



IN THE MATTER of a Royal Commission dated the Fourth day of June, 1900, directed to the Honourable Sir John Alexander Boyd, Knight, the Honourable William Glenholme Falconbridge, and His Honour Duncan Byron MacTavish, Esquire, authorizing them to enquire into alleged frauds in connection with elections for the House of Commons of Canada.

WE, the Honourable Sir John Alexander Boyd, Knight, Chancellor of Ontario, the Honourable William Glenholme Falconbridge, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and Duncan Byron MacTavish, Esquire, Judge of the County Court of the County of Carleton, the Commissioners above named, have the honour to report as follows:--

1- That pursuant to the said Commission we held a meeting at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, on the 27th. day of June, 1900, for the purpose of appointing counsel, to assist us in the enquiries and investigations by the said Commission authorized, and a registrar of our proceedings, and necessary stenographers and at the said meeting we appointed Mr. A. B. Aylesworth, Q.C. and Mr. Wallace Nesbitt, Q.C. to be counsel, Mr. John D. Falconbridge to be registrar, and Mr. Nelson R. Butcher, stenographer.

2- That on the following day, namely the 28th. day of June, at the same place, we held a second meeting, at which there were present, in addition to the Commissioners, Mr. Aylesworth, Q.C., the registrar and the stenographer, Mr. Nesbitt, Q.C. being absent from Toronto. At the said meeting we appointed the 24th day of July, 1900, for proceeding with the said enquiries, and directed the registrar to publish in the Canada Gazette, the Toronto Globe, the Toronto Mail & Empire, the Toronto World, the Ottawa Citizen, the Ottawa Free Press and the Ottawa Journal, a notice (of which a copy is herewith enclosed) inviting persons aggrieved to send to the registrar



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complaints relating to the subject matters of the Commission. We also discussed the procedure to be adopted for the initiation and conduct of the investigation.

3- That on the said 24th. day of July, 1900, we held a meeting at Toronto, when difficulty arose concerning the rate of compensation to be allowed to the counsel aforesaid, which we failed to adjust. We, thereafter communicated on this subject with the Honourable the Minister of Justice.

4- That on the 19th. day of November, 1900, we received through the registrar from one R. M. Noble, of Uxbridge, a Statutory Declaration relating to the Election for North Ontario in 1896, (the said declaration being herewith enclosed) and we caused the counsel aforesaid to be notified thereof.

5- That we subsequently received from Mr. Aylesworth, Q.C. his resignation as counsel in the investigation, and on the 22nd. day of December, 1900, we appointed Mr. William Lount, Q. C. to act in his stead.

6- That on the 2nd day of January in the present year a meeting of the Commissioners was held at Osgoode Hall. Mr. Nesbitt, Q.C. attended before us, and Mr. Lount^{Q.C.} stated that he was not prepared to offer evidence with regard to the complaint concerning the North Ontario Election, and that from his investigations he was satisfied that no evidence was procurable owing to the lapse of time, and the death of the County Judge before whom the recount in that Constituency was had. No other complaint was presented to the Commissioners, and Mr. Nesbitt, Q. C. stated that he was not able to get instructions from any responsible leader or representative of the party on whose behalf he appeared, and that he declined to take part in any further proceedings until he was so instructed.

7- That, excepting the said Statutory Declaration of R.M. Noble aforesaid, the Commissioners have not received any demand



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for investigation or any complaint relating to the subject matter of the Commission, or calling for enquiry under the said Commission.

8- That we deem it advisable to make this return of our proceedings to inform the Honourable the Minister of Justice why it is that no more expeditious action has been taken or indeed has been possible on the part of the Commissioners.

DATED at Toronto this 15th day of June, 1901.

Signed in presence of
R. A. Walker

[Signature]

N. S. McLaughlin

To The Honourable,
The Minister of Justice,
OTTAWA.

egnb

L. B. MacLachlan
Co. Judge C.

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R E P O R T

OF ROYAL COMMISSION.

RE- ALLEGED ELECTION FRAUDS.