.

(f) The increase of cost during 1922-23.

(g) The \$1200 charged to cab fares January to May 1923.

(h) The prices realised at the sale



of September 1923.

The items a, b and c are small, but I can see no justification for charging them to the model farm or to any other fund belonging to the department, e and g have already been dealt with.

As regards d.—It had been intended to erect new and substantial farm buildings, but in view of the strain on the public finances caused by the prevalent depression, this idea was abandoned at any rate for the time and the existing buildings were retained and used. These were old and inflammable and the foreman complained that the means of lighting in use, kerosene lamps, was dangerous and unsuitable in a place where valuable bulls and stallions were housed. On the whole I do not think that this was an unreasonable view, but more care should have been taken, before so much money was spent, largely on the property of other people. No suggestion of contribution to the expenses was made to either Mr. Fraser or Dr. Campbell, no attempt was made by estimates or tenders to keep the cost down; the contractor was simply told to do the work and when his bill came the department was surprised. It had been known, as it should have been, before the work was given out, that so large a sum might be involved. I think that some less ambitious and extravagant scheme would have been found. In fact the installation had hardly been used when the farm was given up. Dr. Campbell does not want it on his land and Mr. Fraser seems to be the only person likely to benefit from this large expense so lightly incurred.

As regards F.—The prices of foodstuffs in the market had not risen and the home grown crop had not diminished. Though the distribution of stock under the different heads was different the total number was not larger, and the amount of feed required for them was very slightly if at all increased. The great advance was no doubt in the wages bill; for the six months January to June 1923 they rose from \$2991 to \$5922. The number of men employed regularly on the farm was originally 5. It afterwards rose to 7, but there were short periods of special activity, such as the time for hay to be cut or manure to be spread, when extra hands were taken on; the total however never exceeded 12, as in 1921-22. But in the following year there were throughout March 14 to 16, and through April 19 to 21. Mr. Bayly the Secretary could not suggest any need for the increase, and it is clear that such work as they did was especially made for them. They were in truth residents of St. John's West, voters too, for whom the Minister, a prospective candidate for the district found jobs on the eve of a general election.

As regards H.—Three or four farmers in the Island who are in position to buy expensive machinery and pedigree stock and it was suggested to me by Dr. Campbell that the sale of the Model Farm effects was insufficiently advertised and that there was negligence in not bringing it to the notice of foreign buyers. He complained that costly well-bred cattle were knocked down at beef prices and that animals which were worth \$30,000 to \$35,000 were allowed to go for about \$3,300. This was hardly a fair description of his successor's action, the best of the stallions and

Most headaches due to lack of internal cleanliness

WHEN you are constipated, poisons form in the accumulated food waste. These poisons, absorbed by the blood, are carried throughout the body. Headaches follow. Bilioussness, sleepless nights, lack of energy, all result from constipation. Each of these takes away piecemeal something of your health and strength. In time, intestinal poisoning due to lack of internal cleanliness may cause the breakdown of some vital organ.

Medical science, through knowledge of the intestinal tract gained by X-ray observation, has found at last in lubrication a means of overcoming constipation. The gentle lubricant, Nujol, penetrates and softens the hard food waste and thus hastens its passage through and out of the body. Thus Nujol brings internal cleanliness.



Health and Happiness Reward Internal Cleanliness

Physicians Favor Lubrication

Nujol is used in leading hospitals and is prescribed by physicians throughout the world. Nujol is not a medicine or laxative and cannot gripe. Like pure water it is harmless.

Get rid of constipation and avoid disease by adopting the habit of internal cleanliness. Take Nujol as regularly as you brush your teeth or wash your face. For sale by all druggists.



New Improved Thin Soap and Water

Laxatives Aggravate Constipation

Laxatives and cathartics do not overcome constipation, says a noted authority, but by their continued use tend only to aggravate the condition and often lead to permanent injury.

Nujol

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

For Internal Cleanliness



Regular as Clockwork

Sole Agents: J. B. ORR Company, Ltd., St. John's

Praises Dar-Ling Oil

Miss Lizzie Tompler, Blanc Sablon, says: "Send me four bottles Dar-Ling Oil. We can't do without it. My father says only for it he would be dead."

Miss Lilly Jones, Western Head, Moreton's Hr., says: "I have sold you here, and the people say it is the best remedy in the country. Mother was troubled with a bad head for years and it has cured her." Hundreds of other testimonials on hand.

