

Q. In September?—A. No. I had not approached anybody or talked about it until we got possession of the building. That would be in December or January.

Q. What was the sum of Aronovici's claim at that time?—A. As set out in the statement which has been submitted.

Q. You did not pay him all he asked?—A. I beg your pardon?

Q. You did not pay him all he asked?

The CHAIRMAN: You asked for the sum of his claim.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I asked for the sum of his claim; not what they paid him.

The WITNESS: He was standing on his contract.

*By Sir Henry Drayton:*

Q. That would entitle him to 10 per cent?—A. Yes.

Q. 10 per cent if sold in the first five years, and 20 per cent if over the first five years?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he want anything beside that 10 per cent at first?—A. No.

Q. The other smaller payments which were made would be all included in that 10 per cent?—A. We did not discuss those at the start at all.

Q. So his first broad claim was 10 per cent?—A. Yes.

Q. You got rid of that— Have we got the actual sums yet? I think in some instances it was money banked to Aronovici, if I remember rightly. Have you got it definitely now?—A. I don't know what you refer to Sir Henry (Drayton); I gave you the statement the other day.

Mr. KYTE: I think perhaps you had better put it down again.

The CHAIRMAN: Give exactly what you paid Aronovici and what it was for. Can you do that.

The WITNESS: Aronovici has paid \$2,600,000—at least he was not paid that; we took up the notes. I will give you the notes. The whole cost up to date as of April 30th; purchase of property 28,000,000 francs; registration fee, 3,360,000 francs; registration of mortgage, 750,000 francs; Delay holder of option, 600,000 francs.

*By Sir Henry Drayton:*

Q. "Delay, holder of option"?—A. 600,000 francs; Grand Café, 3,710,000 francs; draft on Bankers' Trust, 20,000 francs; legal fees 60,000; taking up option on purchase 1,735,000 francs; payments to architects, 192,626 francs; Jockey Club, on account of dispossession—that is on account—212,950 francs; cash in hand, 1,720,000 francs; total 40,360,576 francs. That "cash in hand" I explained the other day, sir Henry (Drayton). Part of that may have been paid out since, and not doubt has been, in connection with this, but that was the total amount that was remitted—forty million—odd francs was remitted in connection with this transaction and that is how it has been disposed of up to date.

Q. In other words, that is the whole amount available?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, let us get back to that item of 600,000 francs. Tell us about that, please?—A. Delay is an architect in Paris and he had an option on this building which I understand Aronovici paid 600,000 francs for.

Q. I wonder if we can get to understand that. Had Aronovici given Delay an option on the property?—A. I understood that when we took over the property Delay had an option of some kind, which Aronovici had to buy up.

Q. That would be at the rate of about 5½ cents, would it not?—A. Yes, about that. It was taken at the rate of exchange of that day.