

By Mr. Carvell:

Q. Have you the contract between the Russian Government and Vickers?—A. No, I have not.

Q. Can you get it?—A. I think we can get it.

Q. That is what we want?—A. That should be obtainable.

Q. Can you tell me one detail in which the specifications were changed, and how much it cost?—A. Well now, when it comes to that, I cannot do it.

Q. You made a pretty broad statement?—A. I did, because I felt quite satisfied in my own mind—I did not expect to convince the committee that such is the fact, but I am quite satisfied that it can be established from proper examination that there has been a tremendously increased cost in the production of the ship.

Q. Put that "tremendously" in dollars and cents?—A. I would hesitate to do that.

Hon. Mr. REID: I suppose that can be established.

Mr. CARVELL: If I had the two contracts we could tell.

WITNESS: If you can do it for half a million dollars you are doing well.

The CHAIRMAN: That accounts for a half million dollars right there.

By Mr. Devlin:

Q. Had they taken over the contract, would the cost to the Russian Government have been different?—A. That I do not know.

Q. Could you tell us to what extent the changes went? To what did the changes that were made in the original contract amount to?—A. I could not undertake to say.

Q. It would be more than ten or fifteen thousand dollars?—A. It would be certainly more than ten or fifteen thousand dollars. It would be more than ten times \$10,000. That is my opinion.

By Mr. Carvell:

Q. Have you compared the two contracts?—A. No, I have not.

Q. Have not compared the specifications?—A. No.

Q. You do not know in what way the specifications were varied?—A. I have no means of knowing.

Q. Then you are taking somebody else's ideas about this?—A. Yes, I am.

Mr. BOYS: Just the same as the Auditor General.

Mr. CARVELL: Not by any means.

By Mr. Bennett:

Q. Who was looking after the inspection of the vessel?—A. Up to a certain point, Mr. Duguid, of our department, had charge.

Q. Up to the last?—A. Yes, even up to the last, when the Russian inspectors arrived here, he still continued to be associated in an advisory capacity.

Q. Are you guided in your opinion as to the increase in value by any conversation with Duguid?—A. I am guided to a very large extent by what I am told by Mr. Miller of the Canadian Vickers.

By Mr. Carvell:

Q. Not by your own inspector? (No answer.)

By Mr. Bennett:

Q. How about your own inspector?—A. I have had conversations with our inspector and I am quite satisfied that, taking the changes made in the vessel and the methods adopted in rushing the construction of this ship, that the cost of the vessel was unquestionably added to.