

Q. In accordance with the contract?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you in your experience in that department have any other companies, or transactions with any firm or persons in which that is the procedure?

A. All the British bonuses are paid in the same way. They are made up from the manifest.

Q. They don't produce any account?

A. They send in a bonus claim—they have since 1st July last when we made a change.

Q. The Allan line sends in a claim?

A. Not the Allan line, we only pay the agents of the Allan or any other steamship company. They send in a bonus form.

Q. You examine that claim?

A. With the manifest, yes.

Q. And compare it with the manifest?

A. If we consider that the booking agent is entitled to be paid on that number of agriculturists, labourers and domestics we would pay on that.

Q. And with reference to all other transactions, so far as they come before you, if the gentlemen or the firm or corporation outside have any claim they make a statement of that claim or otherwise send you in an account?

A. A bonus form, yes. A great many of these companies are not allowed all they sent in.

Q. This one company does not make any claim or send in an account?

A. No, they are paid direct from the manifest.

Q. It is in the happy position of having the department, who pays also make up the account?

A. Make up the account.

Q. That is unusual?

A. That is what the contract calls for.

Q. It is in accordance with the contract, but it is unusual to have matters carried on in that way by the department. The usual way is that a claim is made and when you examine the claim you pay according to the result of your examination?

A. Yes.

Q. But in this case?

A. We make up the account.

Q. You make up that account?

A. Yes.

Q. And you pay it?

A. Yes.

Q. I did not quite distinctly understand how you satisfied yourself, that is, according to the contract, I understand it—do you understand it that way—that they are not to be paid until they have performed their obligation?

A. In which way, Mr. Foster?

Q. They have to make certain expenditure and carry on a certain propaganda?

A. Yes.

Q. If they don't do that you would not consider that they ought to be paid a bonus?

A. It would be a violation of the contract.

Q. What steps have you taken each year to make it certain that they have spent \$15,000, for instance, for the purposes shown in the contract?

A. They send us a statement together with vouchers covering their statement.

Q. You get a statement from the company?

A. Of the expenditures, yes.

Q. Signed by whom?

A. I cannot tell you that, it is the North Atlantic Trading Company.