

Q. If you subpoenaed a member of the English Vickers Company, would he be obliged to say if his firm made this additional sum?—A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Then it means that we must subpoena a witness from the English firm to get the information that you got?—A. Would you let me make a suggestion?

Q. Certainly. A. I have not seen all the documents that are in the Department of Marine; at least I suppose I have not, there must be more than I have seen; I would like to see the correspondence brought down by the Marine Department. There may be something in that correspondence that would clear the matter up.

Q. Now, Mr. Fraser, don't you think you should have made some inquiry before setting this abroad in the country? What I mean is this: perhaps you are perfectly right in saying you must take advantage of that information you got; but do you think you are justified in making that information public, going forth as a statement of fact, without giving anybody an opportunity to contradict it?—A. I think so.

Q. To-morrow it will go abroad through the press of this country that \$500,000 has been made by the Vickers Co., and subsequently it may be proven that the transaction is alright?—A. The committee made me tell that; I did not wish to tell it.

*By Mr. Boys:*

Q. You put that letter in here for the purpose of bringing that information out, and you have told us yourself that you wanted it brought out?—A. I was not concerned with the country, I was concerned with Parliament.

Mr. CARVELL: Had we not better try to get this information?

The CHAIRMAN: We must get that information now.

Mr. CARVELL: We will ask Mr. Johnston to come here on Friday, and subpoena the Canadian Vickers with their books and papers. If we cannot get it that way, I, as one member of this committee, would go a long way towards asking this witness to break his silence and tell all he knows about it.

Mr. Boys: We will join you.

*By Mr. McKenzie:*

Q. Will the Auditor General tell us who conducted the negotiations on behalf of the Russian Government?—A. I do not know.

*By Mr. Boys:*

Q. Will you produce that written memo that you have?—A. It would only be a memo, so I would not forget the figures.

Q. You got that information last January?—A. Before January.

Q. As you have pointed out, this is a large item, an important one: did it occur to you to write a letter to the minister or to the Premier?—A. No, I had the assurance of the minister that nothing of this sort would take place.

Q. I grant you that. But apparently following that assurance you learned from this informant that it had taken place?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, I ask you, this being an important item, did it occur to you to write either to the minister, referring to his assurance and to what you had since heard, or to the Premier?—A. Well, I suppose the minister would know all about the transaction.

Q. Did it occur to you to write?—A. No.

Q. Didn't you think it was important enough to write to the minister about, owing to the assurance he had given you?—A. And accuse him of not telling the truth?

Q. Simply telling him that he had assured you, also that you had since learned from reliable information that the Vickers had made a profit of \$500,000. Would that not have been a proper thing to do?—A. No, according to his own recommendation to council it was for a transfer to the Russian Government.