

March 28th

# FINLAYSON DERIDES CHARGES OF LIBERALS ABOUT NORTH ONTARIO

## Produces Documents and Says One Northerner Signed Statement in Blank

### SOME COUNTER-CHARGES

## Alleged Letter of Liberal Official Is Read in Legislature

Hon. William Finlayson, Minister of Lands and Forests, declared in the Legislature yesterday afternoon that the charges that two Porquis Junction men had done farm work for F. C. Richardson, Northern Development Inspector, and had been paid out of Northern Development funds, were nothing but political malice and an attempt to "get" Richardson.

He produced an affidavit and letters to show, he claimed, that James Gamble, a Liberal Association President, had engineered the charges.

When the charges were aired in the Legislature a week ago by William E. N. Sinclair, Liberal Leader, they were in the form of a statement bearing the signatures of the two men, A. A. Kydd and James McMahon. Two days ago Mr. Sinclair produced an affidavit from McMahon corroborating the statement. But yesterday Mr. Finlayson produced an affidavit from Kydd denying the statement, and also a letter which stated that Mr. Gamble had asked Kydd to sign a sheet of paper which was blank so far as any statement was concerned and which carried only McMahon's signature.

#### Affidavits, He Claims.

Mr. Finlayson first told the House that he could not accept Mr. Sinclair's explanation that what he had read in the House a week ago was a signed statement, and not affidavits. He declared that he and the other members, and the Press Gallery, understood Mr. Sinclair to say that he was reading affidavits.

Mr. Sinclair again declared that he had not used the word affidavit. Mr. Finlayson rejected this explanation.

"Well, I must thank the honorable member for not taking the statement of an honorable member," Mr. Sinclair retorted.

Mr. Finlayson declared that the Government had investigated the charges. McMahon said he refused to be interviewed by the Government investigator. Kydd declared that he had never signed the alleged statement.

He then read an affidavit from Mr. Kydd as follows:

"Porquis Jct., Ont., March 26, 1930.

"I, the undersigned, do hereby swear that I never at any time signed a statement to the effect that I worked on the farm of Mr. Frank Richardson, Inspector of the Department of Northern Development, haying, plowing and harrowing, and received cheques as moneys belonging to the Department of Northern Development in payment for same.

(Signed) "Albert Addison Kydd.

"Sworn before me at the Township of Clergue in the District of Cochrane this twenty-sixth day of March, 1930.

(Signed) "N. Grummet."

Frank Richardson, Mr. Finlayson continued, also denied the allegations and

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)

(Continued from Page 1, Column 8.)

declared that while McMahon did some work for him he was paid "by currency out of my own pocket" and not by any Development Fund cheque. He had done two days' work in 1927 and was paid \$7.

Mr. Finlayson next read a letter from the Government investigator as follows:

"The Hon. William Finlayson,

Minister of Lands and Forests.

"Dear Sir: Upon the instructions of the Deputy Minister, Mr. C. H. Fullerton the Department of Northern Development, I went to Porquis Junction to investigate fully and impartially the statement made by Mr. Albert A. Kydd and I wrote Mr. Kydd asking to come to see me at Porquis Junction. Mr. Kydd acted upon my request and came to see me on the morning of March 26.

"Mr. Kydd made the statement that Mr. James Gamble asked him if he had ever worked on the farm of Mr. Frank C. Richardson, and after Mr. Kydd replied that he had Mr. Gamble asked Mr. Kydd to sign a blank sheet of paper which had already been signed by Mr. James McMahon.

"I am herewith attaching an affidavit signed by Mr. Albert A. Kydd to the effect that he had never at any time signed a statement that he had worked on the farm of Mr. Frank C. Richardson and received cheques and moneys belonging to the Department of Northern Development in payment of same.

"Your obedient servant."

(Signed) "C. L. Decker."

And Mr. Finlayson also read another letter to show the part played by Mr. Gamble. This letter, purporting to be from Gamble to Kydd, was as follows:

"Porquis Junction, Ont., March 24, 1930.

"Mr. A. Kydd, Nellie Lake, Ont.

