

of our members had been Ministers of Agriculture in their respective provinces, one for a period of over twelve years. Sitting alongside me here is a gentleman who was Minister of Agriculture in the dominion Government many years ago (Hon. Mr. Crerar), and who later on in the course of his very estimable and exemplary career served this country as Minister of Mines and Natural Resources. We have among us men who have taken part in the development of waterpower, men who are actually still carrying on farming activities at their own homes; we have others who have been successful in the commercial or industrial field and who are endeavouring, without success, to carry on careers as gentlemen farmers. In other words, we have here, in a manner which does not exist in any other body in Canada, both the mental equipment for this kind of work and the manpower and womanpower capable of carrying it to a successful conclusion.

Now, with respect to the subject itself: It is so immense, so vast, covering the conservation of all natural resources, that it was possible for the committee to cover only the fringes of it. We heard witnesses, many of them men dedicated to the ideal of conservation, men from federal and provincial departments, persons connected with associations interested in a peculiar way, some in agriculture, some in forestry and in husbandry of various kinds. Perhaps, for information, I might be permitted to place on *Hansard* a list of the witnesses heard by the committee.

**Some Hon. Senators:** Agreed.

*(The list of witnesses follows)*

#### 1957, FIRST SESSION

##### Committee meeting

No. 1, Thursday, February 14, 1957: Dr. A. Leahey, Field Husbandry Division, (Soil Survey), Department of Agriculture; Dean A. M. Shaw, Chairman, Agricultural Prices Support Board, Department of Agriculture.

No. 2, Thursday, February 21, 1957: Mr. A. Platt, President, Alberta Farmers Union; Mr. J. A. Cameron, President, Western Canada Reclamation Association; Mr. S. J. Chagnon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Dept. of Agriculture.

No. 3, Thursday, February 28, 1957: Mr. J. B. Lemoine, President, Union Catholique des Cultivateurs, Montreal, P.Q.; Mr. E. M. Taylor, Deputy Minister, Department of Agriculture, Fredericton, N.B.; Dr. F. W. Walsh, Deputy Minister, Dept. of Agriculture, Halifax, N.S.

No. 4, Thursday, March 7, 1957: Professor H. J. Spence-Sales, McGill University; Mr. George Spence, Commissioner, International Joint Commission; Mr. G. L. MacKenzie, Chief Engineer, P.F.R.A.

No. 5, Thursday, March 14, 1957: Mr. J. A. Vance, Chairman of the Board, Canadian Forestry Association; Mr. G. Harold Fisk, President, Canadian Forestry Association; Mr. J. L. Van Camp, General Manager, Canadian Forestry Association; Mr. W. A. E. Pepler, Manager, Woodlands Section, Canadian Pulp & Paper Association; Mr. L. Paquet, Chairman, Executive Committee, Canadian Forestry Association; Mr. E. Porter, Manager, Quebec Forest

Industries Association; Dean J. W. B. Sisam, President, Canadian Institute of Forestry; Mr. Angus Hills, Chairman, Committee on Soils and Land Use, Canadian Institute of Forestry.

No. 6, Thursday, March 21, 1957: Mr. H. H. Hannam, President, Canadian Federation of Agriculture; Dr. E. C. Hope, Economist, Canadian Federation of Agriculture; Mr. David Kirk, Secretary-Treasurer, Canadian Federation of Agriculture; Mr. J. A. Garner, Chief Agricultural Officer, Ontario Dept. of Agriculture; Professor N. R. Richards, Dept. of Soils, Ontario Agricultural College; Dr. H. L. Patterson, Director, Farm Economics Branch, Ontario Dept. of Agriculture.

No. 7, Thursday, March 28, 1957: Mr. J. S. McGowan, Director of Colonization and Agriculture, Canadian National Railways; Mr. J. E. McCannel, Executive Secretary, Agricultural Institute of Canada.

#### 1957, SECOND SESSION

No. 1, Thursday, November 21, 1957: Mr. William Houde, B.C.A., President, William Houde Ltd., La Prairie, Que.

No. 2, Thursday, November 28, 1957: Professor Donald Baillie, University of Toronto.

No. 3, Thursday, December 12, 1957: Report of the Committee.

Appendix A:—Brief by Dr. N. L. Nicholson, Director, Geographical Branch, Dept. of Mines and Technical Surveys.

**Hon. Mr. Power:** These witnesses imparted a great deal of very useful and, to most of us, extremely interesting information with regard to the broad lines of the conservation of soil and various facets of it; and their evidence served, in the minds of most of us in the committee, I think, to increase our desirability for further exploration, particularly in specific fields.

For instance, our inquiry touched on all manner of things in a general way dealing with soil, with water, with erosion by water and by wind, with drought and drainage. We came to the conclusion that the West was all dry and the East was all wet. We dealt with the mismanagement of land and its rehabilitation. We had glimpses of what was being done on the Palliser Triangle in the West, and some extremely difficult experiments being carried on in the bog and muskeg lands of Newfoundland. We dealt to a large extent with marginal land, but it was early brought home to us, I think, that though marginal land, its treatment, improvement and rehabilitation were important, there were other matters perhaps equally or more important in the whole sphere of land uses in Canada.

I have here what I might call a memorandum made to me personally by Mr. Spence, who the members of the committee will remember was loaned to the committee by the Department of Agriculture, and who aided us materially with the work which we had undertaken. In this memorandum Mr. Spence had this to say:

An inquiry into land use and water use as well, because the use of one cannot be thought of without that of the other, must go by only submarginal and marginal farms. Moreover, it cannot be confined to the narrow interests of the farmer, or the forester, or any other single group, because the