

to all post offices and to small banking institutions such as the Caisse Populaire in the province of Quebec?—A. I think we have taken the stand that any chartered bank will be authorized to sell radio licences.

The CHAIRMAN: The Caisse Populaire would not come within that definition.

Mr. LANGLOIS: I am speaking about different districts. There are no banks in some. You have a small Caisse Populaire and you have a small post office which is not entitled to receive those licence fees and people have to travel long distances in order to buy licences.

The CHAIRMAN: I thought all post offices received them?

Mr. LANGLOIS: Not all, Mr. Chairman—only those which they call “accounting post offices.”

By Mr. Murray:

Q. I think that privilege should be extended to credit unions and co-operative stores—responsible people who will issue licences. In our district I have failed to find a man who is willing to go out and collect for licences. I do not know if the department has found one.—A. We feel that if you add too many issuing agencies to those already in existence you may detract from the revenues which accrue to the house-to-house canvass organization and to the vendors.

By Mr. Langlois:

Q. But as you do it now, you are not giving much of a chance to your vendors. In the case of a larger centre where a vendor has less distance to travel, you give the privilege to the post office and banks, leaving for the vendor only those distant places where he has to travel long distances and he gets in return only 25 cents. I do not think you are giving him much of a break there.—A. I do not think we have added many of these fixed issuing agencies, that is, agencies where they issue on demand over the counter, since the house-to-house canvass organization was set up.

Q. But you still have chartered banks and accounting post offices?—A. I believe that practically all of those agencies were issuing before the house-to-house canvass organization started.

By Mr. Stewart:

Q. Attacking this problem from a much more materialistic standpoint, does this system work adequately, in your opinion?—A. We believe the system works very well.

By Mr. Langlois:

Q. Mr. Browne, what has been your turnover on your main agencies?—A. We were speaking a while ago of the high costs of issuing licences. I believe the chairman drew attention to what seemed to him to be the high cost of issuing licences, but I feel that when one considers that we are collecting here amounts of \$2.50 from over two million individuals, the cost is not so high.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not want my words to be interpreted contrary-wise to what you have said. I do think that so large a percentage on any uncontroversial collection is rather high, but in the nature of the case, with Canada stretching from Newfoundland to Queen Charlotte Islands, and each collection being very small, I think it is quite understandable that the cost should be high. Just the same, it is regrettable for anything uncontroversial, that this collection should run about one-eighth—12 per cent. That is a pretty large amount of money to spend. It would be an improvement if we could get some other method.

Mr. LANGLOIS: Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to be critical of the present system, but I would like to know from Mr. Browne what has been the turnover