

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
COMMITTEE ROOM 268,
MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1923.

The Special Committee appointed to inquire into Agricultural conditions throughout Canada met at 10 a.m., Mr. McMaster, the Chairman, presiding.

The CHAIRMAN: I have before me, gentlemen, a letter from the Edmonton Board of Trade, advising us that a delegation representing them will be in Ottawa on the 7th and 8th of May, to interview the Government, and that while here, they would like to have a representative heard before us. I think we had better give instructions to the Secretary to communicate with the Secretary of this Board of Trade, who is Mr. John Blue, and tell him that we will be very glad to hear them.

Mr. ELLIOTT: I have had a communication from one of the shoemakers who fixes prices to the retailers. He has a factory in my constituency, and he is very anxious to place before this Committee the reason why he fixes prices to the retailer. He has figures as to the cost of production, which I think would be interesting, and I would suggest that he be notified to appear. He is one of the Hurlbut Shoe Company.

The CHAIRMAN: We would be very glad to have him come.

Mr. CALDWELL: Mr. A. Neil Maclean of St. John, New Brunswick, is to appear before the Committee on Banking and Commerce, and I would like to have him appear before this Committee on the question of rural credits. He is a man of wide banking experience and could give us some valuable information on that subject.

The CHAIRMAN: We will be glad to have him.

Mr. ELLIOTT: Is it the intention of the Committee to have Mr. Farrow appear before us on the question of rural credits? He is Chairman of the Ontario Agricultural Development Board.

The CHAIRMAN: I will instruct the Secretary to call him.

Mr. MCKAY: I would like to have a representative of the Massey-Harris Company appear before this Committee.

Mr. SALES: I have a letter from the Board of Grain Commissioners of Canada asking that a few corrections be made in the report they sent in. I would move it be printed if possible, on the last sheet of one of these copies. Mr. McKay will second it. There are a few corrections in the grain report. We have also received prices of pork and beef. He may have those included in the report.

The CHAIRMAN: In the printed proceedings.

Mr. SALES: Yes. Those are wholesale prices, because it states their travellers are authorized to have the price if necessary to give accommodation.

The CHAIRMAN: Here is a letter from the shoe manufacturers saying they will be ready at 10.30 to-morrow.

The Clerk of the Committee was ordered to have the above mentioned charts and information printed as an appendix to the report.