

The WITNESS: I see. May I say they were rather extraordinary powers; and when I use the term extraordinary I am using that in the normal sense of powers out of the ordinary; with the result that it is no longer necessary to continue them. In most cases either it had not been found necessary to invoke them, or they had not been used, even in time of wars. One was regulation 8-2 (b), in the blue book of January 1943.

It was felt that it was unlikely that any case would arise in the future where this would have to be done. I do not think that was ever done. As a matter of fact, I am sure that it was never even moved. The changes were all of that nature, relief rather than greater restriction. I am not at all sure, subject to correction by my legal adviser (sitting here on my left), Mr. Black, that certain regulations now might not be modified as the result of discretion.

And there is one other point, if I may again refer to what Mr. Burton said; it is only within the last year or a little longer that we have any chance at all in parts of Germany which are under control of the British or Americans to make any check-up with the records of German enterprises in those zones. May I refer to one in particular, the notorious I. G. Farbenindustrie, of Frankfurt. We have had a large number of valuable reports and they are still coming in; and these reports indicate that if misrepresentations had been made by anyone it might be necessary to invoke some of these clauses in respect to it. That is about the only reason of which I can think for retaining them, but I do think it is quite important that they should be retained pending final determination of the treaty of peace. For all we know Canada and the other allied powers may determine in the treaty of peace to return all this property to Germany. That is not the concern of the custodian. He has nothing to do with that; but it is his duty to accumulate all the enemy property in Canada so that those who negotiate the treaty may know what it appears to be on hand.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Well, gentlemen, are you prepared to proceed with the schedule?

Mr. STEWART: I should like to make a suggestion, if I may, Mr. Chairman. There is a great deal of interest in the reports of the custodian. I think it would serve the interests not only of members of the committee but also of members of the house if some of these auditors' reports were printed as an appendix to our proceedings. We realize, of course, that some of these reports cannot be made available; but I find them of special interest to myself; and, speaking for myself, I think one report among five of us is quite inadequate. I do think, Mr. Chairman, it would serve a useful purpose if we could be supplied with copies of them in the manner in which I have indicated.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Yes. That point was raised yesterday and it was left more or less with the chairman of the committee to look into the matter of printing, the volume of material and so on, and if it was found that it was not too bulky that it be considered as an appendix to the Minutes of Proceedings when they are tabled. I am going to ask Dr. Coleman to table those auditors' reports. Is that agreeable.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Mr. SMITH: May I ask Dr. Coleman a question; has he considered the desirability of continuing some of these orders in force; has he given thought to the other side of the picture. I was getting just a little concerned that something might be left out which should remain.

The WITNESS: You should not be, sir. In view of the fact that many of these powers were probably exercised in time of war, or might have been exercised but never were exercised, there seems to be little use in continuing them.