

*By Mr. McGibbon:*

Q. May I ask a question? Perhaps I can make it general, so as not to apply to your own business. What does the average person earn per week or per day in the shoe business? I am not asking any particulars about your own business.—A. I do not think the average man will earn more than \$20 or \$22 per week.

*By Mr. Woodsworth:*

Q. You have to pay so much by way of fixed charges in your business, for rent, interest on your money, and certain overhead, and for these royalties of which you spoke—all that sort of thing?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you think that \$20 a week is a sufficient wage to maintain the family of a man in decency? Should it not be a charge to take priority over other fixed charges?—A. If it were general, I would not object to it. I would add 1 or 2 per cent more to take care of it, but I would not do it alone, and be driven out of business through sentiment.

*By Mr. McGibbon:*

Q. You could not do it alone?—A. No.

*By Mr. Jenkins:*

Q. You cannot operate unless you pay your fixed charges first?—A. No.

Q. If you do not pay your rent and pay for your machinery, you cannot do business?—A. No.

*By Mr. Letellier:*

Q. Do you export very much of your product, or are you aware of any boot and shoe manufacturer in your province or in Canada who does export very much to the United States or elsewhere?—A. As I told you before, there are a few manufacturers who are exporting sporting boots—special lines. As regards leather: it seems that our leathers are very popular in the States. We export sole leather, patent leather and calf skins to the United States, but if the tariff goes on in the United States, as has been suggested, it will result in the shutting down of a lot of tanneries in Canada.

*By Mr. St-Père:*

Q. You say most of your working men receive \$20 a week?—A. Yes.

Q. Because they are only working part time?—A. Yes.

Q. If they were putting in more time their earnings would be larger?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. Woodsworth:*

Q. Have the employers in any way taken up this matter through the manufacturing associations or otherwise? Has the question of family allowances or the welfare of the employees, and how it may be solved by concerted action come up?

The CHAIRMAN: I think we had two witnesses last year from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association—they sent their secretary and president here—and the information they gave us was that they had not dealt with it in a national way. I was rather surprised at that.

*By Mr. Woodsworth:*

Q. You have no information as to whether the manufacturers, as such, or the employers had ever considered a way out?—A. No. I think this family allowance is something new and has never been brought before the associations. The questions they discussed were mostly in regard to the tariff.

[Mr. Joseph Daoust.]