

Mr. MILNE: Just while we are on this transportation, that is gasoline and electrification, I think it would be very interesting if we had a report as to the progress of these gas cars, because there is a strong feeling in the West where there are branch lines that there is really poor service given. When a farmer ships out cream in hot weather, it is essential that a good service should be given, and yet the traffic is not sufficient to warrant a fully equipped train. There is a big feeling among the people of the prairies that gasoline cars, or even these hand cars with the motor and trailer, could be used.

Mr. HENRY: It would not carry very much. We are really investigating every branch line upon which we think unit cars of that type could possibly be used to advantage.

Mr. MILNE: You have no conclusions as yet, no report of progress?

Mr. HENRY: The results have fluctuated so much that it is pretty difficult to draw a conclusion, a definite conclusion. In other words, our experience has not been over a sufficiently extended period to enable us to form any definite conclusion.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you investigated that situation in the United States, where, I understand, these cars are being used?

Mr. HENRY: Their experience there has not been, on the whole, entirely satisfactory. We have looked into it.

The CHAIRMAN: For what reason?

Mr. HENRY: Largely because the right type of equipment has not been developed yet.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there many gasoline propelled cars in operation in the United States? Can you say as to that?

Mr. HENRY: There have been a number.

The CHAIRMAN: Successfully?

Mr. HENRY: Not very successfully.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there more success with the storage battery car?

Mr. HENRY: Our experience has been more satisfactory with the storage battery car than the gasoline car.

Mr. MILNE: Are you trying any in the western prairie provinces?

Mr. HENRY: I think we have one there.

Mr. BROWN: Yes, we have one running in Winnipeg, on a short run.

Mr. STEWART: A gasoline car or a storage battery car?

Mr. BROWN: A storage battery car.

The CHAIRMAN: That is a great deal more expensive than the gasoline car?

Mr. BROWN: Yes.

Mr. HARRIS: I understand there is going to be a general statement made about this, so I will not take up any more time.

The CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to discuss anything further on page 21?

Mr. HARRIS: I would like to ask Mr. Henry to cover this statement about insurance, as briefly as possible.

Mr. HENRY: That is due to the same cause as the other, including insurance on the property of the old government railways.

Major BELL: Do you want a general statement as to our insurance?

Mr. HARRIS: Yes.

Major BELL: Before the amalgamation, we have the government-owned railways, upon which there was no insurance. It had always been the government policy in the past to cover their own insurance, but they never set up any