

Mr. HAHN: That is where the responsibility on the employer comes in as far as I am concerned. It appears to me that if the employer delays in respect to giving that book to the employee, it is not the employee's fault, if he has asked for that book. Does the Unemployment Insurance Commission at that point—when an employee registers his claim, even though he has not got his book and does not know the exact number of it, and so on—does the Unemployment Insurance Commission at that time contact the employer?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Yes. We go even further than that. When we have claimants coming in who do not even know their number, as you say. On our failing to get in touch with the employer, when he is at a distant point, we will check through the master index at Ottawa to find out his number. However, at this time of year, when an employee has almost 12 months contributions—which may change his rate completely—the lack of his book may be the difference between his qualifying and not qualifying. That is why the book is essential. At any time that an employee reports to us that an employer is holding his book, for any reason, and the employer can be contacted by telephone, we telephone him immediately.

Mr. HAHN: Is an employee penalized as a result of an employer holding a book so that it comes in a week or two late?

Mr. MCGREGOR: It would be a matter of delay perhaps, in getting his benefit through.

Mr. HAHN: He will get the benefit, though, from the time he reported?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Yes, so long as it is not neglect on his part. If it is not his fault we bend backwards to help him.

Mr. GAUTHIER (*Nickel Belt*): You said a moment ago that you had regional men going around the country. If they find out from the superintendents of those offices that there are certain employers who are not giving the cooperation they should to the employees, is it not a policy of the department that these men visit these employers and impress upon them the importance of having these books handed over to the employees when they are laid off?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Yes. The auditor makes a point of impressing this upon an employer on every occasion that he visits him. If at any time he discovers that there are current books there that should have been handed to employees when they left, he goes right after the employer and tells him that he should have given the books to the employees immediately on their leaving.

Mr. STUDER: Mr. Chairman, perhaps we should have some of these little booklets so that we could read them. It would save a little time.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, it is now 12.30. I think it would be in order to adjourn to the call of the chair. Just before we do that, it was agreed at the last meeting, I believe, to have this statement, with regard to holidays with pay, included as an appendix. Would it be agreeable to have this statement added as an appendix today. I think the statement was requested by Mr. Knowles at the last meeting. I just wanted to get authority to have it printed and included in the proceedings.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN: Now it is in order to move that we adjourn.

Mr. MURCHISON: Just before we adjourn —

Mr. BARNETT: In respect to the first table that was read to us by Mr. McGregor, with regard to the changes in section 45(2), I take it that these figures on total claims computed, and benefit periods not established, are in relation to second or subsequent claims? In other words, the claims that come specifically under that section?