

Q. None whatever ?

A. No, sir, none at all.

Mr. MACLEAN (Lunenburg) objects to the examination being continued in regard to matters concerning which the witness has stated several times that he has no information.

Mr. BARKER.—Mr. Chairman, if any gentleman in this committee seeks to stop such questions as this I will put it to the committee and if the committee overrule me I will appeal to the House on the subject. I am not going to be held up in such a manner. I have read his statement from the order in council that this is not a corporation, as the gentleman says it is, but a mere organization of certain persons calling themselves by that name, that is all. I would like to see the gentleman produce the contract.

THE WITNESS.—The contract with the seal of the company is on the file.

Mr. BARKER.—I am speaking now of the contract in 1902. I read to the witness to-day from the report in 1902, and I call his attention to the fact that this was in the early days of the negotiations that we are trying to get at.

The CHAIRMAN.—I think it is unfair to the chairman for Mr. Barker to say that he is going to appeal to the House if he is overruled, particularly since I have allowed every one of these questions to be put. I do not think it is quite proper on the part of the honourable gentleman.

Mr. BARKER.—I beg to withdraw that.

The CHAIRMAN.—I have allowed the fullest investigation in this matter.

Mr. BARKER.—I did not intend to reflect on the chairman.

The CHAIRMAN.—I am prepared to rule that the question as to the composition of the North Atlantic Trading Company is a proper matter for investigation before the committee. If I had not been prepared to rule that I think I would have found it my duty to stop these questions long ago. I do consider, however, that the honourable gentleman has carried the investigation, as far as he can profitably do so, with respect to this witness at all events, because he has already stated that he personally knows nothing of the matter in question. He has not inquired, and he is not in a position to tell the committee any more than he has already told. He has stated that he has told everything he has to say or knows about the subject.

Mr. LENNOX.—He promised to get the consent of the minister, and he did not.

A. Excuse me, I did not say that. I said I would cable if the minister would consent.

*By Mr. Lennox:*

Q. And how would you get the consent of the minister?

A. In the usual way through the deputy.

*By Mr. Barker:*

Q. To whom, Mr. Scott, have remittances in payment of claims of this association been sent, to your knowledge?

A. I simply certify to the account, and it is passed on to the accountant, who attends to the financial end of it. I have nothing to do with the cash end of it at all, and simply certify to the account.

Q. To whom, as far as you know, are the remittances actually sent?

A. I think the usual procedure has been in the past, the funds are cabled to the High Commissioner. That is the usual way.

Q. The usual procedure is to send the money to the High Commissioner?

A. I think that is the way, yes.

Q. Is that cabled under letters of credit or credit orders or under absolutely passed vouchers?

A. I cannot tell you, I do not understand you quite.

Mr. W. D. SCOTT.