"Dear Sir: Please come down as soon as possible and fix up that affidavit as you understand, once you send in your affidavit that clears you of any trouble.

"You don't need to be afraid; there are four or five going in. Jim McMahon's has gone in today. If you don't take it, then they have a comeback on you. But if you take the affidavit, then you are through with it, and clear of trouble. Mr. Sinclair, one of the best lawyers in Canada, will fight it to a finish then. Ferguson called for the affidavits and Sinclair wired through for them.

"So please make no mistake, and be down as soon as possible. All you have to do is to go in to Mr. Montford in Ansonville and tell him just what you worked, and he will take it down. It

won't cost you a cent, and if you should be short for going in, come this far and either come to me or Mr. Rowlandson and we will fix you up.

"As soon as these go in, that finishes Mr. Richardson.

"Come down at once so it can be finished up.

"Yours very truly (signed), James Gamble."

Says Gamble Is a Liberal.

Mr. Gamble, Mr. Finlayson said as he concluded reading this epistle, was a prominent Liberal and President of the district association.

"There is nothing in these charges but political malice and an attempt to get Richardson," the Minister declared.

Replying to the Minister, Mr. Sinclair again declared that he had not said he was using an affidavit, when it was just a statement.

Then he recalled proceedings in the House shortly before this Northern Development matter came up, applause from the Conservative benches when a letter from Rev. Peter Bryce was read by the Prime Minister. Mr. Bryce referred to the Godfrey postscript incident, and then referred to the public service of Dr. Godfrey in the administration of his department.

"Now that the Minister of Health has been clearly vindicated, and his action in writing a postscript has been declared 100 per cent. all right by this Legislature and sealed with the seal of thunderous applause by the Conservative members, we may expect most anything to happen. So the Minister of Lands and Forests ridicules what I have done."

Says Some Cheques Not Examined.

The Liberal Leader declared that the investigation into the charges was not complete because all the development fund cheques had not been examined.

"It seems to be an offense to wire North Ontario and to get information as a Liberal," Mr. Sinclair declared. He stated that a telegram was usually considered private property, but that when it was sent over the T. & N.O. it became public property. Mr. Finlayson protested that information as to Mr. Sinclair's telegram had not come from the T. & N.O., but was given in the letter he read to the House.

Mr. Sinclair declared that he did not believe that Kydd and McMahon had signed a blank statement. "The Minister is, as usual, trying to cover it all up with ridicule," said he.

Mr. Finlayson declared that the Government would be glad to receive any further information from Mr. Sinclair on the subject and investigate it. He promised that any one guilty would be dismissed.

## ONTARIO FINANCE BRIEFLY OUTLINED BY DR. MONTEITH

### "Pay Your Way and Live Within Income," He Advises

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES SOUND

"During the past fiscal year the Province of Ontario had a revenue of \$64,000,000 and expended \$62,000,000," said Hon. Dr. J. D. Monteith, Provincial Treasurer, in an address before the Canadian Credit Institute, Toronto Chapter, last night.

The subject of the address was "Provincial Finance, and the Rules Which Govern Finance as a Whole," and the speaker emphasized "one of the laws which you have to consider first is to

pay your way and live within your income."

Dr. Monteith pointed out that the capital indebtedness of Ontario now stood at \$425,000,000—and made specific reference to the two great "public service utilities," the Hydro and the T. & N.O. Railway. In the former he said "the debt is \$163,000,000, and at the present time the value of the plants in existence in Ontario would more than wipe out the total debt."

Speaking of the T. & N.O. Railway, he said: "We have an investment there amounting to some \$20,000,000, where there are assets in existence covering the total loan."

Dealing with the various sources of public revenues, Dr. Monteith said that "a large section of the revenue comes from the liquor control, and in this connection, for services rendered. Only the people who make use of the liquor permits contribute to this fund."

At the close of Dr. Monteith's address, B. Y. Haddy, M.C.I., Past President of the Toronto Chapter, C.C.I., proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker, which was seconded by J. B. Radcliffe, F.C.I. The meeting was presided over by J. J. Millar, M.C.I.