J. M. RYAN Supply Co.

227 Theatre Hill
Box 372, St. John's, Nfld.
Agents.

Report of Commissioner On Enquiry Into Public Matters in the Colony

(Continued from page 7.)
nearly all the bulls were excluded from the sale, and were retained for use in the Colony. I do not find that there was any impropriety in the course pursued by Mr. Downey.
The egregious list of cab fares charged to this account proves to my satisfaction actual misappropriation on the part of Dr. Campbell, and the padding of the wages bill by men unnecessarily and improperly introduced at his instance was a misuse of the funds which in my view amounted to misconduct on his part. Beyond these matters I do not feel called upon to find serious fault.

Relief Account No. 1 and Relief Account No. 2

4.—The Fourth matter mentioned in the Commission was stated in the following terms:—"Similar allegations have been made respecting the expenditure upon relief of destitution during the years 1922 and 1923 by the Department of Public Works and known as 'Relief Account No. 1 and Relief Account No. 2.'"

In the autumn of 1921 great damage was done to breakwaters, piers and wharves and to railway lines, roads and bridges by a storm of unusual severity; there was also an abnormal amount of unemployment and consequent destitution. On 22nd November, an Order-in-Council was made by which among other things a special account was to be opened in the Department of Public Works to be called "Storm Damages and Special Employment Account," the expenditure being limited to \$125,000. A copy was sent by the Deputy Colonial Secretary to the Minister Mr. Jennings with a covering letter dated 29th November, which stated—"The Government direct that the expenditure in your Department on this account shall be definitely to repair storm damages and to meet unemployment and destitution. There is to be no per capita basis applying to the several districts, but each individual application will be considered by the Government on its merits and if approved will be authorized by Minute of Council. All payments thereunder under this account will be made only upon the receipt by you of a certified copy of Minute of Council." About this time fears of public disorder appear to have arisen and the Govt. sought to interest merchants, employers of labour, owners of property and others in the problem of dealing with unemployment which was increasing daily; meetings were held and in December a Citizens Committee of 15 members was formed under the Chairmanship of Mr. Cowan.

Suggestions were made by this Committee and the result is shown by a Minute of Council dated 15th January, 1922—"Committee of Council had under consideration the question of unemployment in the city as set forth in the report from the Citizens Committee and as was voiced at the meeting of the G. W. V. A. last evening. It was decided that the time had come when steps should be taken to provide employment in some way because the men were unable to obtain work. It was decided that—
(3) The Citizens Committee of Unemployment to be authorized to employ as many men as possible upon work on the Southside road. Committee of Council desired that the Citizens Committee should assume all responsibility in regard to the work to be done, the time-keepers to be appointed, the rate of pay to be given and the general arrangements necessary for the carrying out of a use-

ful public work and the employment upon the same of those who were in destitute circumstances. The expense incurred in this connection to be assumed by the Government and to be paid by the Department of Public Works, chargeable to the account in that Department for Storm Damages and Special Employment. The accounts to be certified by persons to be appointed by the Citizens Committee for such purpose. (3) The Citizens Committee to be authorized to employ any remaining destitute men in quarrying stones and cutting the same. This work also to be in the full charge and under the direction of the Citizens Committee, the accounts duly certified to be paid by the Department of Public Works from the same account and in the same manner as in Section (2) hereof." A copy of this Minute was forthwith sent to the Citizens Committee, who passed a Resolution in the following terms:—"The Committee are unanimous in doing all in their power to assist in providing employment, but regret that individually they feel they cannot give the time and attention such a scheme as outlined demands. They recommend that the Government engage a competent Superintendent of relief work who shall have absolute control of the work and whose decision as to the dismissal of men who in his opinion are not giving adequate returns shall be final. That the services of the East and West End Road Inspectors and Municipal Inspectors, four in all, shall be placed at the disposal of the Superintendent. The Committee will be glad to continue to act as an advisory body as between the Government and the unemployed." No further Order-in-Council was made, but work was begun; Major Butler of the Unemployment Bureau, arranged the employment of the men and operations were controlled by Mr. Davey with the two Road Inspectors under him; sheds were erected and rock breaking was undertaken as well as snow-shovelling, in the summer men were employed on the roads, returning to the rock sheds in the following winter; Mr. Davey arranged for the time-keepers and fixed the rates of pay. I was unable to find out under what authority these things were done, there were no documents, Mr. Jennings knew nothing about it except that he made the necessary payments and unfortunately Mr. Davey was too ill to attend the Enquiry. The payments were charged to a relief account known afterwards as No. 1, and in the month of May had reached a total of \$180,000, when that particular account was closed; the full amount was allocated to it from the loan of 1922 by an Order-in-Council of 29th June, 1922, by which also a further \$75,000 was provided for its successor Relief Account No. 2. Further sums were allocated to this account from time to time by Orders in Council, and the total expenditure covered by it amounts to \$695,000.

