

Q. Do you also understand that you are supposed to have matters brought up, and then withhold the information upon which you bring the matter up so that the public cannot learn on what information you base your action?—A. If the information can be produced otherwise, I should not be asked.

Q. If you can suggest any way by which that information can be obtained without troubling you to give it, I will stop my questioning, but if it cannot be otherwise obtained, I think it is the duty of this Committee to pursue the matter as I am doing in pressing this question.—A. I am pretty sure it can be got from the British Government.

Q. You have objection to telling the name of your informant?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he ask you not to disclose his identity?—A. I do not think so.

Q. Then why do you not disclose it? It is in the public interest, is it not?—A. His name would not be of any use.

Q. It would be, in this way, that the Committee could subpoena him, and bring him here.—A. No, you could not.

Q. Why not?—A. Because he is not in this country.

Q. If he is in the United States, he might be willing to come, men have been willing to come before now. Did you receive the information on which you acted, or any other information upon this subject, from any other source?—A. I beg pardon?

Q. Did you receive this information, or any information upon this subject from any other source than this one person?—A. I do not recollect having got any information from any other source than this.

Q. I would like to get an answer to my question, will you disclose the name of your informant?—A. Not unless compelled by the Committee to do so.

Q. On a voluntary basis, are you willing to disclose the name of your informant?—A. I want to say to the Committee, that if I have to disclose confidential information, it will hamper me in my work very much.

Q. I am asking you are you willing, of your own volition, to disclose the name of your informant, or are you unwilling to do so?—A. I am unwilling.

*By Mr. Blain:*

Q. Did this conversation take place in Canada?—A. In the old country.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Was the allegation that the Vickers Company of Canada had received this additional sum?—A. Vickers Limited.

Q. Was it the English Vickers that had the contract for building the "Hazen"?—A. No.

Q. You say it was the Canadian Vickers, the firm which had the contract for building the "Hazen" that received this additional money?—A. Unless indirectly, I do not know, they may have received it.

Q. Was it the Canadian Vickers had the contract?—A. Yes.

Q. And you say it was not the Canadian Vickers that might have made this money out of it?—A. Unless indirectly.

Q. Did your informant say it was the English Vickers that made the money?—A. That was the information I received.

Q. One company has the contract, and the other company makes the money, is that it?—A. That is the way it would appear.

Q. So that if we were to subpoena a member of the Canadian Vickers firm, would he, from the information you have, be able truthfully to say that they did not make the money out of this contract?—A. I do not know—I do not know from the information I received what their books will show.