

proposition, receiving the live stock, taking care of it and feeding it until it is sold, and taking care of it for the purchaser, after it is sold, until it is released. It is responsible for the proper care and attention and feeding of the live stock in its control. It neither buys nor sells live stock. It has one thing only to sell, and that is service, and for that service it makes certain charges.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Do the charges cover the expense after the stock is sold until it is delivered?

Mr. McCALLUM: Yes, they do; the yardage does. The stockyards have three sources of revenue. First is the unloading charge. Every stockyard in Canada receives an unloading charge of one dollar per car of live stock delivered to it by rail, which is identically the same charge which the railway makes at a feeding-in-transit station at, for instance, White River and Hornepayne. You know, live stock cannot be confined more than thirty-six hours on a train without feed, resting and water. Consequently on that haul between Winnipeg and Montreal they have these feeding stations where they unload and feed and rest the cattle five hours. The stockyard unloading charge is identically the same as the railway unloading charge, \$1 per car.

Hon. Mr. BURNS: They do not charge \$1 at White River?

Mr. McCALLUM: Yes, for loading and unloading.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: Who gets that?

Mr. McCALLUM: The railway company. That is added to the transportation charges.

Hon. Mr. BURNS: I have been shipping cattle for the last forty years and never knew that before.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: This Committee is worth something after all.

Mr. McCALLUM: The next source of revenue is yardage. The basic charge by a stockyard company for the use of all the facilities that are offered for the accommodation of live stock while they are confined in a yard is known as yardage.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: Are those charges outlined in the Act, or are they fixed by the minister?

Mr. McCALLUM: They are submitted by the stockyard company for the minister's approval, and when approved may be collected by the stockyard company in a legal way. I may say that our yardage charges on Canadian yards are the lowest on the American continent. I make that statement unreservedly. Our yardage charges in the main—there are two exceptions that I shall mention later—are for cattle: Twenty-five cents per head; calves up to 300 pounds, ten cents per head; and up to 400 pounds at the places in the West where they have the 400-pound minimum, fifteen cents per head.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: Per day?

Mr. McCALLUM: No, sir. Yardage is never collected twice on live stock at a stockyard. It matters not whether a steer is in the stockyard one day or six, the charge for the use of all the facilities of the yard is twenty-five cents.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: For any period?

Mr. McCALLUM: For any period.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: What does the yardage charge cover?

Mr. McCALLUM: The use of the whole stockyard plant—the confining of the animals in pens protected by the gate locks of the stockyard company; the furnishing of running water at all times; the supplying of attendants to feed, and bed and clean the pens; the use of the weigh scales, which are regularly tested by officers of the Weights and Measures Department, and are also tested every week by the mechanics of the stockyards' own service; the use of weighmasters