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MORE LIGHT SHED ON VALLEY RAILWAY MATTERS

A Lot of High Financing Done Prior to the Last Local Election—A Carleton County Witness Tells How the Swag was Apportioned to the Different Parishes—His Memory a Trifle Defective. E. R. Teed Comes in for a 3share.

St. John, Jan. 12.—With Wallace Gibson, of Woodstock, on the stand at yesterday afternoon's session of the Valley Railway inquiry, the trail of one \$5,000 portion of the famous \$20,000 given to Mr. Tennant to G. B. Jones, later finding its way to Thomas Bell, was continued and traced to the end. Mr. Gibson, although he gave some important testimony, shielded the whole matter in a haze of doubt by inserting the words "I would imagine, but I don't know," in his answers to nearly all questions.

Hon. J. B. M. Baxter's "dim recollection" has "got nothing on" this innovation of the treasurer from Carleton county. "I can't remember" appeared once more with striking frequency.

Mr. Gibson did recall, however, that he had consulted with several gentlemen regarding the division of the \$5,000 allotted to Carleton county, and that one of these was E. R. Teed, but when pressed further, witness was attacked with one of his lapses of memory.

WALLACE GIBSON.

Wallace Gibson, of Woodstock, was then called to the stand. A. B. Connell appearing as his counsel. He was questioned by Hon. W. P. Jones as follows:

Q.—Are you acquainted with Thos. Bell?

A.—I met him once.

Q.—You know who he is?

A.—I only know of him.

Q.—Mr. Bell mentioned that just previous to the election in February, 1917, that he had forwarded some money to you?

A.—Yes.

Q.—How much?

A.—I would imagine about \$5,000.

Q.—In what capacity did you receive it?

A.—As treasurer of the Liberal

Commissioner Stevens: Tell us who you do remember?

A.—I think there was one man, called Tompkins, from up the river way who got the money for several polls in that section but I don't know for sure.

What his initials are, what his occupation is, where he lives; I don't know.

Mr. Hughes: What polls did he receive for?

A.—At least four or five polls up that district. I couldn't just call them out.

Q.—How much did he get?

A.—I don't remember. As soon as the \$5,000 was gone I was all through with the money and forgot all about it.

Q.—Do you know of anyone else who got money?

A.—I think I gave some to Robert Moxon in the parish of Woodstock.

Q.—How much?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—Anyone else?

Commissioner Stevens: In regard to that is all I would safely name to the questioner objected to a minute ago. I rule that you must answer it. The question was then read:

Q.—What was the money used for?

A.—I suppose for campaign purposes.

Q.—For election purposes.

Q.—What do you mean by election purposes?

A.—I don't know exactly what it went for. I gave it out to them to do with as they wished. They could buy dinners or might even buy booze if they wanted to.

Q.—Was it for such purposes that you thought you were giving it to them for?

A.—I suppose so at the time, yes.

Q.—Did you take any part in the election yourself?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Where were you?

A.—Somewhere about town, wherever I was most needed. I did anything where I could fit in.

Q.—Did you hire any teams to take voters to the polls?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Were you on any committee in charge of any of the work?

A.—No. I don't know as I was.

WORKED ONLY AS TREASURER

Q.—Were you working on any committee leading up to the election?

A.—Only as treasurer for Carleton county.

Q.—You paid out this money to the different polls. To whom did it go in Woodstock town?

A.—I don't know.

Q.—At no time did this money become connected with any other fund?

A.—No.

Q.—Did you get any accounts as to how this money had been spent?

A.—No.

Commissioner Stevens: You did not handle any of this money yourself, I suppose?

A.—No.

Commissioner—How many parishes are there in Carleton county?

A.—Richmond parish and town of Woodstock, Wakefield, Simonds, Wilmet, Wicklow, Northampton, Brighton, Peel, Aberdeen and Kent.

Commissioner—To whom did it go in Kent?

A.—That went in the Tompkins' package.

Commissioner—Aberdeen?

A.—I can't remember.

Commissioner—Do you mean to tell me that you distributed \$5,000 in different parishes and don't know to whom the money went?

A.—That is to be candid with you.

Commissioner—Brighton?

A.—I can't remember.

Commissioner—Northampton?

A.—I am not sure.

Commissioner—Whom do you think?

"BOY CAME AFTER IT."

A.—It runs through my head that a boy came after it.

Commissioner—Didn't he present any authority?

A.—I don't know. He might have got it for Harry Melroy.

In answer to a remonstrance from the commissioner he said: "It is pretty hard to remember back things which you are not supposed to tax your memory with."

Hon. W. P. Jones—Do you mean to tell us that you had the distribution of all this money without being consulted or consulting anyone?

A.—I consulted with different men.

Commissioner—Tell us one.

A.—Well, E. R. Teed of Woodstock, talked it over with me for one.

Commissioner—Tell us another.

A.—I can't remember.

Q.—Were there any others?

A.—I couldn't say.

Q.—Did he assist you in deciding the apportionments?

A.—Yes.

Q.—But you looked after the distribution yourself?

A.—Yes.

Q.—How much went to each parish?

A.—Between \$200 and \$500 or so I would imagine.

Q.—Did as much as \$800 go to any one?

A.—Yes. I would imagine that much went to Kent.

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KNOXFORD.

Leigh Toms and Ellis Lawrence returned home on Monday night after spending nine days' visit in Presque Lumber Camp.

Mrs. Perkins is working for Mrs. Harry Congle, who has been very ill in health for the past three months. We all hope for a speedy recovery.

Harry Toms spent Saturday and Sunday at L. O. Wolverton's. Miss Ina Wolverton made a week's visit in Fredericton.

Harry Wheeler is on the sick list. Mrs. Blair Carlisle and Mrs. Ludlow Reid and son, Fred, spent Wednesday with Mrs. Robbie Longstaff.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lunn, Mr. and Mrs. Ednor Reid, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Bartley, Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Bartley, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bartley, Mr. and Mrs. Ben. Congle, all drove to Clearview Sunday to attend the meetings there.

We are all pleased to know that Mr. Cain is better.

Our school is being taught again by Miss Bishop, of River de Chute.

Several of the farmers have frozen quite a few potatoes during the cold week.

WHEN BABY IS ILL

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CANTERBURY

The members of the Canterbury Chapter, I. O. O. F., are doing good work. A box was sent to Fredericton on the 10th containing 36 pairs of socks and 8 shirts. A month previously to that a box was also sent containing socks, mitts and shirts. Twenty dollars was sent to the Halifax Relief Fund. Over twenty members have been added to the Chapter from North Lake and they are doing excellent work, and are very enthusiastic workers. In order to facilitate the work the North Lake members have formed a branch of the Canterbury chapter. A concert was held at North Lake during the Xmas season when the sum of \$55.00 was realized.

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