

Mr. HARKNESS: What I have is this, that the last few times I have travelled on the C.P.R. they have some very much improved sleeping cars and compartments which are really comfortable. I wondered if the C.N. had gone in for the same sort of thing.

Mr. VAUGHAN: We are planning on the most modern type of sleeping car available. We have conducted much research in connection with it, and when these cars are produced they will be the latest and most up to date cars. In the meantime we are rehabilitating a lot of our present equipment and modernizing it to some extent and redecorating it. The cars will be made as comfortable as possible.

Mr. MUTCH: Is a good deal of that work being done on the western division?

Mr. VAUGHAN: Yes, some of it in our Winnipeg shops.

Mr. HARKNESS: Have you any of these new style sleeping cars in operation yet?

Mr. VAUGHAN: We have none of the Roomette or duplex types.

Mr. HARKNESS: How long will it be before you get any of these into operation?

Mr. VAUGHAN: I think it will be the best part of a year.

Mr. HARKNESS: I would think that the C.N. would suffer so far as attracting passengers in competition with the C.P.R. if they do not provide that type of service.

Mr. VAUGHAN: We are going to get the most modern type of car.

Hon. Mr. CHEVRIER: You have an order in for some at the present time, have you not?

Mr. VAUGHAN: Yes, for the most modern type of coaches. The car companies have orders from us now also for baggage cars and the combined baggage-express cars—there are thirty coaches, as well as mail and express cars and baggage cars on order.

Hon. Mr. CHEVRIER: And when will these be in operation?

Mr. VAUGHAN: This fall.

Mr. PICARD: Last year you told the committee that you were investigating the possibility of obtaining new rolling stock and equipment; what has been done during the year.

Mr. VAUGHAN: We have developed it to the extent that we will soon have our specifications completed. Our men have spent considerable time with the railroad men of the United States, and with the car builders, developing the latest type of equipment.

Mr. PICARD: In the United States they have already put many new type cars on the road, have they not?

Mr. VAUGHAN: To a certain extent they have a number of duplex cars and roomettes in operation.

Mr. NICHOLSON: Would Mr. Vaughan care to make a further statement with regard to post-war plans. Two or three years ago we had a rather extensive brief presented on that subject to the reconstruction committee. It has been over a year now since V-E day. Would President Vaughan care to make a statement as to what condition these plans would be in?

Mr. VAUGHAN: Those plans as they were presented at that time are still on paper. I think we outlined three different types of things to be done: one was works that were necessary and should be done; another was things that were on the border line; and others that would be useful but would not add anything to our net returns. We have not done anything on those plans as yet. Materials, as you know, are very scarce and very difficult to get. The housing programme