

an organization. There is also a notice card sent out on the first of April every year reminding the previous year's licensees that their licence has fallen due. We do allow two or three months to elapse before we start on our prosecution campaign but with our limited staff we have to get going during the good weather months. We usually start on the rural areas and then focus attention on the cities and the urban areas later in the year. The inspectors who carry out this campaign with a view to prosecuting delinquents are permanent employees of the department whereas those who go around on the canvas' starting the first of April are purely commission agents.

Q. And now you say that postcards are sent about the end of the fiscal year to those who owned radio sets the year before advising them that the licence is due. Are they allowed to make payments direct to you on receipt of this notification?—A. Oh, yes, many people do.

Q. They do?—A. Many people prefer to send their money to either the inspectors who are our district officers or even to Ottawa here.

Q. Does that notification or notice mention that the fee can be sent direct to your district office or your general office here in Ottawa?—A. I believe we may have a copy of the card itself here, Mr. Langlois.

Q. I do not think that that is generally known.—A. I am afraid I have not got a copy of the card right here at the moment but I can produce one later for you.

(Mr. Langlois, Vice-Chairman, assumed the chair.)

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Now, have you ever considered or estimated what it would cost your department if, instead of using these issuers to whom you pay a commission, that your department use a regular staff on a salary basis? In other words, that permanent employees of your department would do this collection work for you instead of using those various issuers?

Mr. GAUTHIER (*Portneuf*): You mean instead of using the collectors?

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: I am asking if he has considered that?

The WITNESS: We have considered that from time to time, Mr. Chairman, but we feel the procedure we have been following is the best one under the circumstances. There are some 8,000 or 9,000 issuing agencies in all, including post offices.

*By Mr. Stewart:*

Q. How many individual collectors do you have, Mr. Browne, roughly?—A. I am afraid I could not give you a figure on that, sir, because there are supervisors appointed for each area and they in turn employ their own sub-agents to make the collections, and we have no idea how many they do employ.

Q. Would it be in the thousands?

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: The sub-agent gets twenty cents?

The WITNESS: The collector who goes around from house to house gets twenty cents and the supervisor gets the other five cents out of the twenty-five cents.

Mr. STEWART: The number who are going around from house to house would be in the thousands, I take it?

The WITNESS: About fifteen hundred.

Mr. MURRAY: Mr. Chairman, I notice in here—

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: I am not through yet, if you do not mind.

Mr. MURRAY: Well, go ahead.

*By the Vice-Chairman:*

Q. Mr. Browne, especially in the sparsely populated districts where banks are not too numerous and also where post offices allowed to sell those licences