

amount of gasoline which they obtained from it, and, according to their figures, they showed that in 1930, the cost of crude which was allocated to gas amounted to somewhere in the neighbourhood of 10 cents, and in the year 1931, the cost of crude which was allocated to gas was somewhere in the neighbourhood of 6½ cents. And from their evidence we would expect in 1931 that we would have a reduction of 3½ cents, wholesale price, but instead of that we get an increase of 2 cents. Now, we want the same figures from the Imperial Oil Company?—A. Dr. Donnelly, I repeat that on the matter of crude in its relation to gasoline we can secure information, but your requests continued into the division of labour and material, and that will take you through the various processes which we can secure if you want it and if the committee can wait.

Mr. SPENCER: How long will it take?

The WITNESS: I haven't any idea. This has nothing to do with the distribution of the final costs.

Mr. DONNELLY: I think it is essential. We have a number of refineries in Canada that are refining gasoline, and we want to know how much money we are paying out to labour for the refining of gasoline.

The WITNESS: You can get that by simply taking a refinery's payroll, but you have asked it allocated to gasoline as I remember.

Mr. DONNELLY: Surely.

The WITNESS: That is a different thing.

Mr. STANLEY: Is your investigation along the lines of the inquiries made by Dr. Donnelly going to change that 1·01 cents?

The WITNESS: No, sir, not at all. I can see Dr. Donnelly's point, and it is well taken. If he is after the amount of labour engaged in the refining industry of Canada, there is a very much more simple way to get it; but to carry out your instructions here, Dr. Donnelly, we would be here six months, but we can get you the payrolls.

Mr. DONNELLY: The reason why I said gasoline alone is because we were investigating gasoline alone, and we are not going into cylinder oils and naphtha and lubricating oils which we would have to go into in order to consider the whole payroll. What I wanted was the amount put into gasoline—the amount of labour. We do not want all that other labour brought in and charged up to gasoline.

Mr. BAKER: If, after we have got all this and remained here for six or seven weeks it would not alter the 1·01 cents, what benefit do we derive? Now, we did not start the committee to find out the number of people employed in refining gasoline; if we had, there is a much cheaper way to get it. If we get this and have not changed the 1·01 cents are we any further ahead? I think it is for this committee to decide whether we consider that this company or any other company which is making 1·01 cents profit on a gallon is robbing the public or not. That is the verdict required I would judge, from this committee, and I do not see what else is required.

Mr. BOTHWELL: The fact is this: According to the evidence given here the price of crude came down to such an extent, and we would naturally expect a reduction in the price of gasoline. Instead of that the price of gasoline went up.

Mr. DONNELLY: The wholesale price.

Mr. BAKER: The average was 1·01 cents per gallon.

The CHAIRMAN: I would like to ask the auditor this question. He states in his report that the price of gasoline followed the price of crude. How many years did that cover?

The WITNESS: 1929-1930-1931. The tank wagon selling price.