

*By Mr. Boys:*

Q. It might be under another contract?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. Devlin:*

Q. Do you know where those books are kept?—A. The books unquestionably would be kept at the head office of the Canadian Vickers at Montreal.

Q. There is only one contract?—A. As far as we know.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Is this the position of the Department: the Department had a contract with the Vickers Company for the building of the Hazen, and they simply transferred that contract to the Russian Government on repayment of the actual amount that they had paid?—A. Yes.

Q. The Russian Government changed the construction of the vessel, and had a special arrangement with the Vickers people for the changes?—A. Yes.

Q. And the Canadian Government had nothing to do with it?—A. They had nothing to do with it from the time the cablegram was sent agreeing to transfer the ship.

Q. And if a bigger price was paid by the Russian Government than was agreed to be paid by Canada, it was by reason of changes made in the vessel?—A. It was by reason of whatever happened between the Colonial Office and Vickers, London, and the representatives of the Russian Government in London, who absolutely ignored the Canadian Government and the Department of Marine and Fisheries in the transaction.

*By Mr. Devlin:*

Q. Why would they ignore them?—A. I do not know.

*By Mr. Morphy:*

Q. Does it not appear on the record that the British Government had accepted an order from the Russian Government for seven ice breakers, and that they wanted all they could get?—A. Yes, that was in the original cable.

*By Mr. Blain:*

Q. The reason the changes were made was that if the original contract were carried out the vessel would not suit?—A. I would not undertake to speak as to what the reasons were which prompted them to make these modifications. They made a contract with Vickers, Limited, in London, for certain changes, as I am advised, and I am further advised that further extensive changes were made in that contract before the ship was placed in commission.

*By Mr. Carvell:*

Q. For which they received extras over and above the contract price between the Russian Government and Vickers?—A. I do not know, but unquestionably they did.

*By Mr. Boys:*

Q. Do you know whether they operated under the transfer of this contract with extras, or under a new contract made between the Russian Government and Vickers?—A. They operated under a contract made between the Russian Government and Vickers, Limited, in London.

Q. And with that the Canadian Government had nothing to do?—A. Absolutely nothing.

Q. Can you give us a copy of the contract between this Government and the Canadian Vickers?—A. Yes.