

APPENDIX No. 3

A. That is all we get.

Q. Have you ever read the contract with the North Atlantic Trading Company.

A. I have read a copy.

Q. Have you read one entered into in 1904, which put into form what had been going on for two or three years?

A. 1904?

Q. Yes?

A. 1902.

Q. I have the one of November, 1904, and I want to ask you this : Do you in the Audit Office, make any inquiry before there is any payment to this Trading Company to ascertain whether they do what they have agreed to do under the contract ?

A. We do as far as possible.

Q. What do you endeavour to find out?

A. In connection with what?

Q. In connection with the contract?

A. Of the North Atlantic Trading Company?

Q. Yes.

A. Well, in that case, the bonuses are paid on their arrival.

Q. That is the payment out, I want to know what effort you make in your department to see that the Trading Company is doing what it has agreed to do to entitle it to the money.

A. In connection with these bonuses, under the contract I do not think it is necessary for the trading company—

Q. To do anything?

A. To do anything. If the immigrants arrive at the port of entry they are entitled to the bonus.

Q. And they have not to anything according to your view; well, possibly that is correct according to your view. I mean it may be correct that that is how they carry it out. But they have agreed to do certain things here, and I think it is the duty of your department to see that they do it. They agree to do advertising in the public press. Do you ascertain whether they have published anything in the press ?

A. No, we do not.

Q. They agree to publish pamphlets, to be published by the company in various countries referred to, and to promote immigration to Canada.

Mr. McLEAN (Lunenburg)—Is this an agreement with the Department of the Interior?

Mr. BARKER.—With the Department of the Interior ?

Mr. McLEAN (Lunenburg).—Would not the enforcement of that contract be a matter for the Department of the Interior and not for the Auditor General's Department?

Mr. BARKER.—Well, I am submitting this to this witness, to see whether when this company agrees to do certain things for the money they get, the Auditor General's Department sees, as an auditor, that they do it. I am not charging this witness with any responsibility. 'The company shall submit all such advertisements and publications to a representative of the Department of the Interior if so required, and if the same is found unsatisfactory, shall be changed to meet the requirements of such official.' Before you authorize the payment of such large sums of money do you ascertain whether that has been done?

A. I presume it has been, because the department certifies to the account.

Q. They certify to these sums being due ?

A. Yes.

Q. The Audit Department is not supposed to pay, just because the other depart-