

may be detrimental to the interests of the road. Now, if the President of the road feels that giving out that information is a detriment then it should not be given.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Well, I think it is objectionable in this case although I would not have the slightest objection to giving it to Mr. Fraser privately if it would satisfy him. It would result in a comparison between the price paid for ties in one part of the country as compared with others, and there will be an immediate effort made to increase the price of ties unduly, and all that sort of thing. I think it is detrimental to the interests of the country to give out that information publicly, but I should have no hesitation in giving it to Mr. Fraser privately if he would like to have it, and if that would satisfy him.

Mr. FRASER: I cannot object to your opinion, Sir Henry. I would have to defer to what your opinion is and accept any information you would give me. As a matter of fact, it is not of any interest to me to give it to me privately. I would rather not have it privately because I would get into trouble some day by letting out something that you would not want me to let out.

SIR HENRY THORNTON: Well, I am willing to take a chance on you.

Mr. FRASER: Give us what information you care to file.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the principle is pretty sound in not giving out an information regarding current contracts.

Mr. HEAPS: Is that your ruling, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Absolutely.

SIR HENRY THORNTON: Mr. Hanson asked the same question, or substantially the same question, the comparative prices of ties bought in New Brunswick for 1930-31, and what I have said with respect to the previous question applies to that.

Mr. Hanbury asked the average price for coal in the different districts for the last two years, and that again is in precisely the same category, and I would rather not give that information.

Mr. Hanson asked for a statement showing the ties purchased and delivered in New Brunswick for each of the three years 1928, 1929 and 1930, and the answer is: 1928, 1,320,972; 1929, 1,514,900; 1930, 609,766. I will pass that over to the official reporter.

Mr. Hanson asked for a statement of ties on hand at December 31, 1928, 1929 and 1930. The answer is: 1928, 7,332,036; 1929, 11,121,995; 1930, 11,729,917. I will hand that to the official reporter.

Colonel Geary asked for a comparison of operating costs radio, 1924 to date. The answer is:—

1923..	\$ 10,146 06
1924..	122,466 01
1925..	240,686 49
1926..	253,062 51
1927..	285,604 30
1928..	317,278 88
1929..	441,682 00
1930..	420,028 17

And I will hand that to the official reporter.

Mr. MCGIBBON: Just on that point, Sir Henry, could you tell us where you buy your radio equipment.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Is there anyone here who can answer that question? Do you know, Mr. Vaughan?

Mr. VAUGHAN: From different sources. We use different types of radios. They are all bought in the open market with the best possible discounts.