

Q. Are none of these sub-agents paid by Mr. Preston ?

A. Not directly, except in some odd cases, these odd cases in connection with this Mr. Leopold and one or two others that I think are named in the report here.

Q. Are the steamship bonuses not paid through Mr. Preston's office ?

A. Which ?

Q. By Mr. Preston's cheque ?

A. By Mr. Preston's cheque.

Mr. W. W. CORY, called and sworn, and examined.

*By Mr. Barker :*

Q. How long have you been connected with the Department of the Interior, and in what capacity, Mr. Cory ?

A. I first became connected with the department, I think on the 5th January, 1901. My first introduction was in connection with the patenting of railway land grants. I think on the 1st July, 1901, I was transferred to the Yukon branch of the service and became inspector of public offices in the Yukon Territory, and remained in that capacity until the summer, I think it was, of 1904, when I became attached to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands Branch. On 1st January, 1905, I became deputy minister.

Q. That is, all this time you have been in one capacity or another in the one department ?

A. In the one department, yes.

Q. Have you had any connection with what might be called the Immigration Department ; when did that begin ?

A. On the 1st January, 1905.

Q. Had you any knowledge of immigration affairs before that as an officer of the department ?

A. Not as an officer of the department.

Q. You didn't know anything about it ?

A. No.

Q. To go as far back as 1901, who had particular charge of that branch of the department ?

A. Of course, the minister and the deputy minister, and I think Mr. Pedley was superintendent of immigration, but I am not certain up to what date, and then he was succeeded by Mr. Scott.

Q. Who was the deputy minister ?

A. Mr. Smart.

Q. And Mr. Pedley was—

A. He was superintendent of immigration.

Q. Where is he now ?

A. He is Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs.

Q. At Ottawa ?

A. Yes.

Q. Who would have initiated in 1901-02 such an arrangement as you know was made with the North Atlantic Trading Company ?

A. I fancy the minister and the deputy minister. I have not any knowledge on that subject. I do not know who did it, but they naturally would know.

Q. They would be the persons that would initiate it ?

A. I think so, yes, sir.

Q. Have you any knowledge, acquired since, of the beginning of these negotiations ?

A. No, I have not. I never had occasion to inquire into that. I have heard indirectly that the negotiations were first instituted by the High Commissioner, but I have not any knowledge of that.

Mr. W. W. CORY.