

HON. BOB ROGERS SCORED BY JUDGE GALT OF MANITOBA

Premier Borden's Minister of Elections Gets Hard Knocks From Royal Commissioner Appointed to Investigate Boodling Operations of a Tory Government--Says Rogers was Mixed up in a Fraudulent Conspiracy to Rob the Province.

Winnipeg, Man., May 26. — Mr. Justice Galt, sitting as a commissioner investigating the circumstances attending the construction of the Manitoba Agricultural College, has rendered a second interim report, a document of 77 pages, which deals principally with the contracts of Thomas Kelly & Sons.

Commissioner Galt finds "that the Crown has established fraudulent overcharges in respect of contracts with the Government, made by Thomas Kelly & Sons, amounting in all to the sum of \$302,798.28," of which he states \$202,435 was in respect of the dormitory and auditorium building.

Dealing with the purchase of the site for the college, the commissioner finds that 461 acres was acquired in September, 1910, at \$350 an acre, with an additional sum of \$31,066 for clearing it.

"At about the same time," the report continues, "the Hon. Robert Rogers, then Minister of Public Works for the Province, selected a portion of land, about 43 acres, for himself, but instructed the conveyance of it to be taken in the name of Mr. R. A. C. Manning. Shortly afterwards, and before the site of the college was made known to the public, a large amount of other lands adjoining the college, or in its immediate vicinity, were purchased and placed in the name of Mr. Manning, amounting in all to about 1,240 acres, but the average cost of these lands was only \$179 per acre."

"The Hon. J. H. Howden and the Hon. G. R. Caldwell, then Ministers of the Crown, took interests in these lands. Owing to the absence of Sir Rodmond Roblin from Winnipeg when this evidence was being taken, he was not available as a witness."

Conspiracy is Alleged.
Continuing, the report of the commissioner says: "I find that shortly after the site for the new agricultural college was acquired, a fraudulent conspiracy was entered into by the Hon. Robert Rogers and Thomas Kelly, senior member of the firm of Thomas Kelly & Sons, contractors."

"The objects of this conspiracy were, among other things:

(a) "To provide moneys for the Conservative fund, for use in both Dominion and Provincial elections, from Thomas Kelly & Sons, and others who would be contractors for the various buildings comprising the new college."

(b) "To provide Thomas Kelly with funds out of the provincial treasury over and above what he might legitimately earn. Fraudulent over-payments to the extent of 302,798.28 were shown to have been made by the former provincial government to Thomas Kelly & Sons, but it appeared that on or about August, 1915, all the books and documents of the firm were destroyed by Maurice Kelly, son of Thomas Kelly, although not a member of the firm, and so no evidence was available to ascertain what disposition had been made by Thomas Kelly or the Kelly firm of the said overpayments."

Means Alleged Adopted.
Commissioner Galt reports that the means adopted by Messrs. Rogers and Kelly to carry out their said conspiracy, were:

"Firstly — An atmosphere of laxity was to be created by the Hon. Robert Rogers in his department of public works, and such instructions were to be given to Victor W. Horwood, the acting provincial architect, as would insure acquiescence by him and by the various Government inspectors, and the officials of the department, including the architect's office, in the progress estimates of contractors, without checking up or verifying the propriety of such estimates."

"Secondly — Contracts for 'extras' were to be lavishly granted to main contractors, subject to no competition by others."

"Thirdly — As soon as the various contractors realized the favorable treatment they were receiving, emissaries from the Conservative commit-

tee or other organization were to wait upon them and collect correspondingly favorable contributions to the Conservative campaign fund."

Atmosphere of Laxity.
The commissioner proceeds: "I find that during the period in 1911, when the Hon. Robert Rogers was Minister of Public Works, the following persons became principals in the conspiracy aforesaid:

"The Hon. Robert Rogers, Thomas Kelly and his sons in the firm, Roy Worthington (estimator for Thomas Kelly & Sons), and Victor W. Horwood; and that the agents employed by them to assist in carrying out this conspiracy were the various Government inspectors in charge of the works, the various deputies in the Department of Public Works, including the architect's office, and D. E. Sprague, collector for the campaign fund."

