

APPENDIX No. 1

By the Chairman:

Q. The balance of the Consolidated fund is always in a bank?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Spencer:

Q. It is not loaned to the banks?—A. It is not loaned to the banks.

Q. The Government uses it for its own purpose. You mentioned, I think, to Mr. Garland that if a locality wanted a post office savings branch at a post office at any point, even if a bank was in that locality, they would have no difficulty in getting it?—A. There would be no difficulty if it was needed; the existence of the other bank would not decide it.

Q. I may say that I know of a case where a request was made for a post office savings branch. The postmaster was perfectly willing—he was a very able man indeed—but the answer came back that there was no opening there because the bank at that particular place had decided not to go. I would like to know whether you know anything about that?—A. Can you give me the name of the office? I would like to take a note of it.

Mr. SPENCER: Egerton, Alberta.

By Mr. Spencer:

Q. I was also told that one of the reasons was that it was not the policy of the Government to encourage the opening of saving banks at the present time? You do not know that?—A. I did not know that that was the policy of the Government. This is a special case.

By Mr. W. F. Maclean:

Q. You know that there are other Government savings banks besides the post office savings banks?—A. There are a few.

Q. Where are they?—A. Dominion Government? Mainly in the Maritime provinces.

Q. Do you keep their accounts?—A. No, they are kept by the Finance Department.

Q. You do not know that the American Government is now paying, I think, four and a half per cent?—A. On savings?

Q. On deposits?—A. No.

Q. Under the National Reserve Bank System.

By Mr. Millar:

Q. In all our papers we find the chartered banks advertising. In connection with the post office savings banks, what does the Government do to bring to the attention of the people the facilities that are available? I am under the impression that there are a number who do not know even that these facilities are available to them; I doubt whether they know that there are such savings banks in their locality. What does the Government do to bring these facilities to the attention of those people?—A. They put posters in the post offices and readers in the papers, and in their postal bulletins. These go out and are sometimes received by the public, and sometimes they are put up in the post offices. There are notices about the post office savings banks and their advantages. The weekly bulletin of the Post Office Department is hung up in all post offices, and it goes to a number of people.

By Mr. Hughes:

Q. You have been asked questions along the lines of further development and extension of the post office savings system. Providing that the Government decided to extend the system and open more post office savings banks, to enlarge the facilities and advertise for deposits, and in that way obtain a considerable

[Mr. Austin Bill.]