

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.