

Mr. POWER: We could place a clause in the contract, that any contractor building, say the Hudson Bay Railway, must carry his material over the National.

Hon. Mr. DUNNING: He has to in that case.

Mr. HEAPS: He would have a choice if he were shipping from Montreal.

The CHAIRMAN: We discussed this in the session of 1923 and a report was made as to the items considered on page five, namely mileage and revenue expenses. The increase in mail service was distributed through a rearrangement of rates. We had a lot of discussion on it at that time and there was a difference of opinion in the committee, and I am not sure that we made a definite recommendation—I do not think we did—that the government should adopt the principle of always favouring the National.

Mr. POWER: There was a resolution on the order paper last year, or the year before, and it was discussed. The Postmaster General made a statement, and, I think Mr. Campbell read the resolution. Someone had a resolution anyway and the matter was thoroughly discussed in the house.

The CHAIRMAN: I would not make the comment now, but it seems rather peculiar that the mail business should be less last year than the year before.

Sir HENRY THORNTON: I think what will happen is that after you get the details of this, you may want to ask the Post Office department some questions.

Hon. Mr. DUNNING: This committee can summon before it any deputy minister to give information with respect to the amount of business his department gives to this railway and the other.

Mr. POWER: I think Mr. McNab is the officer in the post office department who is charged with the business given to the Railways.

Sir EUGENE Fiset: We could have a report on this; since the Canadian National Railway was organized, have any instructions been given by the Privy Council to the different departments concerned as to the amount of business to be given to the C.N.R. and the amount to be given to the C.P.R. I am sure these instructions exist.

The CHAIRMAN: I think perhaps this will come out better when we take up the items of the report. Are there any other general questions that the committee desires answered? If not, I think we might arrange to meet either to-morrow or next week.

Mr. JELLIFF: Are we not going to take up the Merchant Marine to-day? If not, why should we not go on with it this week.

The CHAIRMAN: We could go on with the Merchant Marine and get that cleared away. Will someone make a motion as to when we shall meet and as to what we shall discuss? I would suggest to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock to discuss the Merchant Marine. Will you move that Mr. Power?

Mr. POWER: Yes, I move that we meet to-morrow morning and discuss the Merchant Marine.

The CHAIRMAN: Then it is moved by Mr. Power, seconded by Mr. Jelliff; that the committee meet to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock for the purpose of discussing the Merchant Marine.

Motion agreed to.

The committee adjourned until Friday 28 May, 1926, at 11 a.m.