

is more under observation, and I have never upon any occasion seen or heard anything which would indicate anything of the kind, nor has anything ever come under my notice otherwise, which would give colour in the smallest degree to any such statements as have been made by Driver Carter, which I consider are nothing short of slander against a respectable body of men.

I enclose two reports from Mr. Gray, Traffic Inspector, who also has frequent opportunities of observing any irregularities, and his statement is emphatic that the charges are baseless and incredible. The statement is also forwarded of Mr. J. Dickinson, Running-shed Foreman, who has no knowledge of any irregularities, as indicated by Carter.

W. H. GAW, District Traffic Manager.

Traffic Manager's Office, Christchurch, 31st August, 1899.

Traffic Manager, Christchurch Railways.

31st August, 1899.

YOUR B.G.: I have no knowledge of any collusion between drivers and guards as to entering false time, and have never knowingly entered wrong time in train-book, and have never received any note or message asking me to do so.

C. I. DENBY.

Traffic Manager, Christchurch Railways.

31st August, 1899.

Re Carter's statement: I am confident that no such notes were thrown out during my term at Winchester, or, if so, they never reached me.

L. PEPPERELL.

Traffic Manager, Christchurch.

31st August, 1899.

YOUR B.G.: Actual time of arrival and departure shown in train time-book. No such note received from guard or driver during time I have been here.

W. H. DUNNAGE.

Traffic Manager, Christchurch Railways.

31st August, 1899.

YOUR B.G.: I have no knowledge whatever of any note being thrown off asking me to enter false time in train time-book since being stationed here, nor have I ever received such a note.

GEO. ANDREWS, Stationmaster.

SIR,—

District Traffic Manager's Office, Christchurch, 31st August, 1899.

*Carter's Statement before the Committee in the House.*—I beg to say that during the time I was in charge of Orari, also Rakaia Stations, I have always entered the correct time of arrival and departure of all trains, and was never asked by guards or drivers to enter incorrect time. No notices were ever thrown off by the guard at my stations asking me to do this.

Yours, &c.,

The Traffic Manager, Christchurch.

J. MAY.

District Traffic Manager's Office, Christchurch, 31st August, 1899.

Traffic Manager, Christchurch.

*Ex-Driver Carter's Statements.*—I have never on any occasion, while Stationmaster at Orari or elsewhere, received a note from a guard requesting me to enter false time in train time-book. The times entered in train time-book have always been correct to the best of my belief, and have been the times as observed by myself on station-clock or my watch. No guard has ever suggested that I should enter the wrong time. I have never heard of any instance of collusion between guards, drivers, and Stationmasters as to wrong time being entered.

J. R. MARTIN,

Stationmaster, Springfield.

SIR,—

Railway-station, Christchurch, 31st August, 1899.

As ordered, I beg respectfully to report upon certain statements, implicating myself, made by Mr. Carter before Rakaia Accident Commission at Wellington:—

"That I have thrown off to Stationmasters, when passing, a note what time to book." Have never done so personally myself. Have compared time with Stationmaster when departing, with the object of checking time; practice of guards.

"Have asked Stationmasters to alter train starting-time, or engine-driver requested me to do so." Have no knowledge of doing such a thing, nor have drivers asked me to do so.

"That I am aware of collusion between Stationmasters, guards, and engine-drivers for the above purposes." So far as I can vouch, the practices mentioned are not adopted between Stationmasters, guards, and engine-drivers.

I have, &c.,

The Stationmaster.

WM. THOS. HOBBS, Guard.

SIR,—

Traffic Department, 31st August, 1899.

*Driver Carter's Statements.*—I have never been in the habit of throwing off the train slips of paper to Stationmasters requesting them to enter false times. I can call to mind no instance of booking false times or entering into collusion with drivers and Stationmasters, nor can I recollect any occasion being asked by them to do so for the purpose of evading the regulations.

I remain, &c.,

The Traffic Manager.

E. BRITTENDEN.