

responsible for it; how often does that occur? How many grievances have happened during the last year, to your own knowledge?—A. I could not tell you that, for the simple reason that having no Board of Appeal, there has been no appeal. I could not tell you how many would have appealed if there had been a Board of Appeal, because I do not know.

Q. Can you tell me how many disgruntled letter-carriers there are in Vancouver?—A. Well, during the last three years, we have had one promotion, one vacancy for a senior letter-carrier's position, with a decision within the last three weeks. We are satisfied that the right man got the job.

Q. So there is no dissatisfaction?—A. There is no dissatisfaction at all.

Q. The rest are satisfied?—A. Well, some men are never satisfied, even when they are treated rightly.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. You can't tell how many appeals you will have until you get the Appeal Board started?—A. Of course not.

*By Mr. Woodsworth:*

Q. I want to be clear about the action of the local board of appeal being final. As I understand it, you think, with regard to small cases such as dismissals or that kind of thing that they should be determined locally, that it ought not to be necessary to appeal to some central board at all, and that the work of the National Council would be of a different character altogether?—A. Surely.

Q. It would not have any jurisdiction over local matters?—A. No.

Q. Such as dismissals?—A. That is right, the idea being that the only people who understand the conditions are the people who are putting up with those conditions. It would be impossible for the best men in Ottawa to sit on a case in Halifax or any other part of Nova Scotia. The people of Halifax know the administration of the eastern part, and would be in a better position to give an unbiased judgment there than people living afar off.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. But the Civil Service Commission sits in Ottawa for all the nine provinces?—A. Yes, and it is not always successful.

Q. Surely if you can tell us where the difficulties are, they will be rectified. Defects cannot be laid at the door of those who are charged with the administration of the law. Let us be sincere, let us be loyal about it; you cannot place it at the door of anybody who has the administration of the law in his hands, whoever it is?—A. Exactly.

*By Mr. Thorson:*

Q. There is a weakness in this Bill as drawn, I think, upon which I would like to ask for your suggestions. In the case of the National Council, on the official side, a member shall be appointed by the Governor in Council from the principal officers of the department. There is no provision for any representatives from the Civil Service Commission. Is the Civil Service Commission not to be a party to a council of this kind?

Mr. CHEVRIER: Surely.

WITNESS: I think so.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. They are charged with the administration of the law.—A. They are responsible for that.