

3-4 GEORGE V., A. 1913

A. I have not the tariff here, but assuming you paid 88 cents, then the same rate would also apply to shipments from Stratford, London, Windsor, Hamilton and Toronto.

Q. I could not say as to that. What you say is that the rate from Forest is a blanket rate covering Western Ontario?

A. Yes.

Q. And that rate is lower than what I am getting from Hensall. What rate were you giving?

A. \$1.04 to Edmonton.

Q. Give me the rate to Regina?

A. 83 cents.

Q. The point I shipped to was Leduc, Saskatchewan, on the Pheasant Hill Branch.

A. The rate to Saskatoon is 91 cents.

Q. Then possibly the rate I paid would be right then.

A. I think the rate you paid was about right. The point I make, however, is that whether the shipment be from Forest, London, or Stratford, the rate would be the same. No distinction is made between shipping points in Western Ontario. I want the Committee to understand that I am not here to defend the railways; I am simply giving the facts, as I understand them, from the tariffs that have been filed.

The next important point, it seems to me, is that referred to by you, Mr. Chairman, and that is the evidence of Mr. Johnson to the effect that the Western States apple growers have an advantage in shipping into the Prairie Provinces over the Ontario grower, because, as he put it, while the latter pays—we will say for the sake of illustration—30 or 40 cents over the Winnipeg rate, we will say to Medicine Hat, the Western man will pay something like 8 or 10 cents perhaps over the Medicine Hat rate to Winnipeg; and Mr. Johnson inferred from that that the railway companies were giving American fruit so much free transportation. That is the way he put it approximately. Mr. Johnson's figures seem to be wrong again, but he might have gone further—

*By Mr. Armstrong (Lambton):*

Q. Did Mr. Johnson use those exact figures?

A. No.

The CHAIRMAN.—I have Mr. Johnson's statement on that point and I will read it:

'The Americans shipping from Oregon and Washington States pay for the haul of 765 miles between Lethbridge and Winnipeg, 18 cents a barrel, or 11 cents a hundredweight, while for the same distance we pay 84 cents a barrel.'

*By the Chairman:*

Q. By that statement Mr. Johnson means, I understand, that if you were shipping apples through Winnipeg to Lethbridge you would have to pay 84 cents, while for shipping through Lethbridge to Winnipeg the rate would be 18 cents a barrel?

A. Yes.

*By Mr. Armstrong (Lambton):*

Q. Well, what is the rate?

A. Taking the tariffs, the rate is 75 cents all the way from Lethbridge and Medicine Hat into Winnipeg.

*By Mr. Douglas:*

Q. Per hundred?

A. Per hundred pounds.