

ever given to the many proposals for changes which would have made it possible for agriculture to obtain legitimate credit requirements at a reasonable rate of interest and suitable terms of repayment.

*By Mr. Coldwell:*

Q. May I ask a question? Do I see that Mr. Bickerton has copies of that brief?—A. Yes.

Q. I wonder if we might have them distributed.

Hon. Mr. HANSON: It is all in number 11, page 338.

The CHAIRMAN: Are you reading this brief? I understood you were going to make comments on it.

The WITNESS: I want to go over it.

The CHAIRMAN: We do not want it reprinted again.

Mr. McGEER: Let the delegation proceed.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. McGeer, please do not interrupt. I think we have read it but I am speaking now about reprinting it. I doubt if we should go to the expense of reprinting it again.

Mr. COLDWELL: Is that the same brief?

The CHAIRMAN: This is the same brief we have already printed. I understood you were going to comment on it because we have printed it, we have studied it, and it seems to me unnecessary to take up the time of the committee in re-reading the brief, but if you have something to add we will be glad to hear it.

Mr. COLDWELL: Could the witness not proceed in his own way? He probably wants to read the brief and make some comments on it. I think he should read the brief and comment on it as he goes along.

The CHAIRMAN: You would not ask it should be reprinted?

Mr. COLDWELL: Just a moment; the comments will not be intelligible unless the brief appears with the comments.

The CHAIRMAN: If it is Mr. Bickerton's desire to comment that is all right.

Mr. McGEER: He has been commenting.

The CHAIRMAN: Please, Mr. McGeer; if it is your desire, Mr. Bickerton, to comment on it that is one thing, and I think that is your privilege, but simply to re-read it and have it reprinted I think is a waste of time.

Mr. McGEER: We do not think it is a waste of time.

Mr. TUCKER: Mr. Chairman, I suggest there is no necessity of having it reprinted, but I do suggest that what evidence this witness gives, whether it is reading from his brief or comments he makes, should be taken down. I suggest that after all the time we have spent studying this and are going to spend surely this witness should be able to give his evidence in his own way this morning without any interference on the part of anyone whatsoever. I suggest that should be the attitude towards this farmers' organization.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tucker, I quite agree with your comment.

Mr. McGEER: Mr. Chairman, I should like to disassociate myself as a member of the committee from the remarks of the chairman that any manner in which the farmers might present their evidence to this committee could be a waste of time.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. McGeer, I am simply protesting against reprinting something that is already on our records. I agree with Mr. Tucker's statement. Proceed, Mr. Bickerton.