

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Marshall, I think you are going a little too fast.

The WITNESS: I was just running over this now.

The CHAIRMAN: I know.

The WITNESS: On page seven you will find the commencement of the historical tables for the index number of wholesale prices.

The CHAIRMAN: That is table III?

The WITNESS: Table III on page seven.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

The WITNESS: And then on page eleven you will find a similar table relating to cost of living. It also goes back to 1913.

On page fourteen you will find some comparative figures of wholesale price indexes, and the retail price indexes in other countries. This of course is not a complete list, but it does give you some examples.

The CHAIRMAN: It is not a complete list of all countries?

The WITNESS: No. We have in the statistical bulletin issued by the statistical office of the League of Nations, a series of tables covering about fifty-six countries; that is with respect to the cost-of-living index; and a smaller number of wholesale indices. Do you wish to have that?

The CHAIRMAN: I think we ought to have that. I have seen it. It is a United Nations document. Perhaps you could get copies for the use of the committee.

*By Mr. Cleaver:*

Q. The figures given for the years 1935-39 indicate the average for those years?—A. That is correct. They represent the price average; that is, the average for those years is taken as one hundred.

Q. The average?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. Fleming:*

Q. They have been adjusted to meet the Canadian base?—A. The statistical review, you mean?

Q. In all these figures of other countries you have made an adjustment to make them fit the Canadian base period.

*By Mr. Lesage:*

Q. Is the method of calculating the base in other countries the same as in Canada or are there great differences or slight differences?—A. In the statistical bulletin issued by the statistical office of the United Nations they put all index numbers on a 1937 base. The way the index numbers are computed makes that possible. You can take the index number say of the 1935-1939 base and if you want to transfer it to the 1940 base you can make the 1940 index equal to 100 and then divide that into all the others to make the series backward and forward. Some countries do not have the same base as other countries. Therefore the statistical office recomputed them, and put them all on a 1937 base.

*By Mr. Johnston:*

Q. Do all other countries use the same basic products as you use, the 150 items?—A. No. That would depend on the nature of the economy of the country. For example, in some countries which are warmer they would not need so much woollen clothing. They would have to base their commodities and their weights on a budget survey of the actual consumption in the country to which the index refers.