

Q. And then Col. Anderson's report was that he doubted the necessity of letting a contract as he did not think the harbours would freeze over before the boats came in. Now, that is the way you read the record?—A. Yes.

Q. But as a matter of fact the harbour did freeze over and it became necessary for the department to act?

Mr. BENNETT (Simcoe).—The witness does not know that, what is the good of asking him that question?

.Witness retired.

Mr. BENNETT (Simcoe).—I ask that the Midland Towing and Wrecking Company be instructed to have their books here without fail at the next meeting of the committee. I want the log of the tug *Beaumont* and the other tug *Minnedora*, showing the names of the captains who were on them and the length of time they were employed ice-breaking.

Mr. PRINGLE, K.C.—I want to understand just what books we are asked to produce. The question has already been raised here, and properly raised, I think that we are dealing with the item of \$5,500. Now do you want our books for the last seven or eight years in connection with all our business?

Mr. BENNETT (Simcoe).—Yes, we want the books here from 1904, all books that will show anything at all in reference to any entries as to the breaking of ice.

Mr. PRINGLE.—I want to have the ruling of the Chair on the matter. We will bow to the ruling of the Chairman of this committee.

Mr. BENNETT.—We must have them.

The CHAIRMAN.—I do not think we can go back and bring all the books of the company, although you are entitled to any books which contain any entry in connection with this item under consideration.

Mr. BENNETT (Simcoe).—And I want any memorandum or so called logs kept by the captains of the tugs engaged in the work.

The CHAIRMAN.—With reference to this item.

Mr. PRINGLE, K.C.—I understand that we are only to produce the books in reference to the \$5,500.

Mr. BENNETT (Simcoe).—That is for the next day, but after we have them perhaps we will get them for the years previous to that.

Mr. PRINGLE, K.C.—I will show you the books of the company privately, Mr. Bennett, but we do not want to have our books produced exposing the details of our private business.

Mr. BENNETT (Simcoe).—I do not want to see your books privately; perhaps I can tell you as much about them as if you showed them to me, I know a good many things about them.

Mr. PRINGLE, K.C.—In order that there may be no dispute when we meet the next day I think it would be better to issue a summons to Mr. Playfair enumerating the books you want him to produce.

Mr. BENNETT (Simcoe).—I want the book of account, the day book, blotter or journal, whatever they call it, the book of original entry that will show the number of days' work done, and then after that—

The CHAIRMAN.—In 1910?

Mr. BENNETT (Simcoe).—In 1910. And then after that I want the log book, or memorandum or whatever you like to call it, kept by the captains when they were working, as Mr. Pringle says they were, night and day for this long period of time. Then I want the ledger into which those entries are carried forward. Surely that is plain enough.

Committee adjourned until Tuesday, February 20.