

Mr. GEARY: Now, can you switch one of those stations? Can you put another station in place of the six?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Have we done that, Mr. Smart?

Mr. SMART: Why, yes.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Yes, that could be done, Colonel.

Mr. GEARY: So that Watford could be in that, and Watford might not get a station, but Komoka would?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: That is a possibility. This \$35,000 is made up of certain specific stations with respect to which certain things are to be done. I should say that the number of cases in which they would be any alteration would be negligible; but if you ask me the academic question, can we switch from one station to the other, the answer is yes.

Mr. GEARY: And you have \$57,000 further down for a seventh station, if you want to.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: I should think the answer to that question would be yes.

Mr. GEARY: We do not know anything about these individual stations, but you can arrange those so as to include five, six or eight?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: I have the items here.

Mr. GEARY: As long as you get rid of London, I will be satisfied.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: That station is over eighty years of age.

Mr. GEARY: It is about good enough to go on your watch chain.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: It might go on yours, but I have not any watch chain.

Mr. FRASER: On Exhibit H, the second item from the top, you will notice that is for the Western Region. Look at the second line, line diversion Westfort, Ontario,—what relation has that to the Western Region?

Mr. SMART: The Western Region begins at the head of the lakes and from there West.

Mr. FRASER: Where is Westfort, then?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: It is west of Fort William, and that is why it is called Westfort.

Mr. FRASER: You have made the statement that you have made no reduction in wages during the year, talking of section men and that sort of thing. You made a reduction in the price of your ties in British Columbia. I know as a fact that your price for ties was reduced from seventy to fifty-seven cents. How do you justify reducing the wages of tie-makers and not reducing the others? Why do you reduce the tie-men and not the others?

Sir HENRY THORNTON: Because the one is a contract which you let, and the contractor can take it or leave it as he likes; and the other is an employee of the company who is working under a contract which we have made with the recognized trades union.

Mr. FRASER: It is a contract, true enough, but you do not give him much leeway in making the price.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: If you were going to buy a horse, if you could get that horse for \$50, you would not go out to the proprietor and say, I would like to give you \$75 for this horse.

Mr. HUNGERFORD: And we could have bought several the number of ties we wanted for that price.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there any further question to be asked? If you carry this resolution of Mr. Duff's, this book is closed as far as we are concerned.