

APPENDIX No. 6

By Mr. Knowles:

Q. Do you keep separate books for the wholesale and retail parts of your business?
—A. I do not sell by wholesale, but the lumber that I manufacture and the lumber that I buy, the expenditures are so mixed up that I have never attempted to keep them separate, and that is why I cannot tell what their respective costs are.

Q. Do you know which party pays you the best?—A. I do not.

By the Chairman:

Q. You were a great many years running that log business before you sold much lumber. I think, if I remember correctly, you have been running that business for a great many years?—A. Not from the points that I am running it from now.

Q. What do you say?—A. Not from Rainy River points. From there I have been getting in logs for only two years, I think.

By Mr. Lancaster:

Q. You manufacture before you retail, do you not?—A. I manufacture and retail at the same time.

Q. Was there never a period when you manufactured without retailing?—A. No.

By Mr. Crocket:

Q. In selling direct at your mill to all purchasers, regardless of whether they are retail dealers or not, is that in contravention of the rules and by-laws of the Retail Dealers' Association?—A. No, it is not in contravention of any rules that I know of, or it is not in contravention of what we consider proper in business. Wherever a man's mill is located he always sells to retailers.

Q. That is understood?—A. That is understood.

Q. That a member of the Retail Association who has a mill can sell direct?—
A. He can sell direct, in his own locality.

By Mr. Knowles:

Q. I asked one witness a question on a previous occasion in regard to a supposed secret order of lumbermen. On that occasion I said I had a letter from a citizen out west asking—I do not think there is anything in it myself, but in justice to the writer of the letter I want to put the question—if there was a secret order called the order of Black Cats. My correspondent had the idea, which in my opinion was erroneous, that the order in question existed for the purpose of fostering exorbitant prices. Is there anything in that that you know of?—A. I am not a member, Mr. Knowles, and of course I could not give you any information as to that.

Q. You were never blackballed, were you?—A. I would not take chances of going there with the boys.

By Mr. Lancaster:

Q. Is there not seriously an association of that kind?—A. There is—I don't know what they call it, an order of lumbermen. Yes, it is called the 'Hoo-hoos.' It is exclusively social in its character.

By Mr. Crocket:

Q. It is a social club, is it not?—A. Yes, and they wear a button with a black cat on it.

By Mr. Knowles:

Q. Well, is there any other association of the kind?—A. No.

By Mr. Lancaster:

Q. Does the Black Cat Association seriously do anything in regard to lumber prices?—A. No.