

THE SENATE

SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS ON CONSUMER CREDIT

EVIDENCE

OTTAWA, Thursday, September 29, 1966.

The Special Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons on Consumer Credit met this day at 9 a.m.

Senator David A. Croll and Mr. Ron Basford, M.P., Co-Chairmen.

Co-Chairman Senator CROLL: I see a quorum, and I call the meeting to order. Dr. Warren James, our special assistant, has a statement to make in connection with the meetings, which will be of interest to you.

Dr. Warren James, Consultant, Special Joint Committee on Consumer Credit: Gentlemen, the present schedule of meetings can be summarized as follows:

On the morning of October 4th, next Tuesday, the Department of Agriculture will make a general statement on the agricultural situation, and this will be supplemented by a particular review of the situation in poultry products. We expect that Mr. Davey, the Director of the Poultry Division, will be the subject matter specialist.

Then on Thursday morning Mr. Ralph Bennett, of the Livestock Division will be dealing with the situation in the various livestock markets.

On Thursday afternoon Mr. H. K. Leckie, General Manager of the Meat Packers' Council of Canada, will come to outline what the trends have been in the meat packing industry.

Then on Tuesday morning, October 11th, the Department of Agriculture will deal with the dairy products situation.

In the afternoon of Tuesday, October 11th Mr. Rasminsky, the Governor of the Bank of Canada, will deal with the general question of monetary policy in Canada.

On Thursday, October 13th, in the morning, again we will hear from the Department of Agriculture, on the fruit and vegetable situation.

In the afternoon of October 13th Mr. Alan Holmes and his staff will give an exposition of the consumer price index, its composition and behaviour. Mr. Alan Holmes is the Director of the Prices Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Then in the following week, beginning on Monday, October 17th, we have invited representatives of the major retail chain stores to appear, but the precise timing is not yet fixed.

Then in the following week, beginning on Monday, October 24th, we expect to have a representative group of wholesale grocers appear to give their views on what the present situation is.

That takes the schedule up to October 27th, and there are some other hearings planned, but the precise dates are not yet established.

Co-Chairman Senator CROLL: Gentlemen, we are privileged this morning to have as our witness Professor Edward Neufeld who was born and grew up in Saskatchewan. He is a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, with honours, in Economics.