

APPENDIX No. 3

travelling backwards and forwards during the continuance of one bill of fare. He would be getting the same meal every trip.

Q. Did I understand you to say that you are behind almost as much now in the dining car service in the matter of meeting expenses as you were before the change?—

A. Yes, because people have an opportunity of getting meals cheaper, of getting what they want to eat cheaper by the à la carte than they did by the table d'hôte

Q. It has been no advantage to the Intercolonial to make the change?—A. It has been an advantage to a class of people who could not afford to go into a dining car and pay 75 cents for a breakfast, who can now get toast and coffee for 25 cents or 30 cents.

Mr. LOGGIE: That is a reasonable proposition.

The WITNESS: There are a great many people, who, for instance, take a breakfast on the dining car. Now, tea and a piece of toast is about all they want. That is the case particularly with ladies; and you see that the cost of that is only, say 25 or 30 cents; whereas before when they went in they had to pay the full 75 cents whether they took any more than a cup of tea or not.

By Mr. Kyte:

Q. But the suggestion I have made does not, of course, interfere with that preference?—A. I might say that when we first started our service, I believe our prices were absolutely the same as the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Grand Trunk, and any changes that have been made by us since have been in the nature of reductions, and now, whenever there is any change, we are lower.

Q. Would you consider a proposal to furnish a fish order on the Intercolonial at a cheaper rate than a meat order, considering the circumstances of the difference in the cost to you of fish?—A. I think it may be worth giving a trial.

By Mr. Loggie:

Q. What weight do you call your meat orders?—A. We do not figure them exactly by weight.

Q. Would it be less than half a pound?—A. Oh, no, it should be at least half a pound, and in many instances it is more than that.

By Mr. Copp:

Q. Mr. Archibald, I understood you to say you bought your fish at Halifax at 4 cents a pound?—A. That is the cod and haddock only.

Q. That is delivered on the car?—A. That is delivered at the Railway station.

By Mr. Loggie:

Q. Is it dressed at 4 cents a pound?—A. No, sir, the entrails are out, that is all.

By Mr. Copp:

Q. The head and tail is on?—A. Yes, and when you take the head, tail and backbone out, 50 per cent of your fish is gone.

Q. What I want to ask you is, do you buy from the fishermen themselves, or from the first man who gets it from the fishermen?—A. There are two fish dealers in the city of Halifax who are both wholesale and retail dealers, and there are really no other fish dealers in the city who could supply our requirements.

Q. That is not the point. I think you misunderstand me. Do the fishermen sell to these men first, and then you buy from these men?—A. Yes, we cannot buy from the boats.

Q. There is a profit between the fisherman and your prices?—A. Yes.

Mr. L. B. ARCHIBALD.