

reasons, he has to take what the market gives that day. If it happens to be \$89 instead of \$93, he has to take the \$89. When you broaden the base and, therefore broaden the number of persons who can logically get into it and afford to get into it, you narrow that and you are dealing in eighths of a point on the stock market instead of this swing which can be two, three or four times.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): The summary of what you have said is that this device or idea gives some stable conditions to the market which otherwise would not exist, for the settlement of estates and things of that kind?

Mr. BURGESS: Yes, that is true. If I might take just one moment to answer the secondary part of the question about the employees' savings plan, because of the fact this was thrown in our faces and we were told we really did not give a great deal of consideration to our employees' feelings or their ability to buy the stock or not buy the stock, in the interval between the last time we were here and today we have made a poll of our employees. That poll indicates that approximately 90 per cent of our employees feel—and this was a bona fide poll and no names attached or anything like that—around 90 per cent figure they would be more able to take advantage of this avenue of investment under the employees' savings plan of purchasing the company's stock if the stock were split five for one.

Senator ISNOR: How did you take that poll?

Mr. BURGESS: I assume it is the same way most companies would take a poll. It was sent out in questionnaire form. The employees were asked to answer it. There were no records kept; there was nothing on any one of these ballots which indicated in any way who the employee was or what position he held. The ballots came in in sealed envelopes, and they were opened by the Employee and Public Relations Department. Mr. Johnston, the President, or none of the other corporate officers know who voted where.

Senator ISNOR: What were the questions?

Mr. BURGESS: This is the actual ballot which went out to the employees:

Interprovincial Pipe Line Company is presently petitioning the Parliament of Canada to amend the Company's charter by splitting its stock on the basis of five shares for one.

The result of such an amendment would be that one share of stock, worth approximately \$90 at present market prices, would be split into five shares, each worth approximately \$18.

The Company would like to give Parliament a factual statement as to the wishes of its employees in this regard. Accordingly, each participant in the Employees' Savings Plans is being asked to answer the following two questions:

1. Would it be more attractive to you as an avenue of investment of your Plan savings if the stock were subdivided on a 5 for 1 basis, so that each new share would have a market value of approximately \$18?

Then there was a space for "yes" and a space for "no".

2. If you presently allocate your Plan savings to cash savings, or are contemplating doing so some time in the future, would the lower unit price of the Company stock encourage you to change your allocation from cash savings to the purchase of Company stock?

Then there was a space for an answer of "yes" or "no".

Would you please answer the questionnaire immediately, do not sign, but merely place in a sealed envelope and hand to your immediate supervisor for transmittal to the Department of Employee and Public Relations.