

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

April 25, 1950.

The Sessional Committee on Railways and Shipping met this day at 11:00 a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Hughes Cleaver, presided.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we now have a quorum, and while our numbers are rather few in view of the fact that so many other committees are sitting. I believe we should carry on. We are now at the property and equipment budget.

Mr. DREW: Mr. Chairman, it is just a question of convenience. I did want to ask Mr. English a couple of further questions but I could defer that until after we deal with this item.

The CHAIRMAN: If you want to clean up now, Mr. Drew, it is quite all right to carry on.

Mr. DREW: I might explain before I ask the question that I fully recognize the difficulty that the press have in following the questions and answers throughout a whole day but I think that perhaps Mr. English, like the others in the committee, must have been rather surprised at some of the details of the report of the proceedings yesterday because some of the items standing by themselves might lead to some confusion.

Mr. English, in the sessions yesterday, you referred in answer to my question to two orders which are headed, flight operation bulletins, one of February 14th and one which you fixed the date of as about four months ago. Could you produce copies of those?

Mr. ENGLISH: Yes, but I have not got them here.

Mr. DREW: But you will forward them to the Chairman of the committee?

Mr. ENGLISH: Yes.

Mr. DREW: You know the two to which I refer?

Mr. ENGLISH: Yes.

Mr. DREW: That is all.

The CHAIRMAN: Property and equipment budget.

Mr. FULTON: What does this column headed "Actual" in the middle mean? Does it mean the actual expenditures or the actual amount left over after the expenditures were made?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Total actual expenditures.

Mr. DREW: Just to take the first item, what is the reason for the difference in the amounts, Mr. McGregor?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Between the budget and the amount actually spent?

Mr. DREW: Yes, I am taking the 1949 figures.

Mr. MCGREGOR: The failure to make all the purchases for which budget provision was made, due in some cases to a decision not to make expenditures that had been budgeted and due in other cases to the fact that delivery was not completed on articles that had been budgeted by the time that the company's fiscal year came to an end.