

4. (a) Has the Dominion Parliament power to enforce reduction of principal of debt in respect of loans made
- i. by corporations incorporated under jurisdiction of the Dominion Parliament;
 - ii. by corporations incorporated under other jurisdictions;
 - iii. by individuals?

- (b) If necessary for the determination of the above questions, is any differentiation to be made between loans
- i. secured upon real property;
 - ii. secured upon personal property;
 - iii. without security?

Answer to these questions were made by the Department of Justice and the Attorneys General of Nova Scotia, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Quebec. These answers appear in the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence as follows:—

- Department of Justice, pp. 43 to 48;
- A.-G. of Nova Scotia, p. 49;
- A.-G. of British Columbia, pp. 65-66;
- A.-G. of New Brunswick, p. 187;
- A.-G. of Manitoba, pp. 188 to 190;
- A.-G. of Quebec, pp. 199-200.

The answers may be summarized as follows:—

Questions 1 (a) and (b)—all answers were in the affirmative.

Questions 2 (a) and (b)—all answers were in the affirmative. The A.-G. of British Columbia, however, said that:—

so far as corporations other than federal are concerned, the Dominion perhaps could not interfere with a contract made with a foreign company outside Canada though the party liable for the interest might reside within Canada.

Questions 3 (a) and (b)—all answers were in the affirmative.

Questions 4 (a), i, ii, iii—all answers, with the exception of that of Manitoba, were in the negative, the Department of Justice excepting, however, bank loans. The A.-G. of Manitoba said that it was difficult to give a satisfactory answer but stated that in the case of legislation arising out of what might be termed a national emergency, or legislation which could be classed as relating to banking, incorporation of banks, the issue of paper money, bills of exchange and promissory notes, bankruptcy and insolvency, the answer would be in the affirmative. He further stated that in the case of a debtor who resides in one province and the creditor outside the said province, the legislature of the province of the debtor could not validly legislate in derogation of a civil right existing and enforceable outside the province.

Questions 4 (b) i, ii, iii—all answers, except in the case of Manitoba, were in the negative. The A.-G. of Manitoba did not answer this question expressly, but it would appear by implication that his answer would have been in the negative.