

7 EDWARD VII., A. 1907

By Mr. Bennett:

Q. Before returning that cheque did you consult with any of the commissioners?
—A. No.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. In the Auditor General's report brought down last night I find that the Secretary of State's Department do not agree with you apparently from a business point of view. I see there that they purchased from the Rolland Paper Company, of Montreal, various classes of stationery, foolscap, apparently, sundry papers, envelopes, almost everything in the stationery line, to the tune of \$50,000, bought direct from the Rolland Paper Company. Why could you not have bought in the same way?—A. They are quite different from what we are in the Transcontinental Railway. They, the Printing Bureau, are practically supply men. They supply the other departments. They can buy cheaper than we can buy because they are buying probably one hundred times as much.

Q. Of whom are you speaking?—A. Of the Printing Bureau.

Q. Can you not buy as cheaply as the Printing Bureau?—A. No; we only buy small quantities.

Q. I am only directing your attention to this in order to try to help you in the future. This Rolland Company sell direct to the Secretary of State to the extent of \$50,000 worth of stationery. Can you not buy from them direct?—A. No.

Q. You will not say that the Secretary of State is not buying cheaply?—A. I will say that the Secretary of State is not buying as cheap as a man in the trade is. He can buy much cheaper than we can.

By Mr. Johnston:

Q. You said the Rolland Paper Company refused to sell direct to you?—A. Yes. I have a letter here from them refusing to sell.

Q. Produce it please?—A. And they referred us to their agent at Ottawa. (Document produced and filed as 'Exhibit 4.')

Q. You might read that please?—A. :—

' THE ROLLAND PAPER COMPANY,

' High Grade Paper Makers. Manufacturers of Canadian Linen Ledger, Superfine
' Linen Record, Earnscliffe, Standard, Crown, Empire and Colonial Bond.

' Mills at St. Jerome, P.Q.

' MONTREAL, CAN., January 10, 1905.

' A. L. OGILVIE, Esq.,

' Ottawa, Ont.

' DEAR SIR,—We have your favour of date, and note contents. We would refer you to the Mortimer Company, of your city, who handle our full line of papers, &c. They are in a better position than we are to quote you for all kinds of our goods, as we market our line through the printers only.

' Yours truly,

' THE ROLLAND PAPER CO.

' Per W. V. ROLLAND,

' Vice-president.'

Q. Then there is no question as to the Rolland Paper Company having refused to sell to you direct?—A. There is no question about it.

Q. You said that you had some experience in ascertaining what the cost of manufacturing envelopes is. Will you state to the committee what steps you have taken to ascertain just what the cost of printing and manufacturing envelopes is, shortly? I have no doubt there are a number of practical men here who will be able to understand