

Q. Well then, the disbursement being \$14.40 when a discharge comes to you as the result of a compromise, and \$18.80 when it comes about as a result of a dividend, the amount which goes to the Province in stamps is about what?—A. \$7.80.

Q. And the balance \$6.60, or \$11, goes to you in cash?—A. Yes, to help me to pay the expenses of having stenographers and buying machines to do the work, and everything like that. The Government does not give me anything of the kind, I have to pay for them.

Q. In fact, most of this work is done by yourself with the aid of a stenographer?—A. I do not take any stenographer only when I have an inquiry to make as we are forced to hear the debtor—instead of employing a stenographer, I just do it myself, I do it in my own writing—long hand writing. I avoid the cost of a stenographer.

Q. On a composition what charges are exacted by your office?—A. On a composition, \$22.

Q. Or \$25?—A. No, never \$25, on a composition, \$22.

Q. Never \$25?—A. No, not on a composition. On the discharge of the debtor, I charge \$25.

Q. Oh, I see. Well, of that \$22 what proportion, is represented by stamps?—A. \$9.

Q. And that goes to the Province?—A. That goes to the Province.

Q. And the remaining \$13 goes to you in cash?—A. Goes to me in order to help me pay the expenses.

Q. On a discharge the fee, or at least the amount exacted is \$25?—A. Yes.

Q. That is on the discharge of the debtor?—A. Debtor. In Quebec we don't exact the presence of a lawyer to present these petitions; and the same thing on the compromise—\$22. This is about all that it costs; there are no lawyers' costs, nor for the discharge.

Q. Well, they are frequently presented by lawyers?—A. Very seldom.

Q. When they do present them they are entitled to the tariff?—A. To a fee.

Q. To a fee?—A. Yes.

Q. So to that extent the fees are duplicated?—A. What do you mean?

Q. Well, the disbursements exacted by your office on the discharge of a debtor is \$25, I have understood you to say. That is correct isn't it?—A. Yes.

Q. And \$9 is represented by stamps?—A. Yes.

Q. Would \$14 go to you in cash?—A. Yes.

Q. And this \$14 you have explained you claim under that portion of the Act, or the tariff of the Act, which regulates the fees of lawyers?—A. Well, we allow the trustee to present that petition for compromise, and the debtor to present himself on petition for discharge, and there are no lawyers—there are not ten cases out of a hundred where a lawyer acts in these matters.

Mr. JACOBS: That is where it is not contested.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Then when they are—?—A. Sometimes they are, if they are contested, there are lawyers who would appear before the judge.

Q. Yes, but when they are contested, there is no reduction in fee on the discharge?—A. No, there is no reduction, because of that compromise and judgment which shall be made by and on the stenographer's notes taken at the outset of the case.

Q. Yes, so that when they are contested, or when they are not contested, and the petition is presented by a lawyer both he and you get, or receive fees?—A. Well, I receive the fee which I told you a moment ago.

Q. So he receives the fees which he should receive as tax under the tariff?—A. When we come to tax we consider that in the taxation.