

*By Mr. Devlin:*

Q. Will you just state what profit?

Mr. BOYS: I have asked the witness what he learned on that subject.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Do you know definitely enough, Mr. Fraser, to let it go before the public now? What I mean is this: You had a letter on September 1, 1916, from the Marine Department which, if true, was satisfactory to you?—A. Yes.

Mr. DEVLIN: Perhaps Mr. Fraser might answer the question I put to him

*By the Chairman:*

Q. If that letter was true, it was satisfactory to you?—A. Yes.

Q. Afterwards, you must have got something unofficially from somebody else, in private, which you believed in preference to that letter. What was that?—A. That a profit had been made.

Mr. BOYS: We want to get information on that subject.

*By Mr. Devlin:*

Q. What was the amount of the profit, Mr. Fraser?—A. Over half a million.

*By Mr. Boys:*

Q. Made by Vickers Co., or whom?—A. By Vickers, Ltd.

Q. And from whom did they get that money?—A. I presume it was from the Russians, I do not know if it was anybody else.

Q. All this is hearsay, what somebody told you. We may as well get all the hearsay evidence while we are at it.

Mr. CARVELL: You might get some.

Mr. BOYS: I am satisfied to take all that is coming.

Mr. CARVELL: This witness has sworn that he has something to base his evidence on.

*By Mr. Morphy:*

Q. I am a little green about the position the Auditor General occupies. After you were satisfied, you got a communication from someone that removed your conviction of satisfaction, changed your mind?—A. I changed my mind.

Q. Was that communication in writing?—A. It was in conversation.

Q. Was it in writing?—A. No.

Q. It was simply a verbal communication?—A. Yes.

Q. Was the person known to you previously?—A. Only a short time.

Q. Did he volunteer the information, or did you seek him out?—A. Perhaps this is the plainer way to put it; I was consulted by him about some other matters with which the Dominion Government was not concerned, and during the discussion this matter came up.

Q. I see. He volunteered it, then, I presume?—A. Well, I am always anxious to get information.

*By Mr. Bennett (Simcoe):*

Q. You are a perpetual prowler?—A. Yes. I am always open for information in connection with my work.