

Q. Individually: names, of course, being necessary to confer that power?  
—A. When they act for us they have a letter assigning them as acting Customs and Excise Enforcement Officers.

Q. And you have done that quite generally during the last two or three years?—A. Yes.

Q. In some of the provinces anyway?—A. Yes.

Q. Particularly in the western provinces?—A. Well, in the western provinces we are appointing more regular officers than formerly.

Q. But you did use the Mounted Police considerably?—A. Yes.

Q. In order that we will have it more clearly before us, we will assume that at Calgary someone has violated the Customs law by bringing in goods at an undervaluation. The Preventive Officer would seize them?—A. Yes.

Q. What would be his next step?—A. He would report to Mr. Wilson and leave the seized goods—

Q. Mr. Wilson being— —A. The Chief Customs and Excise Preventive Officer.

Q. The Chief Preventive Officer?—A. Yes.

Q. He would report to him?—A. Yes.

Q. By name?—A. As Chief Preventive Officer.

Q. Not to you?—A. No.

Q. What would happen to the goods?—A. They would be released on deposit if he thought they were perishable, or—

Q. Put in a warehouse and locked up?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the next step?—A. The next step is the procedure which I indicated in the examination.

Q. Prosecution might take place under the law, if it is desirable?—A. If the goods were valued at \$200 or over, there would be a prosecution, if the officer carried out his duties.

Q. That prosecution would be initiated under whose instructions?—A. The usual procedure would be that he would wire Mr. Wilson for the name of the legal agent to conduct the prosecution.

Q. And as I understand it, the name of the legal agent would be obtained from the Department of Justice?—A. Yes.

Q. And the local man would confer with the legal agent of the Crown, and the prosecution would go forward?—A. Yes.

Q. Except it be stopped by the direction of the Department?—A. Yes.

Q. That is the position?—A. Yes.

Q. That is the prosecution?—A. Yes.

Q. And the goods themselves may be sold at public auction or confiscated and destroyed?—A. They may be sold by other means than public auction.

Q. They may be sold by private treaty?—A. By tender, or maybe disposed of as the Minister sees fit.

Q. That is what I am coming to. The goods themselves the subject of the seizure at Calgary, for instance, may in the ultimate analysis be sold by direction of the Minister?—A. Yes.

Q. That is clear?—A. Yes.

Q. They are forfeited or destroyed?—A. Yes.

Q. Or sold by public auction or by tender?—A. Yes.

Q. And all that takes place under the direction of your Chief Preventive Officer, Mr. Wilson?—A. Yes.

Q. And he reports to you?—A. Yes.

Q. But the final decision rests with the Minister himself?—A. Yes.

Q. Your recommendation is supposed to accompany the report, upon which the Minister acts?—A. There is a printed form for it on the report.