

Supply—Transport

Mr. Matheson: Can the minister say whether that includes the depreciation, or whether it is just the operating deficit?

Mr. Harris: It appears to be the difference between revenues and expenses. I do not see any reference to depreciation at all.

Item agreed to.

599. Newfoundland ferry and terminals, \$811,668.

Mr. Green: Would the minister explain this vote? I cannot find a corresponding vote in the main estimates.

Mr. Harris: Well, there is a main vote, Mr. Chairman, of \$3 million—

Mr. Green: What is the page?

Mr. Harris: I regret to say that I have not the number. I will look it up for you in a moment. This has to do with three items, the North Sydney-Argentia service, the North Sydney-Port aux Basques service and the North Sydney-other Newfoundland ports service. Taking these in turn, the North Sydney-Port aux Basques service comes to \$400,727; the North Sydney-Argentia service comes to \$247,103; and the North Sydney-other Newfoundland ports service to \$163,838. These are just additional deficits for which we are now budgeting.

Mr. Green: Apparently the good ship *William Carson* comes into this picture somewhere. What was the amount of the deficit for the Sydney-Argentia service in the main estimates?

Mr. Harris: It was \$747,103. That was the actual deficit, and the amount provided was \$500,000.

Mr. Green: The total for the present fiscal year would be about \$750,000?

Mr. Harris: It would be \$747,000.

Mr. Green: That deficit arises entirely from the operation of the *William Carson* during the present fiscal year? Is that correct?

Mr. Harris: That is correct.

Mr. Green: What about the deficit in the service from Sydney to Port aux Basques? How much was that in the main estimates?

Mr. Harris: It was \$2,925,000.

Mr. Green: Then in addition to that there is this \$400,000.

Mr. Harris: Correct.

Mr. Green: That would be about \$3,300,000 all together?

Mr. Harris: Just \$3,325,727.

Mr. Green: What vessels is that in connection with?

[Mr. Harris.]

Mr. Harris: I cannot say. I have no record of them. I don't know.

Mr. Green: Has that deficit anything to do with the *William Carson*?

Mr. Harris: I have no information here about that.

Mr. Green: Perhaps the minister could find out about that?

Mr. Harris: I presume I could.

Mr. Green: What about the third item of \$163,833?

Mr. Harris: The total deficit was \$235,088 and we had provided \$71,250. This is a total of a great many other services.

Mr. Green: You mean the North Sydney-other islands?

Mr. Harris: A lot of small ones.

Mr. Green: What is the estimate for the deficit on the *William Carson* for the next fiscal year on the run from Sydney to Argentia?

Mr. Harris: I have those estimates here, but I have not looked it up. I will let the hon. member know.

Mr. Green: Could the minister tell me how much it is estimated the deficit will be for the next fiscal year?

Mr. Harris: I see an item Newfoundland ferry and terminals, \$3,423,000. This is probably the item covered by the Port aux Basques service.

Item agreed to.

601. Maritime Freight Rates Act—for the payment to the railway companies operating in the select territory designated by the act, of the difference occurring on account of the application of the act, between the tariff tolls and normal tolls under approved tariffs (estimated and certified to the Minister of Transport by the Canadian National Railway Company and approved by auditors of the said company respecting the eastern lines of the Canadian National Railways and in the case of the other railways by the board of transport commissioners for Canada) on all traffic moved during the calendar year 1956 (chap. 174, R.S.)—further amount required, \$1,068,777.

Mr. Brooks: I would like to ask the minister a question relating to the Maritime Freight Rates Act. It is not difficult to understand this item; it is simply the amount due to the railways over and above the freight carried. But in his statement the other day the minister said there would be an immediate review of the Maritime Freight Rates Act, and I would like to ask what is meant by "an immediate review", when he would expect it to begin, and how long he would expect it to continue?