

Mr. KEAYS: Mr. Chairman, could the trucking industry not extend its services to a piggy-back service from Ste. Anne des Monts along the coast and into the interior?

Mr. DINGLE: That is quite possible, yes.

Mr. KEAYS: That would represent a development in the services?

Mr. DINGLE: Yes.

Mr. KEAYS: In that way products would be shipped to the most eastern region at cheaper prices.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions gentlemen?

Mr. PIGEON: Mr. Chairman, I am not surprised to hear Mr. Fisher ask so many questions because of the potential increase in prosperity. A statement was made by the official board of trade of Montreal concerning the proportion of the country's railroads now in the province of Quebec. That statement was to the effect that 30 per cent of the population in the province of Quebec got only 11 per cent of the railroads. I should like to ask if these figures are accurate.

Mr. FISHER: Would you give those figures again, please.

Mr. PIGEON: The statement indicates that the 30 per cent of the population of our country in the province of Quebec receives only 11 per cent of the railroads in this country.

Mr. BALCER: For quite some time one of the complaints of the population of the province of Quebec in regard to railroads has been that there have not been many built. However, I would say that the present government has built quite a number of lines.

Mr. BRASSARD (*Lapointe*): Please do not get on a side line. Stay on the main line.

Mr. PIGEON: Mr. Chevrier did not do his duty as the minister.

Mr. ENGLISH: Mr. Chairman, I should just like to make a remark or two regarding the suggested opposition of the trucking industry toward the establishment of this railroad.

I received a telegram from the Independent Gaspé Truckers Association which reads as follows:

Meeting of independent Gaspé truckers held Cap Chat yesterday February 16 when proposed by Damase Vallee and unanimously resolved that congratulations be sent to Gaspé member to be transmitted also to right hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Transport for decision taken by government to give Gaspé north rail line requested for past fifty years stop decided at same meeting to actively protest opposition Quebec truckers association to realization of indispensable project to economic development our region.

I also received a telegram from one of the biggest industries, signed James G. Russell which reads as follows:

Trust pressure brought to bear by three small carriers exploiting us disgracefully will not change your decision re Matane/Ste. Anne railway.

I also received a telegram from Mr. Landry, the secretary treasurer of that committee which reads as follows:

We second Mr. J. G. Russell's telegram re railway.