

calculated capacity of the canal as now designed is about 15,500 second feet. This is based upon a river level at Chippawa of 559.5. With a river level of 559 and a similar intake loss the capacity would be about 400 feet less. "I am of the opinion," said Mr. Lea, "the dependable capacity for power purposes may safely be taken as not less than 15,000 cubic feet per second."

SAY REYNOLDS SWORE FALSELY

Witnesses at "Truck Probe"
Speak of Threat to
"Swear Life Away"

INQUIRY TO END FRIDAY?

Apparently with the object of discrediting the testimony given by the witness Reynolds before the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature in regard to the purchase by the Government of motor trucks from L. C. Parkins of Dundas, two witnesses were called before the committee yesterday morning. They did not have anything to say bearing on the transaction, but simply testified that, after Reynolds had given evidence in a lawsuit in Hamilton in a case in which Parkins was one of the parties, one of them had accused Reynolds of being "an awful liar," as he had made a statement which was contrary to the facts. According to both witnesses, Reynolds' reply was: "Parkins is going to swear my life away when the other case comes up. Why shouldn't I swear his away now?"

Gives Moral Support.

Both witnesses chewed gum vigorously while they were before the committee, and attention was called to the fact when the second witness commenced to tell his story. Mr. R. L. Brackin facetiously suggested that the gum would enable the witness "to stick to his story."

Mr. Parkins was recalled, and spoke as to various payments made by the Government, and, in reply to Mr. C. McCrea, he denied the rumor that he had owed Hon. Mr. Biggs money or that he and the Minister went to Buffalo together to celebrate the deal over the trucks. "I never owed Frank Biggs \$10 in my life," he said, and he added that he had never in his life been to Buffalo with Mr. Biggs.

The investigation is likely to close on Friday, but no report of any findings of the committee will be presented. The evidence which has been taken will be submitted and nothing more.

Gave False Evidence?

Henry Percy Woodward, a young man in the employ of Mr. Parkins, and residing at Dundas, was called by Mr. R. L. Brackin, and testified in regard to a suit which was tried in Hamilton in which Parkins had brought action against a man named Harwood. He could not say in what month the case was heard, but it was some time last year, and he believed it was in March or April. At the hearing Reynolds gave evidence on behalf of Harwood, saying that he did not hear Harwood make any statement about paying. This was different from what the witness knew to be the case, so he spoke to Reynolds when the latter came off the witness stand.

"I said to Reynolds," the witness proceeded, "Reynolds, you are an awful liar! You know very well that Harwood told us he would pay for the damage." Reynolds turned round and said, "Yes, I know. But Parkins is going to swear my life away when the other case comes up. Why shouldn't I swear his away now?"

Answering Mr. McCrea, witness said his evidence in the action was

different from that given by Reynolds. Witness was in the employ of Mr. Parkins at the time of the action, and still was in his employ. He informed Mr. Parkins of Reynolds' statement as soon as he got out of court.

Test of Veracity.

Mr. J. W. Curry, K.C., the Chairman, interrupted a question by Mr. McCrea on the ground that it was not material, but Mr. McCrea said this witness had been called to discredit Reynolds, and he therefore had a right to test the veracity of this witness.

The witness said that on the same day as the trial he swore out an affidavit before Mr. Lawrason, a lawyer of Dundas, setting forth what Reynolds had said. Mr. McCrea suggested that Parkins insisted that witness should swear the affidavit.

"No," replied witness, "he did not insist. He asked me if I would swear an affidavit. If that is insisting, well, he did insist."

Answering further questions by Mr. McCrea, the witness said that he was sure that he was standing up when he swore the affidavit that a Bible was used and that he kissed the Bible.

A young man named Matthews, who had heard what Reynolds had said, also took an affidavit at the same time, and was sworn in the same way as witness.

Conflict of Dates.

The Chairman said that this testimony was going beyond what was properly before the committee, but Mr. Brackin replied that he was simply seeking to ascertain how far this witness' credibility could be relied upon. The affidavit of the witness to which reference had been made was put in and it was found that it was sworn on December 17, 1920, and not in April or May, as the witness had sworn. Mr. McCrea asked for an explanation.

"I have made a mistake in the month," replied the witness. "That is all I know."

Although the affidavit was in the form of a "solemn declaration" witness was quite sure that a Bible was used to administer the oath.

In answer to Premier Drury the witness said he was motor mechanic and had followed no other occupation.

"I was wondering if these two young men were the 'detectives' that Mr. McCrea referred to the other day," remarked the Premier. "Perhaps that was just for the Press."

Denies Reynolds' Claim.

Mr. L. C. Parkins was recalled and produced a letter which he had written to Reynolds. In this letter, which was dated March 9, 1920, Mr. Parkins informed Reynolds that he was not entitled to any commission

on the sale of the trucks to the Government. The letter also stated that he (Parkins) originated the sale, and that Reynolds had no part in it. Although Reynolds went to Toronto with Parkins, the former took no part in assisting in the sale. The communication also set forth that Reynolds went with the writer to Milwaukee merely as a friend, as the writer wanted company. The letter concluded by offering \$400 in full settlement of everything, the letter and offer being entirely without prejudice.

Mr. Parkins told Mr. McCrea that he believed Mr. Lawrason, the lawyer, drafted this letter, and that his (Parkins') own stenographer rewrote the letter on his own notepaper.

In further examination Mr. Parkins said the total amount of the Government's purchase from him was \$117,000.

Speaks Too Softly.

The Chairman protested against the low voice in which Mr. Parkins gave his answers, some members being unable to hear him. "Get him good and mad!" was the suggestion of one member. Finally, the witness was ordered to stand some distance away from Mr. McCrea so that he would have to speak up in order that Mr. McCrea might hear his replies.

Mr. Parkins said his first tender came to \$99,600, but there were subsequently other orders bringing the amount up to \$117,000. Included in this amount was one McLaughlin car and two extra trucks. The first payment he received, from the Government on account of pur-