The commissioner finds "that during the year 1911 the requisite atmosphere of laxity was created amongst the Government inspectors and the officials of the Department of Public Works and amongst the various contractors." He finds that "after the Hon. Robert Rogers was transferred to Ottawa, in or about October, 1911, the objects of the conspiracy and the means for carrying them out were continued under the regime of his successors," and adds that it is almost impossible to believe that they were not aware of the frauds which were being committed."

Half Paid Afterwards.
Commissioner Galt reports that more than half the cost of the building was paid after Mr. Rogers left the Manitoba Government, and that "during this second period," Dr. R. M. Simpson was "treasurer of the Conservative Association and he collected funds for the party." The commissioner says he is satisfied that Dr. Simpson "was well aware of the conspiracy in question and became a principal to it." Charles Gorrie, he finds, also collected money, but his activities were "rather those of an agent than a principal."

"During this second period," continues the report, "the Hon. C. M. Campbell and the Hon. W. H. Montague were Ministers of Public Works. Both of them are now dead, and some of their colleagues are awaiting trial at the next assizes for charges arising out of the contracts for the new parliamentary buildings, which were awarded in the year 1913. I therefore consider it inadvisable to make any direct findings as to the complicity of any of the ministers of the province in the said conspiracy during this period."

Company Must Pay.
Winnipeg, May 26. — The long dispute between the province of Manitoba and the firm of Thomas Kelly & Sons over the payment for work done by that firm on the Provincial Parliament buildings was settled yesterday by a decision of the umpire for the appraisal board, Robert MacDonald, of Montreal, who finds that the Kelly Company must pay back to the province the sum of \$1,207,351.65, with interest from July 1, 1914, at 5 per cent., totaling about \$180,000 more. The decision as to costs in connection with the appraisal was reserved.

After the present Government took office, a civil suit was entered by the province against the Kelly firm for alleged over-payments on construction work by the former Government. The company, in turn, entered a counter-suit for damages. Neither case came to trial, and after lengthy negotiations an appraisal board was appointed recently, its findings to be binding on all parties. The board consisted of S. Coxton, deputy minister of public works, representing the Government; J. H. Burt, for the contractors; and Robert MacDonald, who was to have the deciding voice.

Curate—Shame on you for beating up Mike that way. Don't you know you should pray for your enemies? Denny—But he ain't me enemy, father; he's a friend of mine.

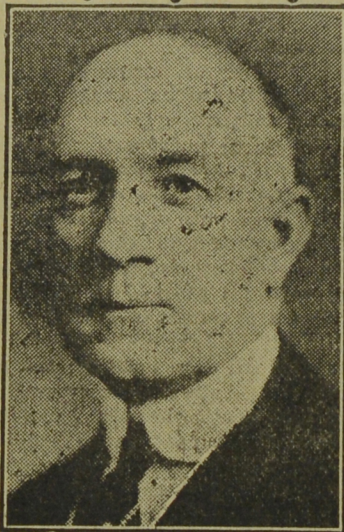
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You simply say to the drug store man, "Give me a quarter of an ounce of freezone." This will cost very little but is sufficient to remove every hard or soft corn from one's feet.

A few drops of this new ether compound applied directly upon a tender, aching corn should relieve the soreness instantly, and soon the entire corn, root and all, dries up and can be lifted out with the fingers.

This new way to rid one's feet of corns was introduced by a Cincinnati man, who says that while freezone is sticky, it dries in a moment, and simply shrivels up the corn without inflaming or even irritating the surrounding tissue or skin.

Don't let father die of infection or lockjaw from whittling at his corns, but clip this out and make him try it.



HENRY D. REID,
Vice-President and Treasurer of Reid
Newfoundland Co., St. John's
Dry Docks.

"My wife got a cold the other day, and she is suffering terribly."

"That so? What is it—pneumonia?"

"No, it is nothing serious."

"Then why is she suffering so much?"

"She is so hoarse she can't talk."

Mr. Balfour's Message to The People of Canada

Great Britain's Foreign Secretary Addresses the House of Commons---Democracy Must Triumph Over Militarism and Autocracy---A Call to Canadians for Universal Patriotism---Parties Urged to Get Together and Help Win the War.

