

Mr. MILNE: Have you a regular research department for the purpose of finding out the efficiency of automatic stokers and different types of locomotives and so on?

Mr. HENRY: That is done under the direction of the executive officers in Montreal.

Mr. MILNE: You carry on experimental work?

Mr. HENRY: Yes.

Mr. STEWART: Are there any electrified lines coming under this heading here?

Mr. HENRY: No. I think the St. Clair tunnel is the only thing, and it is about a mile long, running to Detroit.

The CHAIRMAN: You have several lines, but operated by other companies?

Mr. HENRY: Yes, but not in this account. There is also the Montreal tunnel as well.

Mr. STEWART: Would the current consumed by an electric line come under the heading of "fuel"?

Mr. BROWN: No, it would come under Items 395 and 396. "Train Power Produced" is electric power produced and "Train Power Purchased" is electrical power purchased.

The CHAIRMAN: Is the railway making an investigation as to the possibility of operating some of the branch lines by other than steam power?

Mr. HENRY: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: I am referring to gas propelled cars, as well as electric lines.

Mr. HENRY: Yes; gas propelled and unit cars. We have been investigating that for some time.

The CHAIRMAN: What is the result?

Mr. HENRY: We have not reached any definite conclusion yet as to what is the best type.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you anything to give as to the relative merits of the electric storage battery car and the gasoline propelled car?

Mr. HENRY: I would not like to answer that offhand, no. Our experience has varied.

The CHAIRMAN: You have experimented?

Mr. HENRY: Yes.

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I have now to go to Council so perhaps you can decide as to whether it would be wise to bring in a motion in the House asking for leave to sit while the House is in session. Then, if that were done, we could probably finish up this afternoon. I also thought it might be interesting to the committee to have Mr. Henry give us a statement concerning the electric lines we own, because we have inherited some electric lines, too.

Mr. HARRIS: Yes, that was what I had in mind.

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I do not mean to interfere with this present discussion, but when we get through we can have that statement.

Mr. STORK: I think, Mr. Chairman, we should ask for permission to sit while the House is in session. We might sit this afternoon or tomorrow.

The CHAIRMAN: It is moved by Mr. Stork and seconded by Mr. Stewart that the Committee request the permission of the House to sit during sessions of the House. What is your pleasure, gentlemen?

Motion agreed to.