

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. Has the list increased in size?—A. I could not say that positively, I should think it had very much.

By Mr. Barnard:

Q. The business has increased very considerably?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. Have you preserved the old patronage list?—A. No.

Q. Would you have any objection to bringing the list here so that the Committee could see it?—A. I could have the cabinet containing the cards brought here. It is a card index cabinet.

By the Chairman:

Q. Please bring all the cards in connection with this item.—A. You want all the names on the list.

By Mr. Morphy:

Q. How far back does this patronage list go?—A. Four years.

Q. I mean the old patronage list. Is it still there?—A. No.

Q. What became of it?—A. It was destroyed.

Q. Who destroyed it?—A. I think I destroyed it, very likely.

Q. Under whose instructions?—A. By the instructions of the Deputy Minister.

By Mr. Boys:

Q. The Deputy Minister of what department?—A. The Department of Militia.

By Mr. Barnard:

Q. When would that be, Mr. Brown?—A. Some time in the fall of 1911.

Q. Prior to swearing in of the new Government?—A. I could not tell you

Q. At any rate, pretty close to that time?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Carvell:

Q. The important thing I would like to know is, have you a patronage list now?
—A. Yes.

Q. Does the same list exist which you have had for four years?—A. Yes. Well, not the same list, new names have been added from time to time.

Q. It is a continuation of the same list?—A. Yes.

Q. And you have had it for four years?—A. Yes.

Q. Then there has been no change since our discussions in the Public Accounts Committee a year ago?—A. No.

By Mr. Michaud:

Q. You have names on that list of persons from all over Canada, I presume?
—A. Yes.

Q. Do you often call for tenders, or just simply write to the parties asking what their price is for the articles needed?—A. The custom has been to get tenders for the most part, except for food supplies, to get tenders by circular letter.

By Mr. Carvell:

Q. Addressed to whom?—A. Addressed to so and so.

By Mr. Michaud:

Q. Addressed to all the firms you have on your list?—A. It might be to all the firms on the list, or it might not be the very same. It might be there are cases when the list has not been regarded at all.

MR. H. W. BROWN.