

Mr. WINTERS: The morning session will be from 10.30 a.m. until 1 o'clock p.m.?

The CHAIRMAN: It was not decided but that is what it will be as far as the chair is concerned.

Mr. McCUBBIN: Do you not think that is too long?

Mr. LESAGE: Well it is a very short day.

Mr. McCUBBIN: Some of us have other things to do.

The CHAIRMAN: Let us say that many of us have things to do in addition to our work here. I do not think we should draw a hard and fast rule, but we will do our best to recognize the problems which we have ahead and which will take a great deal of our time. We could possibly have a short adjournment but I do not think that a sitting from 10.30 until 1 o'clock is too long to expect the members of the committee to sit. We sit in the House from 3 until 6.

Mr. McCUBBIN: Yes, but we can drop out of there whereas we do not like to drop out of here.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, may we proceed in any event? Is there anything else in connection with our preliminary business? I suggest then that we call the first witness, the Dominion Statistician, Mr. H. Marshall. The clerk will kindly swear Mr. Marshall as the first witness.

Mr. H. Marshall, Dominion Statistician, sworn:

By the Chairman:

Q. Mr. Marshall, you are the Dominion Statistician?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you have been the Dominion Statistician for how long?—A. Two years.

Mr. FLEMING: May I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Marshall speak up.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Marshall, this room is acoustically very difficult and every member wants to hear so would you just speak as loud as you can?

Mr. MAYBANK: Just before Mr. Marshall proceeds further I would like to get some understanding about the questioning. Mr. Marshall has a very long brief.

The CHAIRMAN: It is not a brief.

Mr. MAYBANK: Is it not to be read?

Mr. IRVINE: May I interrupt Mr. Maybank to ask what ground the witness is to cover and the object of his statement?

The CHAIRMAN: I suggest we hear the witness on that.

Mr. MAYBANK: If I may continue what I was saying, I would like to get some understanding about when it may be permissible to ask questions; whether we wait until the evidence of the witness is all in or whether there will be certain times for breaking in.

The CHAIRMAN: I think there was some discussion last night about that and while no hard and fast rule was arrived at we are depending upon the good judgment of the members of the committee. I understand Mr. Marshall is going to give us a statement. I suggest that he be allowed to proceed with the statement without interrogation until afterwards unless some member feels that there is something upon which he wishes to ask a question. In that case the member would be at perfect liberty to ask questions but I do suggest that Mr. Marshall be allowed to continue without questioning. When we do come to a question period I hope that questioning will be done in as orderly a fashion as possible and there again I think we may depend upon the good sense of each member.