

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: But the recommendation is to travel about from place to place.

The CHAIRMAN: Why not have the authority, in case it is necessary?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: You might want to go to Montreal or Toronto.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall the motion carry?

Some Hon. SENATORS: Carried.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR: Nay.

The CHAIRMAN: We have two other organizations to hear to-day. Mr. Bengough is here to represent the Trades and Labour Congress; and Mr. Davies, to represent the National Life Assurance Company. The leader of the Government has just told me that there will be almost no business before the Senate this afternoon. So perhaps we could meet as soon as the Senate rises.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chairman, there is a meeting called for five o'clock to deal with a matter of some urgency.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: The Joint Committee on the flag question meets at four o'clock.

The CHAIRMAN: Then perhaps we could meet at two o'clock.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Carried.

The Committee adjourned until 2 p.m.

The Committee resumed at 2 o'clock.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, Mr. Davies, General Manager of the National Life Assurance Company of Canada, was supposed to appear next, but he has very kindly yielded priority to Mr. Bengough, President of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada. Mr. Bengough.

Mr. PERCY R. BENGOUGH (President of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada representing 47 Trades and Labour Councils established in Canadian cities and 2,286 locals of affiliated International, National, Provincial, and directly chartered unions throughout the Dominion, has made requests and recommendations to the Dominion Government dealing with matters of re-establishment, rehabilitation and reconversion, which, in our opinion, are necessary for the full employment of the citizens and the development of our country. We fully realize that those undertakings cannot be accomplished without the expenditure of Government funds. We believe direct taxation on incomes is the fairest method of raising the necessary moneys, for the reason it is in conformity with the ability of the citizen to pay.

The last convention of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, held in Toronto in the Fall of 1944, recommended that the present exemption should be raised to \$2,400 per year for married persons and \$1,000 per year for single persons. It is our considered opinion that incomes below these amounts for the citizens specified are fully required in order to meet their financial obligations in maintaining themselves and their families in balance with present day standards of living in Canada, and therefore should not be taxable.

Now that relief of taxation has been accorded to those participating in excess profits, it is natural to expect an increased resentment from those in the lower brackets to whom little consideration has been given.

In view of the fact that the burden of taxation has now been lessened on those with the ability to carry it, we urge your consideration on behalf of the citizens of Canada in the lower brackets now being taxed into a sub-standard of living.