Ottawa, May 28. — Parliament today heard the reasoned appeal of a great imperial statesman for united effort by the whole people of Canada, members of parliament and electors, French and English speaking, in the final testing and triumph of freedom and democracy over militarism and autocracy. Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, ex-premier of Great Britain and now foreign secretary, gave a message this afternoon to a packed and cheering commons chamber. His half-hour address, given in the closely-reasoned, beautifully-dictioned style of a master of debate, was in sharp contrast with the moving oratory and emotional appeal of M. Viviani, the spokesman of France, who addressed parliament two weeks ago.

The crowd in the galleries and on the floor of the house was larger today, and the reception accorded the representative of the Motherland was as enthusiastic. M. Viviani's appeal to the heart of his auditors stirred the commons as it had never been stirred before. The appeal of Mr. Balfour today was not an emotional appeal, but it was none the less compelling in its call for universal patriotism among all sections of the people and the sinking of "the natural divisions of party in one common effort for one common purpose."

Why We Fight and How.

Mr. Balfour spent fifteen minutes in a brilliant summing up of the reasons why we are fighting. The other fifteen minutes of his speech was devoted to laying down the fundamental principles as to how we should fight, namely, with a whole-hearted, common effort

that co-ordinated democracy might triumph, liberty and civilization be preserved, and that, in the end, democracy might come out of the struggle, not merely conquerors in the military sense, but strengthened in the belief that freedom is the only path to national greatness. The fight is the fight of all Canadians. The fight is the fight of all Canadians who love liberty and justice. Gentlemen, get together, concentrate your efforts and help us to win. That, in brief, was his message.

The address, although given without notes, had evidently been carefully prepared with a view to having some practical effect on present political conditions in Canada and with a view to bringing home to all Canadians a keener realization of the vital things at stake in the present war struggle. Sir Robert Borden in moving that the historic address be made a part of Hansard and for a part of the permanent records of the house, declared that Mr. Balfour would take back to the Motherland the message that this dominion would solve all the difficulties of concentrating efforts on the war to the exclusion of all other considerations.

Eloquent Laurier.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in seconding the motion of the prime minister, was eloquent and apt. The welcome accorded Mr. Balfour, he declared, was due not only to the name of Balfour but it was associated also with the name of England, the champion of liberty and the mother of free nations—"England, the hope of civilization and the terror of its enemies."

"Report to the people of England," concluded Sir Wilfrid, amid an outburst of cheers, "Report to the empire and the world that we Canadians stand today prouder of our British alliance than we were three years ago."

The rush to hear Britain's ex-premier and the most brilliant dialectician of the British house, taxed floor and galleries of the commons chamber to fullest capacity. The special invitation cards issued brought the whole of of-

ficial Ottawa and distinguished visitors from outside to the parliament building long before the doors were opened at 3 o'clock. Parliament met an hour early in order to give members of both houses and the privileged card holders opportunity to get into the chamber and secure seats. The flags of the Allies festooned galleries and speaker's chair. It was a brilliant assemblage of representative Canadians. Mr. Balfour and his party arrived promptly at 3 o'clock. He was welcomed at the main entrance by Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier and escorted to a seat at the right of the speaker. As he entered, floor and galleries rose and cheered, then someone struck up God Save the King, and the National Anthem was sung with fervor and impressiveness.

Speaker Rhodes read the commons address of welcome. Then Speaker Belduc of the senate, read a similar address in French. With happy tact and diplomacy, Mr. Balfour opened with a few well-chosen paragraphs in French, referring to the fact that Canada was created by the genius of two races, English and French, each retaining her language, her religion and her national spirit. Side by side, they had lived and thrived. Now they were fighting together together for common in a common cause.

Mr. Balfour's speech was listened to with rapt attention and he was followed by Premier Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Charity.
"Johnny, I left ten cents on this shelf a little while ago. Did you take it?"

"Yes, mamma. There's a poor old hunchback man that has a big family to support, and I gave it to him."

"Where did you see that poor man?"
"He came to the door selling candy-an' things."

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