

*By the Chairman:*

Q. I notice that practically all of your long distance voyages result in losses—A. That is generally explained by the fact that on the long-distance hauls we do not get full tonnage both ways; we get it outbound or inbound, but not both ways.

Q. Why are these nine vessels laid up at Halifax and six at Montreal?—A. Those are the small vessels, for which we have no traffic. We have sent some of these vessels up to the Lakes.

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I think the Committee would like to know if there was some way we could serve the public by utilizing these small boats. Even if we did not make any profit, if we kept even, we would be giving a service to the public, and would be performing a function which we are not doing now.

The WITNESS: We have done the best we could with these small boats, but they are not fundamentally profitable boats.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Do they entail a heavy waste when they are tied up?—A. No; except to keep them in condition.

*By Sir Henry Drayton:*

Q. How large a crew do you have to leave on them?—A. Only a watchman.

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I was going to suggest that we are getting along to a time when we are trying to do business as rapidly as possible. We have had a very instructive open discussion this morning. I have learned a lot of things this morning, as I think we all have. If you do not mind, I would suggest we meet just as quickly as possible. We do not want to keep Sir Henry here when his time is so valuable, and he ought to be out doing our business.

The witness retired.

The Committee adjourned.

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COMMITTEE ROOM 231,

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

WEDNESDAY, June 18, 1924.

The Select Standing Committee on National Railways and Shipping met at 10.30 o'clock a.m., Mr. Euler, the Chairman, presiding.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have a quorum. I presume we will continue with the evidence of Sir Henry Thornton, which was commenced yesterday.

Sir HENRY THORNTON, recalled.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. I presume that when you refer questions to Mr. Doherty, his answers are to the same effect as if coming from you?—A. Yes, that is right. Mr. Doherty is connected with the Marine Department and probably knows more about some of these things than I do.

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: I think it is only fair to say that Mr. Teakle, the Manager, is in Europe or he would have been here.

The WITNESS: Yes. We had to send him to Europe to look after some shipping matters there of considerable importance. That is the reason he is not here.

[Sir Henry Thornton.]