

fiscal year 1934-35 to the Canadian National Railway Company of the difference (estimated by the auditors of the said company and certified by the said auditors to the Minister of Railways and Canals as and when required by the said minister), occurring on account of the application of the Maritime Freight Rates Act, between the tariff tolls and the normal tolls (upon the same basis as set out in section 9 of the said act with respect to companies therein referred to) on all traffic moved during the year 1934, under the tariffs approved, on the eastern lines (as referred to in section 1 of the said act) of the Canadian National Railways, \$338,239.21.

Mr. VENIOT: I should like to discuss this item.

Mr. RHODES: The Minister of Railways is absent to-day, but my hon. friend will appreciate that there are other railway items standing on which he can discuss any matter he so desires.

Mr. VENIOT: Very well.

Item agreed to.

Amount required to provide for payment to the Canadian National Railway Company of the net income deficit including profit and loss, incurred by the system during the year 1934, as certified to by the auditors in the annual report of the company for the year 1934, but exclusive of all non-cash items, including interest on dominion government advances, as further certified to by the auditors and approved by the Minister of Railways and Canals; this payment to be applied in reduction of accountable advances made to the company from the consolidated revenue fund under authority of the Canadian National Railways Financing Act, 1934:

Canadian National Railways, excluding eastern lines, \$42,589,824.96.

Eastern lines, excluding Prince Edward Island car ferry and terminals, \$5,434,133.74.

Prince Edward Island car ferry and terminals, \$383,942.

Mr. EULER: May I ask the minister whether the department is to follow the practice adopted for the last two years, I think, of charging the Canadian National Railway deficits directly against the general account rather than against the national railways account?

Mr. RHODES: Yes, my hon. friend is quite right; we are pursuing the same practice with respect to this vote as we followed last year. We are merely voting now that sum which was included in the Canadian National bill, which was passed upon also by the railway committee. We are merely voting the amount required now, and it will be charged up to the general fund.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): If no inconvenience would be caused anyone connected with the Canadian National system I submit that this item might well stand, involving as it does this large amount, until

the Minister of Railways is here and a discussion can take place on the whole question of the Canadian National system.

Mr. RHODES: May I point out, Mr. Chairman, that there are other items in the main estimates which would permit a wide discussion as far as railway matters are concerned. This, of course, is a matter for the committee to determine, but unless we pass these supplementary estimates for this year and put through the bill covering them the votes will not be of any benefit to those to whom the money is supposed to go. Under the ordinary practice we put through the supplementaries for this year and then pass a bill based upon them. The supplementaries for next year will follow in the course of a few days or weeks as the case may be.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Then if it is understood that the widest possible scope will be afforded in connection with the other items I have no further objection.

Mr. RHODES: Certainly. This is merely to enable the accounts to be paid within this year, because my hon. friend will appreciate that the fiscal year ends March 31.

Item agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

Annuities Act—further amount required, \$50,000.

Mr. POULIOT: I should like to point out that there are many sections of the Annuities Act which are in conflict with the unemployment insurance bill. I am sorry the Minister of Labour is not here, because he might be able to give us some light on the matter.

Mr. RHODES: I hope my hon. friend from Témiscouata will be content if he has full freedom of discussion on another item which appears in the main estimates. I have not the details before me, but as I understand it this sum is required for expenses in view of the circumstance that larger numbers of annuities are being taken out, so this sum is required to make good that increased expenditure within this present fiscal year.

Mr. POULIOT: Certainly I will agree to the request of the Minister of Finance, but I should like to direct another question to him. I should like to ask when the returns in connection with taxation will be tabled. That is a different matter, but I should be glad to have the information.

Mr. RHODES: My hon. friend will appreciate that I have no knowledge of the matter at the moment, but I shall be glad to make inquiries.

Item agreed to.