In April, 1922, the Citizens Committee came to an end. It had kept in touch with the leaders of the unemployed and dealt with periodical reports from Mr. Davey, but unemployment appeared to be lessening, and with the approach of summer there was every prospect of an early return to normal conditions. Their Minute of 6th April defines the position—"The petition of the men was as follows:—"That providing the Citizens Committee will give work to the needy unemployed for one month full time the men now working are agreeable at the end of the month that the work be discontinued. This arrangement is to include single and married men with or without dependents." After some discussion it was ordered

that the Men's Committee should be communicated with as follows:—"The Committee feels that relief work should be curtailed. (2) The Committee abides by its former decision regarding single men, (3) that the work on the roads outside the municipality near St. John's should be handed over to the Road Commission and that only City men be employed. (4) That the Committee proposes to finalize its work on April 28th."

The optimistic forecast of the Citizens Committee was signally falsified by events. In the month following their dissolution the new account (Relief No. 2) was opened, the summer showed no diminution of expense and in the succeeding winter the figures were strikingly increased. In the month of February, 1923, the expenses reached \$50,000, in March it was \$100,000, and in April \$125,000 had already been spent when Nomination Day (the 23rd) brought this form of dole to an end for a time. According to Mr. Jennings it would have been cheaper to have given a dole pure and simple. The country would at least have saved the expenses of buildings, tools and haulage and the salaries of foremen and supervisors. There is no doubt that especially in 1923 a great many of the men did not work fairly for their pay, the younger men being the worst offenders in this respect, discipline was not enforced and the output per man fell off to a remarkable extent. Mr. King, the foreman at the Rock Sheds in St. John's East, described the system in vogue and gave cogent and reliable evidence of the abuses which he was powerless to prevent. The men of these rock sheds, who numbered slightly over 100 in 1922, increased to 600 in 1923, they were taken on by Major Butler, and each man on presenting himself for work in the morning was given a numbered metal check by the timekeeper, which it was his duty to hand in against his pay at the conclusion of the day's work. In fact men left work at all hours giving their checks to fellow workmen to hand in for them, with some transparent excuse or with none. Sometimes the full day's pay was handed out to these shirkers, sometimes it was refused, sometimes a man was dismissed, but it made no difference, he would be at once reinstated at the instance of some member of the House of Assembly, and there was "quite a lot" of this kind of thing.

"When a man came back under these circumstances," said Mr. King, "he was boss and I was not." Another matter dealt with by this Department was the buying of splits. It had always been the practice of the department to provide splits as fuel to various public institutions. In the autumn of 1922 Mr. Jennings having heard complaints as to the way

Your dealer can always procure
WINDSOR PATENT
"Canada's Best Flour"
for you---and it doesn't cost any more than the ordinary brands

on took the matter into his own hands. By the 3rd or 4th of February, 1923, he had supplied all the institutions with enough wood for 2 or 3 years, and he refused to purchase any more in disgust at the abuses which prevailed. The matter was then taken up by a Committee consisting of Dr. Campbell, the Minister of Agriculture & Mines, Mr. Harris, the Deputy Minister of Public Works, Mr. Butler and Mr. Davey, the first two being the active members, and splits to the price of \$8000 were purchased and stored, to be subsequently sold for under \$100. In March Mr. Jennings, conscious that he had failed to keep the department "decent," resigned his office.

Of individual items brought to my notice only two need to be specifically dealt with—
(a) A sum of \$3000 was paid to Mr. E. G. Consens on 1st May, 1923, to settle a claim for damages alleged to have been done to land by Mr. Davey and his workmen, during the time of Mr. Jennings' tenure of office. The original claim was somewhat extravagant and nebulous, and Mr. Jennings thought that there was nothing in it. I had the advantage of hearing Mr. Consens himself, and though I think that he was treated generously, I am not prepared to say that the settlement was improper.

