

## APPENDIX No. 3

Q. You do not know anything about the composition of the so-called trading company ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know whether it is a company at all or a mere association of individuals for a purpose?

A. I have no knowledge further than the order in council which is on the official files.

Q. What does that tell you on this subject ?

A. It does not mention the names of the people who compose the company, to my knowledge.

Q. Does it indicate that it is not a company, that it is a mere association of booking agents ?

A. I could not tell you from memory.

Q. You could not tell me from memory ?

A. No, sir.

Q. You know this matter has been up before the Agriculture Committee ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have not taken the trouble in connection with your own department to ascertain anything of that kind, knowing that there is an inquiry into it ?

A. I have not read the order in council for a couple of years.

Q. You have not taken the trouble to learn anything on that subject, although you know that an inquiry is proceeding ?

Q. I have not been asked.

Q. I will read the report of the Privy Council: 'The minister observes that about two years ago the Immigration Department' (this is dated 1902) 'made a tentative arrangement with an organization known as the North Atlantic Trading Company, composed of certain leading and representative continental steamship agents, having its headquarters at Amsterdam.' You are aware that that organization of steamship agents, sometimes called booking agents, and sometimes ticket agents, have a contract with your particular department involving very important matters ?

A. A contract with the Department of Interior, yes.

Q. You have known that? You know that large sums of money have been claimed and paid to that organization ?

A. Under the order in council and contract.

Q. And you know, I suppose, that that organization, as one of the conditions of getting that money, had undertaken to spend \$15,000 a year ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you do not know who they are ?

A. I know they spent the \$15,000.

Q. You do not know who they are ?

A. I do not know, sir, further, than that they are the North Atlantic Trading Company.

Q. You have no curiosity on that subject as an official ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Has not a select committee of this House asked you to ascertain who they are ?

A. It was mentioned in the committee, yes.

Q. Mentioned in the committee? Did they not ask you to get the information ?

A. The committee did not, no, sir.

Q. Did any member of the committee ask you ?

A. One member, sir.

Q. What answer did you give ?

A. I said I would ascertain. I would cable to London providing the minister gave me permission.