

Mr. HENRY: That is all; that is all it is intended to be.

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: If you issued a report contrary to the Interstate Commerce Commission classification which you have adopted, would not the United States government probably thump you?

Mr. COOPER: If it were in the United States they would.

Hon. Mr. GRAHAM: You have a lot of lines in the United States?

Mr. COOPER: In that case we would have to comply with their regulations down there.

Mr. KYTE: Is it the same system for both?

Mr. HENRY: Yes, for the reason that you want to make comparisons with roads over there.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not see how the public, or the newspapers, could possibly be misled if they studied page 17.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Yes, but who does it?

The CHAIRMAN: It is a matter of judgment. You might want, perhaps, to show that at the beginning, because you think people look at the first statement instead of the summary given inside, but it is all perfectly plain as set forth there.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What is done is this: the most favourable way of looking at the thing is picked out, and irrespective of the effect on the public or on the system, it is featured.

The CHAIRMAN: You mean it should be given as it is on page 17?

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: It is featured where the rest is not featured.

Major BELL: Let me put it another way, Mr. Cooper, take page 17 of this annual report. The statement that is given out to the public monthly is the net revenue from railway operations?

Mr. COOPER: Yes.

Major BELL: That is, the statement for January would come out about the end of February?

Mr. COOPER: About the 25th of the following month.

Major BELL: For the month of January would it be possible to give accurately the net income deficit in the same shape?

Mr. COOPER: Yes.

Major BELL: You could give it exactly.

Mr. COOPER: Yes, each month.

The CHAIRMAN: In the same way as it is given on page 17?

Mr. COOPER: Yes, we do that.

Major BELL: In connection with your taxes for instance, do you put them in just when they are due?

Mr. COOPER: We accrue them; we apportion them to each month equally.

Major BELL: Then there is no reason why you should not give the two statements; or, in other words, the net income deficit and the other information.

Mr. COOPER: Yes sir.

Major BELL: And you could give them out at the same time?

Mr. COOPER: Yes, sir.

Mr. HENRY: Of course, our classification, whilst it follows the I.C.C., is laid down by our own Bureau of Statistics here, and the Board of Railway Commissioners.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Yes, and they have adopted it.