

salaries, commissions, etc., of \$480,000. Major Cashin has told us that tobacco alone has a protection of \$552,000. If they are, we are paying protection of that amount in order to pay out much less than \$480,000 in wages.

I am a little bit disturbed by the Committee's report that they were unable to get the facts from the manufacturers. When people hesitate to disclose certain matters, especially when these matters are essential to us here, I am concerned about it. I don't want them to disclose their dead secrets, but they should be able to give us something that would be of assistance to us in coming to a full appraisal. I agree in a good many ways with what Mr. Smallwood has said. There is no question that he has something here into which he can get his teeth, and he certainly got them in. I expect we shall hear more from other members of this Convention with regard to this report. I predict for it a very stormy passage.

On page 4 of the report, after telling us how difficult it was for you to find the facts, you say there is an Industrial Statistics Act. Why was it not possible for you to go to that department of the government and ask them, under that act, to get the necessary information for you? If the act is there it is their duty to find it. Did you approach any person in that department and ask if they could get the information under that act?

Mr. Hickman We approached the department that was handling that, and were told that that act was put on the books in 1938, and that the Department of Public Health and Welfare used it for acquiring statistics covering the number of employees in the various manufacturing concerns and businesses and their wages. At that time there were people on relief, and it was used to check the earning and the number of people employed. After that period it was not found necessary for the department to have those figures, as unemployment became unknown due to the bases, etc. We asked the department if we could have this information obtained through the act. We were advised that it had been transferred to the Department of Public Utilities, and it would be in the hands of the Labour Relations Office. On making inquiries of that department we found that they did not know it had been cancelled. After a while we found it would be under Public Utilities and the Labour Relations Officer, and we then found that it only covered

employees and wages, and did not cover the great majority of questions that we wanted. We then found that to get those particulars which the act was empowered to obtain would take so long that it would delay us for months....

[The Secretary continued reading the report]

Mr. Smallwood I wonder if Mr. Hickman would explain column 5 on page 3. It says "Purchases of Local Raw Materials and Expenses". What would the local raw materials amounting to \$2.25 million?

Mr. Hickman Without looking up any actual returns, we did not ask the firms to specify, it would include packages, wood, shucks, barrels, berries, and local produce manufactured locally, bottles, etc.

Mr. Smallwood Milk?

Mr. Hickman Yes, milk that would go into butter and ice-cream.

Mr. MacDonald In computing the value of these local industries it strikes me that we should have some idea of the amount that these companies pay in corporation taxes. I don't see anything here concerning that.

Mr. Hickman You mean profit taxes? Well, that was a question that, after consideration, we did not like to put in the questionnaire. We did not expect to get any replies if we asked what profit taxes were paid.

Mr. MacDonald That is an asset to the country, the amount of taxes that the country is paid.

Mr. Hollett I agree with Mr. MacDonald that we ought to know what we ought to expect in connection with that. In the Mining Committee we approached the big companies and asked them that, and they had no hesitation in giving us the information. Why should your Committee be careful of asking those local corporations for that information?

Mr. Hickman In the case of a large corporation their balance sheet is probably published anyway, but in the case of local small companies we felt that if we asked the question we would not have any answer given us as to income tax, and they might not have answered a lot of the questionnaires, with the result that we would not have as much information as we did get.

Mr. Hollett We asked the Assessor of Taxes if we could have that information and he said no, but the corporations themselves did give it to us.

Mr. Miller I think with Mr. Hollett that these