

Mr. GRANGER: May I comment on Mr. Cowan's remarks?

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: If your comment is in order, yes.

Mr. GRANGER: It depends on whether Mr. Cowan's comments were in order. On the east coast of Newfoundland and in the northern part there is no other means of transportation than steamship. There is literally no competition, and this goes for the coast of Labrador as well.

Mr. MACEWAN: You mentioned three or four abandonments which were before the board now. I think the figure should be four. One of the proposed abandonments is the centre of a short line from Stellarton to Oxford Junction.

Mr. DICKSON: Yes.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Perhaps you will be good enough to indulge the Chair for a moment. This is an occasion which has not happened too frequently. First of all I want to tell Mr. Cooper, Mr. Dickson, and Mr. Armitage how very pleased we are to have had their brief. This is the first occasion when I have chaired a meeting since I came to the House of Commons on November 23; indeed, it is the first time that you ever had a woman chairman of the railway committee; and since I come from the maritimes I am pleased that it should be the Maritime Transportation Commission which is appearing before the committee today. Gentlemen, I thank you. We have enjoyed hearing your brief.

Mr. CANTIN: Speaking on behalf of the committee may I congratulate you, Madam Chairman, on the very fine way you have conducted our deliberations today.

*(Translation)*

This is all to your credit.

*(Text)*

Today's session may be the last meeting, at least for a time, to deal with this problem. So on behalf of the minister I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their co-operation.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Before we leave, since no other witnesses have informed the committee of their intention to be heard, the committee now stands adjourned to the call of the Chair.