

THE SENATE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND USE IN CANADA

EVIDENCE

OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, July 30, 1958.

The Special Committee on land use in Canada met this day at 10.30 a.m. Senator ARTHUR M. PEARSON in the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Honourable senators, I would like to introduce the witnesses who will give evidence here this morning. They are from the Department of Agriculture.

To my right is Dr. P. O. Ripley, who is Chief, Field Husbandry Division, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, at Ottawa, Dr. Ripley was born on a farm in Port Perry, Ontario. He has the degree of B.S.A. Toronto, M. Sc., Ph. D. Michigan. He was with the Experimental Farms Service, Ottawa from 1922 to 1925 and from 1931 to 1958. He was at Lennoxville Quebec, from 1926 to 1930.

To his right is Dr. K. W. Hill, Field Husbandry Sectional Head, Division of Field Husbandry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, Experimental Farms Service, at Ottawa. Dr. Hill was born on a farm at Taber, Alberta. He has a degree of B.Sc. from Utah, M.Sc. from Alberta, Ph.D. Nebraska. He has worked for the following Commercial Companies: Buckerfields Ltd., Canadian Sugar Co., Fraser Valley Fibre Flax Co-operative 1941 to 1944, Experimental Farm, Lethbridge, Alberta, 1944 to 1951 and he has been with the Central Experimental Farm from 1951 to 1958.

To his right, is Dr. K. F. Nielsen, Sectional Head of the Soil Fertility and Soil Management Division of Field Husbandry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, Ottawa. Dr. Nielsen was born on a farm at Cardston, Alberta. He has the degree of B.Sc. from Brigham Young, Utah, Ph.D. Ohio State. He was engaged in fertility work at the University of Maine, Orono, from 1952 to 1955 and has been with the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa here from 1955 to 1958.

Dr. P. O. Ripley, Chief, Field Husbandry Division, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, Ottawa: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I wish to say at the outset that we are greatly honoured and privileged to appear before your committee. We have been in the division from which we all come, working at this business of land use and soil management, soil conservation, or whatever you want to call it, since the inception of the division in 1920. I have been there since 1922.

In those 35 years we have been wrestling with this problem of soil conservation and land use. In 1947-50 we had a national committee on soil conservation set up under the National Advisory Committee of Agricultural Services, with which some of you, I am sure, are familiar. It was set up under the Department of Agriculture, with the Deputy Minister as Chairman, the deputy ministers of agriculture from each province, the deans of agriculture from the universities, and other prominent agricultural people forming the parent body. Under that parent body there were various national committees set up to study certain problems.