

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. Mr. Archibald, I do not like to see that statement go on record that the Intercolonial is following the other railways in all these matters. Would it not be advisable for the People's railway to take the lead in showing the way?—A. I have often thought so, sir; I do not see why we should not.

Q. It is disappointing. We had it once or twice in this examination, not in connection with your department alone, but in others that the Intercolonial was following the lead of other railways. When the less than carload rate was raised, the Canadian Pacific Railway raised their rate at the same time. Your advice is taken about matters relating to your department, is it not?—A. Yes.

Q. You are the head of the department?—A. Yes.

Q. And if any reform is necessary you are the man to submit it to the Minister?—A. I would have to submit it to my superior officer.

By Mr. Loggie:

Q. What do you pay for fresh salmon during the season?—A. In the early part of the season, when it first comes in, we sometimes have paid as high as 50 cents a pound for salmon. That would be only to feature it on the bill of fare; we could not continue to supply fresh salmon and keep it running on the bill of fare at 50 cents a pound, but we like to have fresh salmon when it first comes in, the same as we do with any fresh vegetable. We like to get it as early as possible on our bill of fare, even if we do not continue it. Later on the fish costs us from 18 cents and it gets down to 14 cents—sometimes to 12, but not very often, though. The average of the salmon I get I buy first hand. I buy it just as it comes out of the boats at the Bay of Fundy.

By Mr. Copp:

Q. What time of the year do you have to pay 50 cents for salmon?—A. Early in May, salmon out of Midway river. It sometimes retails in Halifax for \$1.00 a pound. I think I am correct in that, Mr. McCurdy?

Mr. McCURDY: Not so late in the season as that. This year the earliest we got that salmon was the 3rd of February.

The WITNESS: When we were running a table d'hote business we used to feature Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and so on with a special bill of fare. We made a special bill of fare for the particular day and got anything we could in fresh fish even if we had to pay a high price for it.

By Mr. Loggie:

Q. At what point do you get this Bay of Fundy salmon?—A. At Londonderry.

Q. Do you take the salmon on board at Londonderry?—A. No, they are shipped to us at Halifax.

Q. From Londonderry?—A. They are shipped to us to our Commissary room at Halifax and there distributed to our different dining cars.

Q. You could not very well have your dining cars take the salmon en route?—A. No, because we could not depend then on a regular supply. Besides, all our dining cars do not pass that point.

By Mr. Sinclair:

Q. But you have a refrigerator car, have you not?—A. Not a refrigerator in the sense you are speaking of, it is an ice box. Our fish is packed in a box with crushed or cracked ice.

Q. Do you buy sufficient fish in Halifax for your return trip from Montreal to Halifax?—A. We stock our cars at Halifax nearly all the time for the round trip from Halifax to Montreal and back.

Mr. L. B. ARCHIBALD.