

*By Mr. Fraser (Northumberland):*

Q. That has been modified now, has it not?—A. To some extent.

Q. You say now you are getting six months.

*By Hon. Mr. Hanson:*

Q. You have no complaints on that score now?—A. No. I say that has been moved away a great deal.

*By Mr. Cleaver:*

Q. Then what are your complaints in regard to current practice at the present time?—A. Oh well, I will get around to that in a few minutes, if you do not mind.

*By Mr. Blackmore:*

Q. Before you leave that point, may I ask you, Mr. Bickerton, this question? Was the change in policy or practice brought in when the war broke out?—A. Well—

Q. I am just wondering if the banks had begun to become reasonable before the war broke out in the matter of the length of term or is this a war policy which might be abolished as soon as the war is over?—A. I would say not immediately.

*By Hon. Mr. Hanson:*

Q. What is that?—A. I would say not immediately.

Mr. FRASER (*Northumberland*): We had the same thing in eastern Canada. It did not apply only to western Canada. It applied to eastern Canada as well.

The WITNESS: Yes.

Mr. KINLEY: May I ask a question, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

*By Mr. Kinley:*

Q. This case of injustice that you quote in 1908 is thirty-six years ago. That is ancient history. Have you no case of more recent injustice in the banking system in western Canada?

Hon. Mr. HANSON: He says there is the 7 per cent.

Mr. KINLEY: Well, the 7 per cent of course.

The WITNESS: That 7 per cent has continued—that 8 per cent has continued until you come to the time when you began to insist from Ottawa here that the banks had to charge only the legal rate of interest.

*By Mr. Kinley:*

Q. Tell me this. When you go to the bank for money—and, say, you want \$100—does the banker discount the note and give you the amount less the discount or does he give you the \$100 and collect the interest when the note is due?

Hon. Mr. HANSON: No. He discounts the note.

Mr. FRASER (*Northumberland*): He discounts the note.

The WITNESS: They are beginning to get away from some of those practices now. Mr. Blackmore brings up a point here. I should like to refer to it.

*By Hon. Mr. Hanson:*

Q. Would you answer Mr. Kinley's question?—A. I think Mr. Blackmore spoke first.