

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
 COMMITTEE ROOM No. 32,
 FRIDAY, February 8, 1907.

The Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts met at 11 o'clock, a.m., the acting chairman, Mr. Geoffrion, presiding.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of the following payments: \$488.48 to the Munroe Commission Company, in connection with the Transcontinental Railway, as set out at W—260; \$1,283.23 to the same company in the same connection, as set out at W—258; and \$504.58 (or any other payment) to the Barber and Ellis Co. in the same connection, as set out at W—260 and W—341 to 344 of last report of Auditor General.

Mr. A. L. OGLVIE, called and sworn and examined.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. You have brought your papers with you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your position?—A. Purchasing agent of the National Transcontinental Railway.

Q. How long have you occupied that position?—A. Since 1904—the 12th of October, I think it was.

Q. On whose recommendation were you appointed to that office?—A. I beg pardon?

Q. At whose recommendation were you appointed to that office?—A. That is impossible for me to answer. I received a letter from the commission asking me if I would accept the position, I do not know who recommended me.

Q. You do not know who recommended you?—A. I do not.

Q. What position did you occupy in the service of the Dominion before October, 1904?—A. I was superintendent of the Public Works at Ottawa, that is, on works being done in Ottawa for the Public Works.

Q. Had you ever been employed as purchasing agent of goods of any kind?—A. I had been architect before and had been making large purchases, and had an intimate knowledge of the hardware business.

Q. You had made no purchases except what you might need in your own business?—A. You mean previous to going to the Public Works Department, or previous to entering on my present position?

Q. Previous to entering the Public Works Department?—A. No, I suppose you might say my experience was limited.

Q. When you were in the Public Works Department you were engaged simply in the supervision of the construction of buildings for the public works?—A. No, I was purchasing agent as well.

Q. Purchasing agent for the Public Works Department?—A. Everything required for the grounds and the buildings, and everything outside.

Q. About Ottawa?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not look over the public works of the whole Dominion, I suppose, works going on at other places, you mean just for the department in Ottawa?—A. I did go out, quite often, on special works, when my services were required to go outside and look after things.

Q. When you were appointed to your present position were any rules laid down for your conduct?—A. No, all that I was told—when I was appointed purchasing