(b) A sum of \$2500 was paid to Mr. Duff on 9th April, 1923, in respect of compensation claimed for a strip of land taken for road widening during the year 1922. Mr. Duff's original claim was for \$2950, while Mr. Jennings considered that \$1500 would suffice. The proper procedure governing such disputes is provided by the Statute dealing with roads; the Minister and two assessors, one appointed by himself and one by the owner, being the Tribunal. Mr. Jennings appointed Mr. Churchill and Mr. Duff appointed Mr. Courtney, and the three undoubtedly met and had some sort of conversation about values. On the 14th August, 1922, Mr. Jennings and Mr. Churchill issued a so-called award—"We hereby certify that after due consideration we award to Mr. J. J. Duff the sum of \$448.59 as full value and compensation for land and trees belonging to the said J. J. Duff and appropriated by the Department of Public Works for the widening and improvement of Waterford Bridge Road."

Mr. Courtney refused to recognize this document in any way and it is possible that its value and validity can be successfully questioned, though I am not enamoured of Mr. Courtney's chief objection, viz. that the Tribunal provided by Statute was not calculated to give an owner a just price. This type of argument however was not new to me. Several times in the course of the enquiry witnesses when faced with statutory obligations or restrictions contentedly assured me that they were universally ignored. In this very case Mr. Jennings and Mr. Churchill charged \$15 each for their services and greeted with surprised smiles the reading of a section which specifically limits them to \$2. Mr. Duff seems to have taken his claim to a higher authority, which also did not effectively study the Statute and on the 9th March, 1923, the Deputy Colonial Secretary wrote to Mr. Jennings—

"...the matter has now been arranged and it has been agreed by the Government to make a payment of \$2,500... In full settlement of all claims in connection with this matter... I shall be glad if you will kindly issue a cheque..."

The same day Mr. Jennings replied, informing his correspondent of the alleged arbitration and referring to the Statute—section 8, chapter 22, Consolidated Statutes. This letter was laid before the Government and on the 1st March the Deputy Colonial Secretary wrote confirming his previous message. Mr. Jennings however refused to recog-

nize the authority thus to override him and still declined to pay. After his resignation the amount was paid to Mr. Duff by cheque of the Deputy Minister, dated 9th April, 1923; and there I am content to leave the matter.

The summer operations in the way of making and improving roads appear to have turned out well. All the work was done under contracts the terms of which were carefully considered and while no undue amount of profit reached the contractors the public obtained tangible and useful results. It was in the winter and as the General Election approached that the misuse of public money developed, and to keep or to secure their political support bribes were paid for work at the rock sheds which they never performed.

5.—The fifth and last matter mentioned in the Commission was stated in the following terms:—"Similar allegations have been made respecting the expenditure upon able-bodied poor relief by the Department of Public Charities during the years 1922 and 1923."

The Department of Public Charities was also engaged in meeting the special wave of destitution referred to in previous sections of this report, and its activities followed a course very similar to that which was taken by the Departments of Agriculture & Mines and of Public Works respectively. From small and defined beginnings it rapidly passed into a period of varied and informal growth, developing beyond expectation, beyond intention and ultimately, beyond control and reaching at last a maximum of lavishness in the months of March and April, 1923.

This Department was a sub-department under the Colonial Secretary and was controlled by a Commissioner, or a special staff. Its principal function was to bring relief of the permanent and casual poor and its distributed funds at the rate of a dollar per head of the population to Relieving Officers appointed for the various districts. For many years it has dispensed a certain amount of help among able-bodied persons, though until recently the sums thus expended were comparatively small. In 1917-18 they amounted to \$8,602, and in 1918-19 to \$9,433. In 1921-22 they reached \$170,756, and in 1922-23 \$286,808. The remarkable increase in 1923 is shown by the following table:

1922	
January	\$ 5,843
February	5,131
March	18,118
April	21,460
1923	
January	\$24,894
February	13,334
March	28,199
April	54,248

The payments are, however, frequently, almost generally, made in the month following that in which the relief (in the form of groceries, &c.) has been supplied and it is necessary to add to the table:

