

Mr. KYTE: Mr. Pratt would like to know about what hour it would be convenient to hear his statement. I wonder if we might assume Sir Henry (Drayton) could be reached by 12 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: Supposing we make it half-past twelve, and that will give Sir Henry Drayton lots of time.

Major BELL: Mr. Pratt, so we will have it on the record, may I ask if you are a Canadian, residing now in Paris?

Mr. PRATT: Yes.

Major BELL: Your headquarters are in Paris?

Mr. PRATT: Yes.

Mr. KYTE: Thank you. Come in at half-past twelve.

Mr. PRATT: That is advanced time?

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I call it "foolish" time, Mr. Pratt.

The CHAIRMAN: Here comes Sir Henry (Drayton) now.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I have been looking for the Committee Room.

The CHAIRMAN: I would like to say for the information of Sir Henry (Drayton) that we have a gentleman here this morning who was referred to the other day by Sir Henry Thornton with regard to the purchase of the Paris property, and I would like to call him for examination. Will someone move he be called?

Mr. KYTE: Move that Mr. Pratt be called and asked to make a statement.

Mr. MILNE: Second the motion.

The motion agreed to.

LOUIS PRATT, called and examined.

*By Mr. Kyte:*

Q. Mr. Pratt, where do you reside?—A. In Paris.

Q. Are you a Canadian?—A. I am.

Q. What part of Canada?—A. I was born in Missisquoi County, Eastern Townships.

Q. Province of Quebec?—A. Yes.

Q. Are you in business in Paris?—A. I am.

Q. What is your business?—A. Brokerage and Commission.

Q. Where is your place of business located in Paris?—A. My offices are at 4, Rue Edouard Sept.

Q. Is that in the neighborhood of the Hotel Scribe?—A. Just alongside of it; just back of it.

Q. Do you know the Hotel Scribe property?—A. Very well.

Q. Could you state briefly the important buildings that occupy the neighboring sites?—A. Of the Hotel Scribe?

Q. Yes?—A. Facing it is the Grand Hotel.

Q. What sort of a building is the Grand Hotel?—A. It is the leading hotel in Paris, a very large hotel, it is the largest hotel in Paris, and I believe the travel is enormous from there to all parts of the world. It is always full, and it is said that nearly all strangers coming to Paris pass there or stop there.

Q. At this hotel?—A. Yes.

Q. What other important institutions are in that neighborhood?—A. Just at the back of it is the Rue Edouard Sept, named after King Edward, finished in 1914 and is now occupied by a large banking concern.

Q. What is that called?—A. Société Générale, the third largest bank in Paris.