

Q. There is a printed form attached to the report, but the Minister may exercise his discretion in any way he pleases?—A. Yes, but the law provides that the Deputy Minister "shall" report.

Q. And the Minister decides?—A. Yes.

Q. The largest port you have in Canada is the port of Montreal?—A. Yes.

Q. The port of Montreal covers a very considerable territory? No doubt you know that? It is important because of the goods coming from the sea?—A. Yes.

Q. When did prohibition come into force in the United States?—A. I cannot say.

Q. But since the passing of the Volstead Act there has been a very considerable increase in smuggling?

Mr. BELL: That was about the end of 1917 or early in 1918.

*By Hon. Mr. Bennett:*

Q. There has been a considerable increase of smuggling? There is no question about that, is there?—A. Of course, I am not prepared to say from our records whether we have more cases of smuggling. I suppose we have. It is pretty generally supposed we have more smuggling.

Q. You have reports in your records that indicate that on the boundary of Quebec, and the boundary of the province of Ontario, in particular, there has been a very considerable business of moving liquor into the United States?—A. Yes.

Q. That is clear?—A. Yes.

Q. And it is also clear that the reports indicate that very considerable quantities of manufactured goods have been coming into Canada at the same places—in Ontario and Quebec in particular?—A. You had better ask Mr. Wilson about that.

Q. You have reports indicating that is so?—A. I have heard it.

Q. Well, put it that way: you have heard it?—A. Yes.

Q. It is a very general subject matter of discussion in your Department?—A. We have not the time—we have other things to discuss besides that.

Q. It has been brought to the attention of the Department by various people that there is a very considerable extension of smuggling from the United States of manufactured goods into Canada during recent years?—A. Yes.

Q. That is clear?—A. That is clear.

Q. What extra precautions have been taken by your Department during the last two years or three to meet that situation? You can deal with the whole of Canada.—A. Increased the Preventive Service staff.

Q. To what extent?—A. I cannot say at the present time.

Q. Would Mr. Wilson be able to speak with certainty as to that?—A. He would.

Q. I suppose you can file with us a record of the goods that have been forfeited in Canada during the past two years?—A. It would be a pretty big record.

Q. Of goods seized and forfeited for infraction of the Customs Law?—A. Particulars of them?

Q. No— —A. Just the number of cases?

Q. Yes, with the names?—A. The names of the parties from whom seized?

Q. Yes; "Smith; Calgary; seized; sold or forfeited" or whatever disposition has been made of them?—A. I can prepare that, but it will take some time to do it.

Q. Supposing we start, in order to get the matter in more simple form, with the year 1925, and the first month of this year. That would not be very

[Mr. R. R. Farrow.]