1922	
May	\$38,677
1923	
May	74,416

In the year 1921 the Commissioner was Mr. O'Dwyer and the Chief Clerk was Mr. Dunphy. Towards the close of the year Mr. O'Dwyer became seriously ill and the Department was thenceforward carried on by Mr. Dunphy, who in important matters matters took counsel with Mr. Mews, the Deputy Colonial Secretary. To Mr. Mews at the end of 1921 or the beginning of 1922 came Dr. Campbell, the Minister of Agriculture & Mines, complaining that he was in difficulties over his timber contracts and asking that men who could not be relieved by that means should be assisted by the Department of Public Charities. Many members of the House of Assembly made similar requests and Mr. Mews arranged with them for the employment of the people in public works such as cutting wharf sticks,

telegraph poles or bridge timber in return for provisions given them. On 11th January 1922, an Order-in-Council was made, which stated:

"The Commissioner of Public Charities have reported that cases of destitution have arisen in various localities that cannot be relieved through the contracts for cutting wood or by employment on public works; and as the various Relieving Officers under his department will have to afford relief in such cases; and as there are at present no funds in the Department of Charities to meet such expenditure; and the necessity is urgent; on recommendation of the Commissioner of Public Charities it was ordered that authority be granted him to issue able-bodied relief through his Relieving Officers, in such cases when it has been ascertained after careful enquiry that there is actual need which cannot be met in any other way. The expenditure under this authority to be limited at present to the sum of \$20,000... A copy of this was sent to the Commissioner with a covering letter from Mr. Mews dated 17th January, impressing upon him the necessity of keeping "a very close touch upon the different disbursements in this connection," of supervising this expenditure and reducing this relief to a minimum. Circulars were then sent to the Relieving Officers by the Commissioner, which bade them make due and searching enquiry into every case, and emphasized the absolute necessity of taking precautions to detect fraud and to keep such extra relief down to the smallest possible amount. From time to time further sums were allocated by Order in Council to the Department, "for expenditure in connection with the relief of extraordinary destitution"; on 21st September, 1922, it was provided that \$170,755, the amount spent during the financial year 1921-22, should be transferred to loan account 1922 and that out of the balance of that loan \$60,000 should be appropriated to meet able-bodied expenditure for 1922-23; a further \$25,000 was allocated in December 1922, \$30,000 in April 1923, \$100,000 in July 1923 and so on. In the circulars to the Relieving Officers, they were particularly enjoined to keep a separate account of this extra relief and a list of the recipients of the same and to forward the same to the Commissioner weekly. From the first this was entirely neglected and no attempt was ever made to enforce it; distribution was not long restricted to Relieving Officers; accounts were sent in to the Department certified by Chairmen of Road Boards, Members of the House of Assembly, and later candidates for the House of Assembly; money was poured out faster and faster, and as the year 1923 advanced the work in the Department got completely out of hand. In Mr. Dunphy's view the greatest distress was in January, February and March, but the demands were greatest in respect of April, the month before the Election; after that event the pressure was relaxed, and in another month or two the work was within bounds again. I have no doubt that a great deal of this money did not go in necessary relief; it was not reserved for proper cases after due and searching enquiry; it was lavishly scattered broadcast with both hands for political purposes.

Mr. Dunphy declined to make himself responsible beyond the limits of the original scheme. He dealt only with accounts certified by Relieving Officers, he knew of no authority under which he could recognize anyone else and he referred all others to the Colonial Secretary and paid them only on his instructions.

A large number of accounts were brought before me. They exhibited every kind of imperfection and irregularity, but all were paid in full. Sometimes there were no details at all, no names of recipients and nothing to show how or in what quantities the goods were, if at all distributed; sometimes there were mere lists of names; or mere lists of groceries; one account included a considerable quantity of tobacco, several contained items of biscuits, and one was made up largely of peaches, pineapples,

I did not find any instance in which there was actual misappropriation by anyone in the Department, but the whole conduct of the Department was slovenly and unbusiness-like, and made possible abuses all over the island, of which I cannot think that the staff was ignorant.

