

would there be any very great trouble in deciding how to appoint a national committee?—A. From our viewpoint, no. I think that as far as we in the West are concerned, we would be fairly well satisfied if we could get two representatives on the initial boards from western Canada

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Do you think that matter could be easily decided?—A. From our viewpoint we are willing to give and take.

*By Mr. Woodsworth:*

Q. A witness we had at the last meeting, thought that only the National Council was necessary, or at least we should confine ourselves to establishing a National Council at first, and that local councils ought to be a subsequent development. Would you enlarge a little bit upon your viewpoint in regard to that?—A. I think that at the meeting of the National Council when appointed it would be necessary for them to frame legislation to guide the local council, and that local council should be subject to the rules and regulations of the National Council, just as in our locals we are guided by the Rules and regulations laid down in the Constitution. Let the National Council formulate Rules and Regulations and let the local councils abide by them.

Q. You think that our present legislation should provide for the formation of National Councils?—A. Yes.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. You think you should work down?—A. Yes, we should work down. If you started from the locals, it would be harder to get along.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. If I understood you, you said you would be satisfied with the establishment of the National Council and would leave the establishment of the local councils for some future date; you do not agree with that?—A. No.

Q. Would it meet the objection you raised to No. 7 regarding the Board of Appeal, if we put in some such phrase as that there should be provision for local boards of appeal?—A. Well, when occasion warrants, not permanent boards of appeal, but when occasion warrants. We might never need one.

Q. That Board of Appeal would be a kind of local arbitration court, in your judgment?—A. Exactly.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. I understand the word appeal to mean something by way of appeal from unjust treatment within the department's jurisdiction?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you not think that that goes very far? Take this, for instance; how often does that occur, or how often has it occurred within your knowledge, in the post office at Vancouver that there was a grievance from the recommendation of the departmental officers as to promotion, suspension, or any other matter in the department? How often would those departmental councils be asked to function?—A. I will give you an illustration, the first that comes to my mind. Suppose a letter-carrier in the city of Vancouver—

Q. Take within the last year; supposing this departmental council had been established in the City of Vancouver, in the post office there, how often would it have been asked to function; in how many cases, how many times?—A. In the case of a dismissal, none.

Q. Because that is not a departmental matter. But in the case of a promotion, which is purely a question of departmental rating, or changing one officer from one kind of work to another kind of work, where the departmental head is

[Mr. Fred Knowles.]