

they were on an equal footing we would not oppose it; we would be in favour of it.

Mr. FISHER: I quite agree that there is much greater flexibility generally open to truckers to adjust rates, and I must confess my opinions rest a great deal upon the long haul trucking rates. They tend to run parallel with and, it seems to me, just below the rail umbrella a great deal of the time.

I have no more questions.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Mr. Gracey, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Paul, I want to thank you on behalf of the committee for presenting your brief and for your attendance here today. You have been perhaps a little more fortunate than some others in regard to the questioning at the end of it, and I am sure this speaks well for the brief.

Again, I want to thank you for your attendance here today.

Members of the committee, we have with us now the delegation of the Maritimes Transportation Commission. To my immediate right is Mr. A. Gordon Cooper, Q.C., counsel. Next to him is Mr. Craig S. Dickson, executive manager; and on his right is Mr. R. M. F. Armitage, secretary.

It was agreed at our last meeting that, since the brief has been in our hands for a week, we would take the brief as submitted by the Maritimes Transportation Commission as read. However, Mr. Cooper and his delegation will deal with the highlights of their brief by reading a supplementary submission, which will be submitted by the clerk.

I will ask Mrs. Rideout to take the Chair at this time.

Mr. BEAULÉ: Madam Chairman, there is no copy of the submission in French.

Mr. A. GORDON COOPER, Q.C. (*Counsel, Canadian Industrial Traffic League*): We have just had exhibit five in our hands for a very few days and we have not had an opportunity to get a French translation done. As a matter of fact, I might say with respect to the main submission which came to us in the English form a week or two ago, we have made every effort to get a French translation and we hoped to have one here today, but we have not been able to do it, because of the difficulty, frankly, in getting a translator in Moncton to do the job for us. I can assure you, Madam Chairman, that we have, respecting the main submission, made every effort possible—because we realize the importance of having a French translation—to have one here. But we have not been able to do so with respect to the supplementary submission. We simply have not had the time, because exhibit five has not been in our hands for a sufficient length of time to provide a French translation. Therefore I would beg for the indulgence of the committee.

Mr. COWAN: Madam Chairman, if somebody wishes to submit a brief in English only, surely that is his right. This is not a government organization, and we do not have to have everything provided in both languages.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I think Mr. Beaulé will go along with the arrangement we have now. We have a translator here who will give us a simultaneous translation in French.

Mr. BEAULÉ: I wanted to know if it was a question of privilege.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: I think we realize the importance of it. Since this is my first time as Chairman of a committee and particularly of the railway committee, I hope you will bear with the Chair.

Mr. BEAULÉ: Agreed.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I now call on Mr. Cooper to continue.

Mr. COOPER: Thank you, Madam Chairman; I would like first to make a few introductory remarks concerning the Maritime Transportation Commis-