Three Departments of the Public Service were called in to help in meeting the emergency of unusual destitution. There was destitution, unusual destitution, and though I think its extent and dangers have been exaggerated, there was more than enough to call upon the Government to institute special measures of relief. That relief was provided at prodigious cost, far in excess of what was necessary and would have been found sufficient if only proper care and supervision had been exercised and the people had shown a little patriotism. But the prevailing spirit was far otherwise, there were too many who sought only to make out of the position what they could for themselves. Politicians exploited the situation and improperly scattered public money to further their political aims, the recipients rejoiced over the fallacious semblance of getting something for nothing, and general demoralization has been the result. The Departments themselves cannot escape a share of the condemnation. The restrictions and formalities required by law are the taxpayers safeguard and to relax them at the behest of a Member or even of a Minister is fraught with grave peril. It is not enough to say "we did not put money into our own pockets at any rate beyond some extra salary or commission for our extra work," waste and extravagance in the great offices of public trust are hardly less blameworthy.

Nor is it enough to say that the accusations out of which this Enquiry arose were raked up by political rivals or malcontents. By whatever means the evils which have tainted the past and are threatening the future of Newfoundland have been brought to light, the light has shown that they exist; I have no doubt that it has not yet penetrated at the dark places, but I have hope that the sad disclosures which have been made in the course of this investigation may do something to create a better public opinion and a higher public spirit, to the lasting advantage of this richly endowed land and her brave and hardy people.

Given under my hand and seal this 15th day of March, 1924.
(Sgd.) THOMAS HOLLIS WALKER,
Witness:
Richard Augustus Parsons,
Solicitor,
St. John's, Newfoundland.

Auction!
At the Nfld. Auction Store,
152 New Gower St.
To-day at 3 and 7.30 p.m., and Tomorrow at 3 and 7.30
The following goods, Scrim, Volles, Table-linens, Stair Oilcloth, Table Oilcloth and a big assortment of General Goods.
For Ladies' Silk Sweaters, Blouses, Dresses, Stockings, Corsets, Underwear, Boots & Shoes.
For Gents: Suits, Pants, Overalls, Underwear Boots Shoes and Socks, and Braces.
For Children: Boys' Suits and Underwear, Misses' Dresses and underwear.
We also have a quantity of Stair Carpet, Canvas and Drugget.
Ladies' and Gents' Rubber Coats, \$3.25.
Ladies' & Gents' Rubber Coats \$3.25.
Ladies' 1-Pce. Tricotee Dresses \$3.25
On Hand all the Time
M. NIKOSEY, Auctioneer.

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

telegraph poles or bridge timber in return for provisions given them. On 11th January 1922, an Order-in-Council was made, which stated:

"The Commissioner of Public Charities have reported that cases of destitution have arisen in various localities that cannot be relieved through the contracts for cutting wood or by employment on public works; and as the various Relieving Officers under his department will have to afford relief in such cases; and as there are at present no funds in the Department of Charities to meet such expenditure; and the necessity is urgent; on recommendation of the Commissioner of Public Charities it was ordered that authority be granted him to issue able-bodied relief through his Relieving Officers, in such cases when it has been ascertained after careful enquiry that there is actual need which cannot be met in any other way. The expenditure under this authority to be limited at present to the sum of \$20,000... A copy of this was sent to the Commissioner with a covering letter from Mr. Mews dated 17th January, impressing upon him the necessity of keeping "a very close touch upon the different disbursements in this connection," of supervising this expenditure and reducing this relief to a minimum. Circulars were then sent to the Relieving Officers by the Commissioner, which bade them make due and searching enquiry into every case, and emphasized the absolute necessity of taking precautions to detect fraud and to keep such extra relief down to the smallest possible amount. From time to time further sums were allocated by Order in Council to the Department, "for expenditure in connection with the relief of extraordinary destitution"; on 21st September, 1922, it was provided that \$170,755, the amount spent during the financial year 1921-22, should be transferred to loan account 1922 and that out of the balance of that loan \$60,000 should be appropriated to meet able-bodied expenditure for 1922-23; a further \$25,000 was allocated in December 1922, \$30,000 in April 1923, \$100,000 in July 1923 and so on. In the circulars to the Relieving Officers, they were particularly enjoined to keep a separate account of this extra relief and a list of the recipients of the same and to forward the same to the Commissioner weekly. From the first this was entirely neglected and no attempt was ever made to enforce it; distribution was not long restricted to Relieving Officers; accounts were sent in to the Department certified by Chairmen of Road Boards, Members of the House of Assembly, and later candidates for the House of Assembly; money was poured out faster and faster, and as the year 1923 advanced the work in the Department got completely out of hand. In Mr. Dunphy's view the greatest distress was in January, February and March, but the demands were greatest in respect of April, the month before the Election; after that event the pressure was relaxed, and in another month or two the work was within bounds again. I have no doubt that a great deal of this money did not go in necessary relief; it was not reserved for proper cases after due and searching enquiry; it was lavishly scattered broadcast with both hands for political purposes.

