

In comparing Lake and Rail routes I have tried to do so as between our own road and the Soo Line which is supposed to be owned largely by the shareholders of the C. P. R. and is certainly an allied corporation.

I give the summer rates on wheat, and flour but I must explain that I have no tariffs to show although I give the dates of such tariffs and I know of their existence. I cannot produce them as they have been too carefully guarded.

7th April, 1894, via Spo, lake and rail, Minneapolis to New York, 25c. per 100.

8th May, 17½c. per 100.

7th June, 20c. per 100.

18th June, 22½c. per 100.

As compared with the foregoing the rate from Winnipeg has been a varying one, except to Fort William.

From Fort William to the southward it has been a varying one, and I am informed that the ordinary rate, Winnipeg to New York has been 33¾c. The summer rates from Minneapolis via the Soo, were:

April 7th to Buffalo.....	20c.
May 8th ".....	15c.
June 7th ".....	15c.
June 8th ".....	17½c.

I regret that I have no later figures. From Winnipeg to Buffalo the average rate is given at 22¾c.

Q. Can you give the rate from Winnipeg to Montreal?

A. I am informed that a very small portion of the crop of 1894 went by Montreal. The great bulk of it went by New York and Buffalo.

Mr. Ashdown stated that great difficulty had been experienced in bringing people forward to give evidence. There seemed to be an undefined fear that the C. P. R. would punish

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