

is because they made application to be included. I do not see why any other class of men, if they made application and had weight enough, could not be included. We have no objection whatever to their being included.

*By Mr. Kennedy:*

Q. Was it during the last election that you had this trouble you speak of?—A. I do not remember whether it was the last election or not. I know I voted at the advance poll at both the Dominion and Provincial Elections.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Might I ask this question of both you gentlemen? I read in the newspapers that organized labour as such has on a number of occasions requested the government to bring into effect proportional representation. Have you anything to say on that on behalf of organized labour?

Mr. PELLETIER: We do not speak for organized labour. We try to mind our own business, and sometimes we fail to do that as effectively as we would like. We simply represent the train service employees for this Dominion.

Q. And this is all they ask?—A. I am Chairman of the Committee for the four brotherhoods, and that is all we have to ask. At times we have supported something that was important for labour, but they have most voluminous things, things that would take three or four hours to present. We generally are well treated, and if we are not we never grumble. We thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen.

Witness retired.

Dr. T. E. KAISER, M.P., called.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Dr. Kaiser, in your suggestion made to the Solicitor General you stated that you thought that some system of compulsory voting should be studied. Would you tell us just what you had in your mind?—A. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee: In the first place I am here at the request of the Chairman. I am not here to thrust myself on this committee. Just by way of preliminary, I may say that it is forty years since I first had anything to do with elections, and during that time I have managed elections for myself and for other men. I figure that I have had to do with the management of about twenty-five or twenty-six elections in that time. I have studied the matter very carefully, and I have asked people in other countries to write and tell me what they have done in regard to elections, and of the countries that I have been in communication with during the last few years, Australia is the country that appeals to me as having the best system. What they are doing there appeals to me very strongly.

All that I am going to do this morning, and all that I think is necessary, is to tell you that in Australia they have brought in an Act known as The Commonwealth Electoral Act, based on what they call compulsory voting. I do not like the word "compulsory." I do not think it would go well in Canada, and all that I would suggest is that we add to the Election Act what might be called a "non-voters penalty." In Australia this is their law and their method. It is not very long:

128A—(1) It shall be the duty of every elector to record his vote at each election.

(2) It shall be the duty of each Divisional Returning Officer at the close of each election to prepare a list (in duplicate) of the names and

[Mr. T. E. Kaiser, M.P.]