Mr. Dunphy declined to make himself responsible beyond the limits of the original scheme. He dealt only with accounts certified by Relieving Officers, he knew of no authority under which he could recognize anyone else and he referred all others to the Colonial Secretary and paid them only on his instructions.

A large number of accounts were brought before me. They exhibited every kind of imperfection and irregularity, but all were paid in full. Sometimes there were no details at all, no names of recipients and nothing to show how or in what quantities the goods were, if at all distributed; sometimes there were mere lists of names; or mere lists of groceries; one account included a considerable quantity of tobacco, several contained items of biscuits, and one was made up largely of peaches, pineapples,

I did not find any instance in which there was actual misappropriation by anyone in the Department, but the whole conduct of the Department was slovenly and unbusiness-like, and made possible abuses all over the island, of which I cannot think that the staff was ignorant.

Three Departments of the Public Service were called in to help in meeting the emergency of unusual destitution. There was destitution, unusual destitution, and though I think its extent and dangers have been exaggerated, there was more than enough to call upon the Government to institute special measures of relief. That relief was provided at prodigious cost, far in excess of what was necessary and would have been found sufficient if only proper care and supervision had been exercised and the people had shown a little patriotism. But the prevailing spirit was far otherwise, there were too many who sought only to make out of the position what they could for themselves. Politicians exploited the situation and improperly scattered public money to further their political aims, the recipients rejoiced over the fallacious semblance of getting something for nothing, and general demoralization has been the result. The Departments themselves cannot escape a share of the condemnation. The restrictions and formalities required by law are the taxpayers safeguard and to relax them at the behest of a Member or even of a Minister is fraught with grave peril. It is not enough to say "we did not put money into our own pockets at any rate beyond some extra salary or commission for our extra work," waste and extravagance in the great offices of public trust are hardly less blameworthy.

Nor is it enough to say that the accusations out of which this Enquiry arose were raked up by political rivals or malcontents. By whatever means the evils which have tainted the past and are threatening the future of Newfoundland have been brought to light, the light has shown that they exist; I have no doubt that it has not yet penetrated at the dark places, but I have hope that the sad disclosures which have been made in the course of this investigation may do something to create a better public opinion and a higher public spirit, to the lasting advantage of this richly endowed land and her brave and hardy people.

Given under my hand and seal this 15th day of March, 1924.
(Sgd.) THOMAS HOLLIS WALKER,
Witness:
Richard Augustus Parsons,
Solicitor,
St. John's, Newfoundland.

Auction!
At the Nfld. Auction Store,
152 New Gower St.
To-day at 3 and 7.30 p.m., and Tomorrow at 3 and 7.30
The following goods, Scrim, Volles, Table-linens, Stair Oilcloth, Table Oilcloth and a big assortment of General Goods.
For Ladies' Silk Sweaters, Blouses, Dresses, Stockings, Corsets, Underwear, Boots & Shoes.
For Gents: Suits, Pants, Overalls, Underwear Boots Shoes and Socks, and Braces.
For Children: Boys' Suits and Underwear, Misses' Dresses and underwear.
We also have a quantity of Stair Carpet, Canvas and Drugget.
Ladies' and Gents' Rubber Coats, \$3.25.
Ladies' & Gents' Rubber Coats \$3.25.
Ladies' 1-Pce. Tricotee Dresses \$3.25
On Hand all the Time
M. NIKOSEY, Auctioneer.

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Order by Mail
From the
Fullest Stocks
At the
Lowest Prices.
Dicks & Coy. Ltd.
Booksellers and Stationers

Newfoundland Government Railway.

OPERATING TRAIN SERVICE,
COASTAL STEAMERS,
EXPRESS SERVICE,
and DOCK YARD.

Travel and ship your freight via your own transportation system.

Newfoundland Government Railway