

*By the Chairman:*

Q. And am I correct in my understanding, that so far as superannuation is concerned those who were blanketed in as permanent employees—if I may make use of the word “blanketed”—were given the opportunity of securing the benefits of the Superannuation Act as from the date of their original employment by the payment of arrears of premiums, or whatever you want to call them?—A. In so far as superannuation is concerned, yes.

*By Mr. Pouliot:*

Q. Would it give them seniority?—A. No, it makes no change as regards length of service, because in so far as seniority is concerned temporary service, as long as it is fixed, is treated the same as permanent.

Q. Therefore, their seniority would count from the date of their original employment?—A. Yes, sir.

*By Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. Would it not be well to ask the commission to formulate a plan which, in their opinion, would meet the requirements?

The CHAIRMAN: I think Mr. Bland has intimated he will do that and submit it to the committee at a later date.

Mr. CHEVRIER: I think what the commission ought to do is to place before us the facts just as they are. I do not think that we can formulate any policy. I know what I would recommend but I do not know that it would be adopted by the Government. However, if we were placed in possession of all the facts then we might make some recommendation. As to what the government would decide, of course, I do not know.

The WITNESS: Mr. MacInnis, I do not think I said I would bring in a recommendation, in saying what I thought should be done. However, I will try and obtain all the facts and put them before the committee, and if the committee so desires I will be very glad to discuss the matter with my colleagues in the meantime and bring our suggestions before the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Personally, Mr. Bland, I would like you to do that for this reason: It is all very well to have a mass of facts before this committee, but the committee no matter how many facts it has before it can never get the atmosphere surrounding the situation which must be sensed by the Civil Service Commission; and personally I should like to have the advantage of the commission's view as to what they would suggest as the scheme for solution even if for no other purpose than to know to what extent atmosphere affects it, and give us something concrete on which to bite.

The WITNESS: I will be glad to do that, Mr. Chairman. As I said before, until we have all the facts I would not like to express a definite opinion as to what should be laid down.

The CHAIRMAN: Does it meet with the approval of the committee that we should ask the Civil Service Commission, as well as submitting a memorandum of the facts, to let us have the benefit of their recommendations as to what they suggest as the solution of the problem?

Mr. CHEVRIER: Certainly.

Mr. MACINNIS: It meets with my approval very much indeed, Mr. Chairman, because I am a layman on this committee without the understanding perhaps of others who are very closely associated with the Civil Service Commission either as commissioner or the head of a department, and while I am not prepared to say that I will accept everything that they suggest yet I do not think I can come to a real opinion, one that is worth while, without having their point of view.