

APPENDIX No. 3

Q. You would not say there have not been any increase in the rates applied to local traffic?—A. I will not say there has or has not been. I would want to verify it.

Q. Was there any general increase in the local traffic rates a few years ago?—A. There was a general increase in the class rates but on fish we have what we call "commodity" rates that are usually lower than class rates.

Q. Are you in charge of this branch of the service?—A. The freight service?

Q. Yes?—A. Yes.

Q. And you tell me you do not know that there was an increase in the local traffic rates. You are not certain about that?—A. I am not certain—as far as fish rates are concerned.

Q. I am surprised at that. There was a good deal of discussion in the Maritime Provinces on that subject the last two years.—A. As to fish rates?

Q. Yes?—A. We have never heard of any discussion or complaints with regard to fish rates in the Maritime Provinces.

Q. You never heard any objection to the increase in the local fish rates?—A. No.

By Mr. Kyte:

Q. How do your rates compare with the rates of the C.P.R. from Halifax to Montreal?—A. The C.P.R. do not handle fish from Halifax to Montreal, unless they handle it by way of Digby.

Q. They do not carry it through from Halifax?—A. No.

Q. You say there is no classification of fish by the C.P.R. from Halifax to Montreal?—A. No, they have no rates from Halifax to Montreal. We have all the fish business from Halifax to Montreal.

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. Does not the C.P.R. carry fish from St. John to Montreal?—A. They handle it from St. John; they have a much shorter line from St. John than the I.C.R.

Q. Have you any information as to how rates on the C.P.R. from St. John to Montreal compare with those on the I.C.R.?—A. They are slightly lower on account of the difference in the mileage. The C.P.R. has a shorter line.

Q. You say this rate you quoted to us at 28 and 38 cents was introduced a number of years ago. Do you know how many?—A. No, I cannot tell you. It must have been a number.

Q. It is quite an old rate?—A. I do not think I have the information here. (Consults documents.) I have not anything here that would show how far back it goes. I can trace it back here as far as 1910.

Q. It was prior to that time?—A. I think, however, it had been in effect quite a number of years before that.

Q. There has been no reduction made in the rates on fish for a number of years?—A. No reduction; not to Montreal.

Q. We have been informed that the express service is not satisfactory. I would like you to tell us why the Intercolonial does not furnish suitable cars for transportation of fish by express?—A. Before you come to that question I do not want to mislead you as far as there having been no advance in the fish rate. Beyond Montreal, to Toronto and other points the rates were, I believe, advanced a number of years ago at the instance of our rate committee. But there has been, as far as the I.C.R. is concerned, no advance, because locally down there in the Provinces the shipments have been so small nobody has ever made any comments whatever to us in that regard. As an illustration take the measure of the rate from Mulgrave, say to Montreal and contrast it with the rate on the C.P.R. from Owen Sound, where the lake fish are shipped to Toronto, which might be of interest to the Committee.

Q. I want to follow this I.C.R. question a little farther.—A. All right, sir.

MR. C. A. HAYES.