

The CHAIRMAN: Before you do that, may I suggest that instead of dealing with your own case you might give us that of the heads of the various departments; for instance, the names you have indicated on page 1 of your brief? We know their duties pretty well.

Mr. McILRAITH: I tabled something in the House yesterday on that, giving that information.

Mr. BERRY: Yes, that was a list showing the salaries of everyone receiving over \$4,000 employed by the corporation.

Mr. STEWART: If this gentleman doesn't mind, you are a pretty important man in the set up, Mr. Berry.

Mr. BERRY: If it is the wish of the committee: in my own case, for instance, I am president of War Assets Corporation. The corporation will be handling sales of a very complex nature. Our objective at the moment is \$10,000,000 per month. As you see, we are now up to a rate of, roughly, \$6,000,000 per month. In business—I will speak of the automobile industry because I know that better—the automobile industry is a business handling one type of product and it has all its policies relative to that product and they are all set, if the income in an automobile industry was turning over \$6,000,000 per month the president of that company would not be drawing down \$15,000 a year—and the same thing would apply following down from the president through the salary levels of executive positions—

Mr. HOMUTH: Did you say the president would be getting \$15,000?

The WITNESS: He would not be getting \$15,000; he would be getting sometimes considerably more.

Mr. HOMUTH: Yes.

The WITNESS: I must add to that, gentlemen; I am making no complaint about my own salary. I accepted my salary as was. I left it to be fixed as desired. On this job I am trying to do something.

By Mr. Stewart:

Q. Have you the power of setting salaries, including your own? —A. I have the power of setting salaries, subject to the approval of the minister; in any salaries over \$5,000.

Q. Are you going to get competent men at \$5,000, \$6,000 and \$7,000 for this tremendous job?—A. Personally, I would say, no.

Q. Do you not think it is very poor economy on our part for us to adopt a policy of that kind?—A. No. I think there is a further answer to this. The money side of it is one question. As to what salary range we should establish for this staff, I don't know, sir. That is one of the things on which we are now working.

Q. It is a temporary job?—A. It is a temporary job. The other two factors that work against getting personnel here is the fact it is a temporary job, and the better job we all do the sooner we liquidate ourselves. I do not worry about that, personally; but other people will worry about it.

Q. Would it be possible to get your men from industry as was done during the war?—A. I would say that is most difficult.

Mr. HOMUTH: Particularly now, in the reconversion period.

The WITNESS: You can say quite specifically that Canada is short of key men, and that all of this type of man are actively engaged by their own companies at the moment, with the reconstruction of their own companies, turning them back from war to peace.