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**HICKEY NICHOLSON**  
BLACK TWIST CHEWING

## Evidence at Public Works Department Investigation

CANADA  
PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

In the matter of enquiry under Section 33 of Chapter 7 of the Acts of 1912, entitled "The Audit Act" relating to certain records and transactions in respect to Highway Improvement Account, Department of Public Works.

Evidence of the several witnesses examined before me in respect to the matters above stated in the order hereinafter noted.

(Signed) JOHN ANDERSON,  
Provincial Auditor

(Continued)

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, June 10, 1929, 4 o'clock p. m.

Present:

John Anderson, Provincial Auditor, presiding; Norma Younker, Stenographer; Mrs. Elizabeth Gallant, D. S. Hart, Chartered Accountant.

Mr. Anderson administered the following oath to Norma Younker, Stenographer.

"The evidence which you shall record in the matter of this enquiry under the Audit Act concerning matters relating to the account of the Public Works Department shall be true and correct and according to statements of the various persons examined."

Mrs. Elizabeth Gallant. (Sworn.)

Q. How long have you been employed by the Department of Public Works?

A. About seventeen years.

Q. In what capacity are you now employed?

A. Stenographer and bookkeeper.

Q. Have you been handling any of the funds of the Public Works Department?

A. No. I have not been responsible for any of them. If any one came in to pay a bill I issued a receipt and handed the money over to Mr. McMillan. I signed Mr. McMillan's name to the receipt and I handed the money over to him immediately except in a case where he was absent for a few days when I would take charge of it and hand it over to him on his return.

Q. Have you any further charge of funds more than merely handing the money over to Mr. McMillan? Are you responsible after that?

A. No.

Q. Do you keep any record of it?

A. No. I keep no record except the receipt. I signed Mr. McMillan's name to every receipt and he accepted the money.

Q. Did you prepare any deposits for the Bank at any time?

A. No. I did not, except perhaps to type them after Mr. McMillan had prepared them. I never counted the money or prepared the deposits.

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Q. As a matter of fact you do not claim any responsibility for funds other than handing them over to Mr. McMillan?

A. I would say I had not any responsibility I just wrote the receipts and hand the money over to Mr. McMillan.

Q. As bookkeeper did you keep any Cash Book?

A. No. No Cash Book.

Q. There was no record kept of incoming funds, so far as you know, in connection with Highway Improvement Account?

A. I never saw any. Mr. McMillan took charge of that himself.

Q. Did you have a regular Receipt Book for recording incoming funds?

A. We have a Receipt Book for Road Tax that we handled in the Department.

Q. In connection with Highway Improvement Account, did you have a Receipt Book particularly belonging to that account?

A. No, not as far as I know. We have a Receipt Book for Road Tax, one for Falconwood Hospital fees and another Receipt Book for sundry things.

Q. There has been under the Highway Improvement some sales of gravel, cement and cement sacks. Have you any account in a ledger for such sales?

A. No, I have not.

Q. That was entirely in Mr. McMillan's hands?

A. As far as I know.

Q. Some sales were made of gravel and cement. Did you open an account as a record of these sales in any book?

A. I did not.

Q. You were not conversant with these transactions at all?

A. No. Nothing more than I knew Mr. McMillan received funds for empty cement bags.

Q. As you were the bookkeeper, if there was a ledger account kept of these transactions you should be the one who should have kept them.

A. Well, I suppose I was only assisting Mr. McMillan. He may have kept a cash book and kept his cash book entered up from the stubs of the different receipts.

Q. But you kept no ledger account?

A. No.

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, 11 June, 1929, 11 o'clock a. m.

Present:

John Anderson, presiding; Norma Younker, L. B. McMillan and D. S. Hart.

L. B. McMillan. (Sworn.)

Q. How long have you been employed by the Department of Public Works?

A. I have been in the employ of the Government about thirty-nine years.

Q. What is your present official designation?

A. Deputy Minister of Public Works.

Q. How long is it since you received that title?

A. About a year.

Q. What was your previous official title?

A. Secretary of Public Works.

Q. How long were you employed by the Department as Secretary of the Public Works Department?

A. Twenty-seven or twenty-eight years.

Q. Is there any real difference between the two designations insofar as your duties and responsibilities are concerned?

A. Not any.

Q. Either as Secretary of Public Works or as Deputy Minister you have, next to the Minister of the day, been the responsible head of your Department since about 1900?

A. Yes, I have been the responsible head of the Department since about 1900.

Q. Is it to be understood that during this time you have had charge of the Staff and full responsibility for the transactions and activities of the Department, subject only to the Minister and such regulations and Statutes as from time to time were in force?

A. Yes, I presume so.

Q. In your capacity as deputy head of the Department, is it to be understood that you gave instructions to the Staff and employees, ordered supplies and generally directed the Department affairs, subject only to the restrictions already referred to?

A. As a general rule, yes.

Q. Who has been your Chief Clerk in the Public Works Department?

A. Mrs. Elizabeth Gallant has lately. We had a man some years ago.

Q. In 1929 it is understood the Government of the Province undertook what is known as the Highway Improvement programme whereby they were to receive a Federal sub-

sidy equal to 40% of certain approved expenditures?

A. Yes.

Q. From what I gather this Highway Improvement programme included work done in the City of Charlottetown and the Town of Summerside, but that transactions relative thereto were not embodied in the published Public Accounts of the Province?

A. No.

Q. You are also aware that expenditure in connection with this Highway Improvement programme was required to be kept separate from other similar expenditure, and that a separate Bank Account was opened for the purpose and so continued until early this year when it was finally closed out?

A. Yes.

Q. What books have been kept in your Department for the purpose of recording Highway Improvement transactions?

A. We had a journal and a ledger first. There were two journals altogether, one a continuation of the other.

Q. Have you kept a cash book in which all receipts relating to Highway Improvement transactions have been recorded?

A. All the transactions, the cheques and all matters such as that were in the journals, but transactions relative to rebates I kept a memorandum of and would pay out the amounts of freight, as a rule, on return of bags and the shipping away of them and also the cleaning of them. In addition to that I paid out \$125 to one girl on the Staff and \$150 to another. The balance received was either deposited or paid to the

(Continued on page 10)

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