

By Mr. Pringle, K.C.:

Q. When you got there there was ice in the harbour?—A. Yes.

Q. And before you went up there they had been doing some ice-breaking there that fall?—A. So they told me.

Q. And they did some ice-breaking on the day you were there?—A. We went out on the *Pratt* to try her, not on account of any necessity of doing so, but we went out to try the ice.

By Mr. Bennett (Simcoe):

Q. What thickness of ice was there?—A. The ice was probably an inch and a half thick.

Q. You had to hunt for the ice to break, I suppose?—A. There was a channel coming in, the bay was absolutely frozen, but there was a channel coming in.

Witness discharged.

JOHN J. SKELLY, called, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Bennett (Simcoe):

Q. How long have you been in the department, Mr. Skelly?—A. Seventeen years.

Q. Will you please inform the committee what this minute of council means? (handing document to witness).—A. This is the authority from council, as I understand it, to proceed with this work.

Q. Well, I will lead up to the point in this way: how does that information come to the Privy Council to get the order in council passed?—A. It is constituted in that report to council.

By Mr. German:

Q. What is the date?—A. The date is the 12th of December, 1910.

By Mr. Bennett (Simcoe):

Q. Now tell us, what is the *modus operandi* of getting this matter from the Marine Department to the Privy Council in order to obtain the order in council?—A. After a work is duly authorized by the proper officer of a department they prepare what they call a report to council embodying this information.

Q. Where is the report to council in this particular case?—A. Those reports are not put on the file, I believe they are kept on a separate file in the department, in a book.

Q. Where are they now?—A. In the department somewhere.

Q. Where is the file containing those reports?

By Mr. German:

Q. That order in council is practically the report to council, is it not?—A. Well, yes, all the information in that report is in this order.

Q. There would not be anything more in the report than there is in this?—A. No.

By Mr. Bennett (Simcoe):

Q. This (order in council) is typewritten, who dictated this?—A. That is written in the Privy Council office.

Q. Where is the memorandum that went to the council upon which that was based?—A. It is in the department somewhere.