

By Mr. Lancaster:

Q. What was your knowledge about the other half of the expenses?—A. I think the Manufacturers' Company paid the other half.

By Mr. Sloan:

Q. In February, 1904, I find an entry in the cash book, 'S. G. Marling for expenses to Victoria, \$114, less received from Manufacturers' Association \$57.' I presume that is the item referring to that payment?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Lancaster:

Q. The object of sending him out there to buy that lumber was to remove that opposition to the western retail dealers?—A. No, it was to prevent that competition with those dealers that were there at that place, they were the only ones interested.

By Mr. Knowles:

Q. You have said in your statement that the same prices prevail in Ontario as in the west, are you confident of that?—A. I understand that is the price, I have made inquiries.

Q. That it is the same price where?—A. In Ottawa, Toronto, that it is about the same price, I did not say that it was exactly the same price.

Q. Will you swear that it is within 10 per cent of it?—A. I would not swear positively.

Q. Practically you do not know?—A. I do not know exactly, but I believe prices are very nearly as high in Ontario as in the west.

Q. You believe so, but you do not know?—A. Well, I would not swear positively that it is as high.

Q. You simply do not know?—A. I do not know.

Q. So far as your own knowledge goes?—A. No.

Q. And you say the quality in Ontario is inferior to the quality in the west?—A. I say the quality in general use, that is in that class of lumber, they use hemlock here very largely, and hemlock is not as good lumber as red pine, or fir or as our spruce.

Q. How do you compare prices at all if they are different kinds of wood?—A. Well, of course, they have as good wood, but I am speaking of timber in use for the same purpose.

By Mr. Lancaster:

Q. I understand that we use hemlock here in Ontario for what they use pine out there?—A. Yes, we haven't any hemlock out there.

By Mr. Knowles:

Q. You said you thought this committee could justify its existence, or its creation, if it prosecuted such persons as were found committing offences?—A. Yes.

Q. For what offence could we prosecute that man?—A. Well, if he combined to unreasonably increase the price of lumber.

Q. Under what legislation?—A. I do not know, unless your Criminal Code covers it.

Q. Are you aware that in order to make a conspiracy it requires at least three?—A. I do not know.

Q. Are you aware it requires two?—A. I should think it requires two anyway.

Q. So, as a matter of fact, when you spread this on the evidence you really did not know what you were talking about, that is as to legal prosecution, did you?—A. Of course, I am not a lawyer.

Q. You do not know anything about prosecution for this?—A. I do not.

Q. Do you not think it is a little officious giving advice to the committee and the