

A. Yes.

Q. They may not live there or be Hollanders at all?

A. No. I—

Q. You don't know how that is?

A. No.

*By Mr. Clarke:*

Q. They are not a corporation?

A. No, so I understand.

*By Mr. Barker:*

Q. Now, is there any record in the department, to your knowledge, of these negotiations?

A. Well, not that I am aware of. There may be. I can ascertain that. I am not aware of them now.

Q. They would be probably with whom?

A. Well, that would be, I think, on the official files in connection with the transaction.

Q. Addressed by the minister or deputy minister?

A. They might be addressed to either. I think that the arrangement was recommended by the High Commissioner, so I presume the first negotiations would be through him.

Q. And then the correspondence would be taken up. Who was the immigration commissioner at London at that time?

A. I am not certain, but I fancy it was Mr. Preston. I cannot remember when he was appointed, but I think he was commissioner at that time.

Q. Would the correspondence be between the deputy and Mr. Preston?

A. It might be. It might be between the deputy and the High Commissioner.

Q. Will you look at your files back as far as the very beginning of this thing, and obtain the information and tell us whether there is anything, and then we will see the papers themselves?

A. The principal information you want is—

Q. We want to find the initiation of this and to see the correspondence itself. Perhaps you had better ask a clerk to get it ready. Who was deputy minister in 1901?

A. Mr. Smart.

Q. And when did he cease to be connected with the department?

A. December 31, 1904.

Q. He was deputy up to that time?

A. Yes.

Q. And you succeeded him?

A. I succeeded him.

Q. On January 1, 1905?

A. Yes, I did not come into the office until January 2.

Q. Very well, if you will get that correspondence and leave it with the committee?

A. Yes.

The committee adjourned.