

APPENDIX No. 3

By the Chairman :

Q. You think that from your knowledge of these societies in England and Italy that the same amount of good would be done in Canada. Do you know of any similar society which has been in existence other than your own in Canada or in the province of Quebec, and what has been the result?—A. I may state that on the same lines, an institution was started at St. Malo, Quebec, and that it has been working for some two years; another was started about a year after our own at St. Joseph de Lévis, and both are doing very well indeed.

Q. As you have been giving statements of your own conclusion, you might perhaps prepare for the committee a statement of business of these other societies, because we cannot draw conclusions from your conclusion, but when we know what they have done in two years, it may perhaps help?—A. I will write immediately.

Q. In so far as you have been giving evidence as an expert, I would suggest that you might boil down the facts you know concerning the establishment of similar institutions in Germany, France, in India and Italy. Just boil down the facts and it can form part of your evidence, because we must consider this before reaching a report.

By Mr. Smith (Nanaimo):

Q. That is very important?—A. I think I can show the necessity of such societies by the books I have here and the experience I have gained. I have been boiling down my experience and I shall be quite ready to give to it to the Committee—showing the need for these institutions and the work they have done in these countries.

Mr. BOURASSA.—It will be a history, I suppose, of the system and its principles?

The CHAIRMAN.—Don't make it too long.

Mr. BOURASSA.—But sufficiently complete as to give a fair and good idea of the whole question.

Mr. MONK.—I think we can be very well satisfied with the work we have done, and as we shall have to have several sittings we might perhaps adjourn until Tuesday if that day is convenient.

The CHAIRMAN.—I don't think we can fix so early a day. We might say next Friday. I will try and call a meeting before Friday, but because of the Labour Bill I shall be very busy at the beginning of the week. If you will agree to the adjournment being *sine die*, I will try and arrange a meeting.

Mr. BOURASSA.—That may give Mr. Desjardins time to get all the information we will want.

Mr. SMITH (Nanaimo).—It is an important matter, and now that only Monday is left for private members, it should be proceeded with as quickly as possible.

Mr. MONK.—I think, Mr. Smith, that if we come to the conclusion that it is a good measure that the Government ought to take it up.

The CHAIRMAN.—I am sorry that Mr. Aylesworth was not here to-day as you know there is a constitutional question to be settled. The Minister of Justice has practically decided that the objection, if objection there is, to a general feature of the bill, may be overcome. I do not see any objection, in fact, there is a desire on the part of the Department of Labour to have this legislation placed on the statute-book, but whether it is done in this session or in another session, we must have the fullest inquiry and evidence for the benefit of the public.

Mr. BOURASSA.—At the same time if we come to the conclusion that this is a question on which it would be an advantage to have legislation, I think that the fact that the bill is not creating anything but that it is permissive legislation should be sufficient reason for its being proceeded with.

The CHAIRMAN.—At present I see two great features in the bill. It has first as its aim, the destroying of usury, and second, it encourages thrift and saving on the