

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. No, I must correct my hon. friend. What I said was that I could name officials in the department who could establish the fact that it was perfectly practicable to give such information as the House required. I may say that I had no information from any official, but the hon. gentleman (Mr. Blair) immediately turned around and intimated that he would very soon take off any official's head who gave such evidence.

Mr. HAGGART. That is the inference I drew from the remarks of the hon. leader of the Opposition.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. Perhaps the hon. gentleman will allow me to interrupt him so that I may set the hon. leader of the Opposition right. What the hon. gentleman (Sir Charles Tupper) did say was, that if the Government would give him a committee he could hold an investigation which would establish the fact that such information could be procured.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Hear, hear.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. He invited me to give him a committee, but I thought that the result of the committees which the hon. gentleman was having lately had been so unfavourable to him, that it was not necessary to give him another one.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER. What about the committee you promised to decapitate the officials?

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. I said we would give him an investigating committee as to the officials who were furnishing false information.

Mr. HAGGART. The information which we now require was promised to Parliament and the country, and it was on the faith of our getting that information that the vote was got from this House and the Senate. Why did the hon. gentleman allow the Minister of Justice to promise in another Chamber, that if they voted the amount asked, there would be sufficient evidence produced in another year to show them whether they should continue the vote to the Drummond County Railway, or whether they should make arrangements with the other two companies. We ought to have that information now. The Minister (Mr. Blair) knows that the Drummond Railway was completed under a subsidy contract, and we have no information from the department as to whether that subsidy has been earned, the amount paid, or the report of an engineer upon it. We have not a report from the department as to what was the difference of expenditure between the subsidy contract and bringing it up to the standard of the Intercolonial Railway. We are fighting this question to a great extent in the dark.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. I think you are, but that is not our fault.

Mr. TAYLOR. You promised the information.

Mr. HAGGART. The Minister made a statement in this House that it was impracticable to furnish the information in reference to the receipts and expenditures of this line.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. So I say still.

Mr. HAGGART. Tell it to any railway man in this country, that the accounts of the Intercolonial Railway are kept so that the receipts and expenditures cannot be given on any independent section of the road.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Haggart) must not mistake what I said. The hon. gentleman knows that what is desired by the other side of the House, if they desire anything in this connection, is that a statement should be furnished of what the proportionate earnings and expenditures on the Drummond County Railway was.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Hear, hear.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. As compared with the whole of the Intercolonial Railway.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. That is it exactly.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. That is not what the hon. gentleman (Mr. Haggart) said.

Mr. HAGGART. That is exactly what I said.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. Not at all. What has just dropped from the mouth of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Haggart) is what I have stated, that upon the Intercolonial Railway there is no statement kept, no memo. or account of the receipts upon any section or the expenditure upon any section. That is not at all correct. I say we keep an account of every dollar of receipts that comes from every station on the Intercolonial Railway, and we know what amount of money we actually expend on each section and on each station of the Intercolonial Railway—not only on the 130 miles that compose the Drummond County road, but on every section of three miles; but we cannot tell what the proportionate receipts and expenditure on the Drummond County Railway have been, as compared with those on the whole line.

An hon. MEMBER. Why?

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. Because it is utterly impossible to do it. I said in the committee the other day, and I will repeat it in the face of any railroad man whom the hon. gentleman will