

'ARCTIC' EXPEDITION, THE—*Con.*

Brodewur, Hon. L. P. (Minister of Marine and Fisheries)—*Con.*
of the Marine and Fisheries Department—3669.

Fielding, Hon. W. S. (Minister of Finance)—3641.

If hon. member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster) felt that he occupied a strong position, he would not have taken up the time of the House in reading so many items from Auditor General's Report. When these matters are properly inquired into it will be time enough to form a conclusion that prices paid for these articles are extravagant—3641. Instances attitude of hon. member for North Toronto (Mr. Foster) in regard to North Atlantic Trading Company; explains various ways in which public matters may be investigated—3642. The suggestion that the effect of my right hon. friend's motion is to limit the investigation is entirely unwarranted—3643. The Committee on Public Accounts may investigate and I presume will investigate every one of these cases to which hon. member for North Toronto has drawn our attention. If hon. friend (Mr. Foster) is right in the suggestion that it is the determination of the Liberal party to prevent investigation they can prevent it just as well in the special committee as in the Committee on Public Accounts—3644. In the investigation in regard to the North Atlantic Trading Company there has been no refusal to answer any question that was a proper question—3645. When we are dealing with any corporation do we want to find out who are the shareholders or do we want to find out that the transaction is a good one and will produce results? What we do know is that methods employed during the present administration have brought immigrants into Canada and made the country prosperous—3646. quotes Lord Strathcona's letter; letter means that any arrangement made for the procuring of emigration in continental Europe must be kept secret; hon. gentleman from Lunenburg (Mr. A. K. Maclean) can be trusted to read and write and quote correctly—3647. As a common principle of business honour government have to keep those names secret, unless these men themselves voluntarily give the names—3648. Charge made by opposition is one that carries with it an accusation of gross and palpable fraud against a department, and therefore necessitates a special committee—3649. No vote was taken for an expedition to the North Pole—3653.

Foster, Hon. Geo. E. (North Toronto)—3631.

Prime Minister is trying on a very small motion which he offers to House in a most restricted form, to take to himself and party the credit of affording a great chance to opposition for an investigation—3631. If there is any argument in the statement that certain matters should not be taken up because the Committee on Public Accounts have them before them,

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or can take them before them, that argument will apply in this instance. There is a very simple expedient which right hon. gentleman avails himself of; and that is to instruct his chairman and his committee to refuse to allow questions to be answered—3632. Instances case of North Atlantic Trading Company; illustrates obstacles in investigation before select standing committees. In case at issue the right hon. gentleman shelters himself behind a minister who has died; he appeals to House ad misericordiam—3633. When in the 5,500 copies of that book which is sent broadcast through this country, men take up the items of the Marine and Fisheries Department, and read from one end to the other of the most extravagant expenditures, will the memory of the dead minister be any better preserved than it was before? Late minister (Mr. Préfontaine) has a right to a memory which is straight and honest and nothing more—3634. Has the right hon. gentleman looked into the Auditor General's Report and noticed what has been expended during one year in supplies for steamer 'Kestrel'; \$7,500 was expended for provisions alone for this crew of twenty-two men in the year 1904-5; quotes items from page P-145 of Auditor General's Report—3635-6-7. If 'Arctic,' 'Montcalm' and 'Kestrel' are samples then the Marine and Fisheries Department provides its vessels with recklessness and extravagance—3638. \$3,000 would have been sufficient to have fooded 'Kestrel' for time she was in commission—3639. Why were tenders not called for the \$120,000 worth of supplies in the matter of the 'Arctic'? No man can go through reports without coming to the conclusion that there is a necessity for the most rigid examination into the Marine and Fisheries Department—3640. Why did government cancel contract?—3648.

Haggart, Hon. J. G. (South Lanark)—3647.

Does letter of Lord Strathcona refer to individuals connected with the committee, or only to the arrangements that are made with them—3647. Has hon. member for Pictou (Mr. Macdonald) authority for stating that where a specific charge is made against a department, a committee of investigation will be granted?—3661.

Hughes, Sam (Victoria)—3665.

Was there any duty paid on government pump?—3665.

Lake, R. S. (Qu'Appelle)—3647.

Was that with reference to the original syndicate or with reference to the new committee that was formed last year?—3647.

Lancaster, E. A. (Lincoln and Niagara)—3660.

Would hon. gentleman (Mr. Macdonald) state what the objection is to the resolution of the leader of the opposition?—3660.