

Mr. FISHER: Mr. Chairman, as I read this clause there is not that guarantee included as referred to by Mr. McPhillips. Can we be absolutely sure that there will be a separate entry in respect of this line included in the annual report of the Canadian National Railway Company?

Mr. BALCER: This will show up as an item in the estimates of the Department of Transport.

Mr. FISHER: As far as the annual report of the Canadian National Railway Company is concerned this will be lumped right in?

Mr. BALCER: No, it will not appear in the annual report at all.

Mr. FISHER: There will not be any record of this line included in the Canadian National Railway Company annual report even though there will be rolling stock operated on it? Do I understand this will not be taken into account in the statistical pattern at all?

Mr. KEAYS: We will have an indication of that in the estimates.

Mr. FISHER: Each year as a right of parliamentarians we have Canadian National Railway Company officials before us during our consideration of its annual report.

Mr. BALCER: Perhaps I can satisfy you by assuring you that there will be records available to the committee.

Mr. FISHER: And parliament will be able to make inquiries in this regard?

Mr. BALCER: Yes.

Mr. FISHER: Do I understand that you guarantee as far as you are able, when the Canadian National Railway Company annual report is before this committee, that we will be able to see what the picture has been for that year regarding this branch line?

Mr. BALCER: Members of parliament will be able to raise questions in this regard at the time the estimates of the Department of Transport are before the House of Commons.

The C.N.R. will be an agent of the government, and any profits will accrue to the government and any deficits will be paid by the government. The C.N.R. will be strictly an agent.

Mr. FISHER: I am not getting my point across. We are all concerned over the C.N.R. deficits, and it is obvious that in the short run this will add to the deficit picture.

Mr. BALCER: Not at all. It will be an item in the estimates like the Hudson Bay Railway used to be.

Mr. FISHER: And will there be separate operating statistics for this line?

Mr. BALCER: Yes.

Mr. FISHER: We will be able to examine Mr. Gordon and his officials when they come up before our committee, is that correct?

Mr. BALCER: On their role as agent according to the agreement with the government.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall clause 5 carry?

Clause agreed to.

Shall clause 6 carry?

Clause agreed to.

Shall the schedule carry?

Mr. KEAYS: Mr. Chairman, for the information of the committee, could we have Mr. Scott tell us how many large bridges are going to be put up on this route from Matane to Ste. Anne des Monts, and the cost?