

Government on the subject in view of the opening of the Canadian Pacific Railway, claiming at the time that rates were exorbitant as compared with other points. They also interviewed the railway authorities, and about the same time obtained from Mr. Van Horne a statement of what the policy of the Canadian Pacific Railway was intended to be, viz: to "carry fuel at cost, because, as he said, the settlers on these great plains would require it;" to "carry settlers' building material at about cost" and to "carry out the settlers' grain at a mere shade over cost," adding, "And then, gentlemen, you may expect to pay a fair figure on your merchandise." The Board was satisfied with this policy and had it been carried out they believe that the result would have been extremely beneficial both to the Company and the country; but such not having been the case, the rates charged for grain and outgoing produce being placed at a high figure and continued so, and that for merchandize both into and through the country being on a similar plane they have not failed to express their dissatisfaction and when on the complaint of the Patrons of Industry and representations made in Parliament the Government saw fit to appoint the present Commission the Board of Trade felt it their duty to prepare and lay before you a statement of the points wherein they believe injustice to be done.

The question of outgoing produce having been taken up by other bodies the Board do not feel called upon to deal as exhaustively with the question of rates on them as had been intended, but will confine their labors largely to the question of merchandise, building material and other lines, and propose to commence by calling your attention to the rates which have prevailed and those which now prevail on goods and merchandize coming into this country.

First: The rates in force from the boundary line to this point, and would call your attention to the fact that in the beginning of railroad traffic, and at the time when the Board of Trade first appear on record as taking exception to the rates, they stood at: