

Q. If you have it you can produce the correspondence, or bring it later?—
A. We got nowhere with it.

Q. I mean, you will bring that recommendation, if you have it?—A. It was not in written form, it was a discussion. We were handicapped to some extent in carrying on, because we could not do things without the government's support. Anything we did had to go before the Treasury Board. There is a point which I think is important, one which you will find in the recommendations with respect to the Act of 1932. It is a point which would be of interest here to-day, and that was the provision under which the Dominion government after consultation with the provincial governments was to appoint assistant commissioners to represent the several provinces. Well, the government for some reason or other got it into its head that I—they had forgotten the Act—that I was myself to appoint these assistant commissioners. I said that I would be very glad to do that, only the Act expressly stated that the Governor in Council in consultation with the provincial governments was to do it. At Mr. Bennett's request I did look into that matter. I was going through Canada that first year, and I had discussions with the provincial governments as to their recommendations. They had several very satisfactory individuals. Well then, before they got anywhere with it the political complexion of provincial governments started to change so rapidly that many of the recommendations sent in were invalid. The new government coming in would necessarily want to reject, or in certain cases make different recommendations. That was the only action which we took in the matter of those appointments; and there was nothing came of it. However, that was due to the rapid changes in the political complexion of the different governments.

By Mr. Slaght:

Q. Since you have been Chairman of the Commission have district, or provincial officials been appointed to any of the provinces?—A. No.

Q. They have never been appointed?—A. No. It was not a good system, not the way it was worded, anyway.

Q. Why?—A. It is perfectly absurd to have a commissioner for Prince Edward Island which produces nothing on the air at all, and just one commissioner from the province of Ontario.

Q. I have forgotten: Did the Act make it permissive or was it dictatorial?—A. I should say it was permissive.

Q. You think it is? I haven't looked at it.—A. It is a long time since I looked at the Act. That was the understanding; that in co-operation with the provincial governments, the federal government should appoint assistant commissioners.

Q. And that has not been done?—A. No. We were to have had them appointed. They were not to be paid, but we were to vote them an honorarium.

Q. So that British Columbia and Prince Edward Island are really run from Ottawa, rather than by an assistant provincial commissioner?—A. Yes. Well, we have our own superintendents in certain districts; we have the Maritimes, the West, and so on.

By Mr. Campbell:

Q. How many districts have you?—A. We have, let me see; there is part of Quebec, and part of Ontario; part of Western Ontario, part of the prairies and so on. It is arranged largely on the basis of telegraph lines.

By Mr. Slaght:

Q. Your report, which is in the hands of the Committee, will show each one of the regional districts, will it not?—A. Yes.

[Mr. Hector Charlesworth.]