

EVIDENCE

March 11, 1955.

3.00 p.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, if you will take your seats, we have a quorum and shall proceed.

The first item will be a word of welcome from the Minister of Veterans Affairs to the delegation from the Canadian Legion appearing before us this afternoon. If the minister will commence he can introduce the delegation and welcome them. Also we can welcome him to the committee this afternoon.

Hon. HUGUES LAPOINTE (*Minister of Veterans Affairs*): Well, Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank you for giving me this opportunity as a non-member of this committee to welcome, on behalf of the government of Canada—and I am sure on behalf of the members of this committee—the delegation from the Canadian Legion.

We are all very pleased, I am sure, at seeing our good friend, the Very Reverend Dean Anderson, the president of the Dominion Command, and his executive.

For some years past it has been the established practice—and a very good one indeed—that the Dominion Command of the Canadian Legion, representing the largest ex-service men's organization in this country, should be afforded an opportunity to express their views on the legislation pertaining to veterans which is introduced in this House. For this reason it has been the desire of the Committee on Veterans Affairs to hear them at the earliest opportunity.

Such presentations on their part have always proved to be very useful indeed, and from the exchange of ideas which result from such presentations, a lot of good has come to all the veterans in this country.

For this reason I am particularly pleased to welcome the delegation today on behalf of the members of this committee. That is all, sir. The president, the Very Reverend Dean John O. Anderson, M.C., is ready to present his brief, and I am sure that the members would like to hear from him now.

The CHAIRMAN: This, gentlemen, is the President of the Canadian Legion, the Very Reverend Dean John O. Anderson, M.C. On your behalf I extend to him a most cordial welcome here today.

I think probably it would be better for him to introduce those who are associated with him in his delegation today. Will you please introduce them now, Dean Anderson, and if you want them to sit alongside of you to assist you, that will be fine.

The Very Reverend Dean John O. Anderson, M.C., President of the Canadian Legion, called.

The WITNESS: Thank you very much, Mr. Tucker.

On my left is Mr. T. D. Anderson, Dominion Secretary of the Canadian Legion. Occasionally he is ordained and occasionally he is not ordained, depending upon who answers the telephone.

The Director of Service Bureau, Mr. D. M. Thompson, and Director of Administration, Mr. Thomas A. Kines, are on his right.