

Q. Yes. Is that the larger part of the retail price?—A. A very large part.

Q. Eliminating the dealer's profit—A. You mean the dealer's profit?

Q. Eliminating the dealer's profit, is the cost of distribution a large part of the cost, or the major factor?—A. Well, I should say it costs about 5 cents or 6 cents a gallon to sell gasoline at a service station.

Q. Well, now, in regard to the service stations, there is in the west the feeling that the service station men have been treated unfairly. The service station men have been complaining very bitterly about the manner in which the oil companies have treated them; that is to say, there is a great—A. I am surprised to hear that.

Q. On account of temperature there is a great shrinkage in gas and you bond these men?—A. Yes.

Q. And then you make them responsible for the number of gallons that your tank wagons deliver and a shrinkage takes place in very hot weather?—A. Yes.

Q. You are allowing them now, I think it is 1 per cent, although you did not allow them anything before?—A. What we did was to put on meters.

Q. But you have not put them on?—A. We put them on at different places to find out—

Q. Why not put them on at all places and then charge a man with the amount of gas that runs out, not that runs in—A. Because it would put a cent on the cost of gasoline. Those meters cost \$1,000. Anyway, if you have a couple of thousand stations at a couple of thousand points it would run into a lot of money.

Q. Yes, but the farmer complains that the gas station men—A. I think the farmer had some reason to complain. Of course the whole thing arose over the fact that gasoline has a certain gravity, or at a certain gravity there is no shrinkage; but when Turner Valley came along, in order to absorb the Turner Valley production and to make the gasoline better we put in this high volatile Turner Valley gas—

Q. But the farmer complains now in Western Canada—and I think it is reasonably substantiated—that up to now, by virtue of the manner in which you deal with your gas station man he had to short measure the farmer a bit?—A. I don't think that is true. As soon as that thing was discovered a very exhaustive examination was made by ourselves.

Q. Let me ask another thing. In view of this evaporation, that takes place on account of the temperature, doesn't it?—A. Very largely.

Q. Well, if those tanks were put below the ground would not that protect them?—A. That is a very expensive thing to do.

Q. Well, you have got the tanks?—A. We have got the tanks but we have not got the holes.

Q. The hole is the cheapest thing of the lot.

*By Mr. Ralston:*

Q. Mr. Ross, in the first place, would you file with the committee a statement showing the capital structure changes?—A. Yes, I will do that.

Q. In the company, say from 1910 if you like, whatever period would make or would give the committee a fair history of the structural changes in the company?—A. Yes, I will give you that.

Q. Showing the amount of capital issued, and the various bonuses and the various splits, and the amount of actual cash paid into the company?—A. Yes.

Q. Not the value on the market. We want to find out the actual cash investment on which the company is proposing to pay whatever dividend it does pay.—A. Yes.

Q. Then will you include in that or add to that a statement of the dividend record of the company based on its various capital changes?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, Mr. Ross, I am interested in perhaps a little different feature from some of the gentlemen who have been asking you questions. There has been a