

6 EDWARD VII., A. 1906

Q. The question was asked you whether you could cable Lord Strathcona and get the information. Your reply was, 'I suppose he could ascertain and get the information. I have none here except what is on the official file'?

A. That is correct.

Q. You were also asked: 'Could you cable for that information and produce before the committee a copy of your cable and of the reply?' A. Yes, with the consent of the minister I will. Q. Could you do that for this afternoon? A. With the consent of the minister, yes. Q. But you are going to send at once that cable to Lord Strathcona? A. With the consent of the minister, yes. I would have to submit it to him. Q. And will you give the answer to the chairman as soon as you get it? A. As soon as I get it. Q. Have you any reason to suppose that the minister has any objection to getting that information? A. None at all; I never spoke to him on the subject. Q. If he does not object you can send that cable at once? A. Certainly?

A. That is right.

Q. Since then what have you done to get that information?

A. I submitted the matter; I spoke to the deputy minister about it.

Q. You spoke to the deputy. What did you say to him?

A. I handed him the slip of paper upon which Mr. Monk, I think it was, had written the questions he wanted to have cabled. I was advised that if the committee wished the information they could send the cable themselves.

Q. That was the answer that was to come back to the committee?

A. I have not given it to the committee. It is the Committee on Agriculture I am speaking about.

Q. That is the answer to be given in reply to the committee?

A. Yes.

Mr. MACDONALD raises objection to the question as being a matter that took place before another committee, and the chairman rules: The proceedings referred to by the hon. gentleman are proceedings which took place before another committee, but I think that the question is a fair one, because it fairly arises from a previous question put by Mr. Barker as to the information and knowledge which the witness has concerning this company. The question, which I think was a fair one, was whether Mr. Scott knew who were the people who composed this company. I think it is a fair question. It does not seem to me, however, that there is really anything before the committee. The witness has told us that he has not got the information in question. He has not asked for it and he had nothing to say about it. I think Mr. Barker agrees that there are no more questions of that kind to be put to the witness.

*By Mr. Barker :*

Q. I began by asking this witness, and I am going to ask him again whether he knowing that this question was before the House and the committee, has made any efforts to obtain that information and with what result?

A. None whatever.

Q. You have made no effort whatever?

A. I have not sent any cable, no.

Q. Why?

A. Because I was advised not to, that if the committee wanted the information they could send the cable themselves.

Q. And therefore you did not do it?

A. No, sir.

Q. By whom were you advised not to do it?

A. The particular party to whom I spoke was the deputy minister.

Objection was taken by Mr. Macdonald to further questions upon a subject upon which the witness says he has no information.

Mr. W. D. SCOTT.