

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
 COMMITTEE ROOM, No. 32,
 WEDNESDAY, April 4, 1906.

The Select Standing Committee of the House of Commons on Public Accounts met this day at 10.30 o'clock, a.m., Mr. Belcourt in the chair, and proceeded to the consideration of the accounts of the North Atlantic Trading Company, as set out at L—26 of the Report of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ended the 30th June, 1905.

Mr. J. FRASER, Auditor General, called and sworn, and examined.

By Mr. Barker:

Q. You were asked, Mr. Fraser, under the instructions of the committee, to produce all vouchers, accounts, and papers in your department relating to certain immigration accounts of the North Atlantic Trading Company and one Leopold. I do not find that you have produced them?

A. I understand they were sent up here.

Q. I do not find any vouchers. These (displaying file of documents) seem to be departmental papers, and papers of your own office showing your own auditing?

A. Well, I understood those were all the papers that were in the audit office in connection with those accounts.

Q. Have you there the usual forms of vouchers that you get?

A. I do not know what they have been in the habit of getting in connection with these accounts.

Q. I mean in all ordinary cases? You have certain vouchers that will go in certified by the department and by certain officers of the department. These vouchers come before you and are kept on file, either the duplicates or the originals, in your office. Have you any such in connection with immigration?

A. I do not see anything here in connection with the North Atlantic Trading Company.

Q. It is one relating to Leopold that I am asking you about?

A. There is one here. It is a list of immigrants that were sent out, and it is certified to by the Commissioner of Immigration. I presume that on that the bonus was paid.

Q. Is that all you have got?

A. There are two receipts here from Leopold. One for £100 and another for £182/9. There is a considerable number here for British immigration to Manitoba.

Q. What certificate is there that Mr. Leopold's accounts are correct?

A. This is certified correct by the Commissioner of Immigration.

Q. Who is that?

A. I cannot make out the name.

Q. Is it W. T. R. Preston?

A. I am not familiar enough with the signature.

Q. I suppose it is W. T. R. Preston?

A. It looks very much like it.

Q. Where is Mr. Preston's office?

A. In London.

Q. In London, England? Where is Mr. Leopold's office?

A. It gives his address here as 13 Charing Cross.