

of unemployment insurance is paid by the government. The amount of the Unemployment Insurance fund as of July 31, 1947 was \$390,014,908.92...." Turn over the page, and I would direct your attention to July. In that month the fund received from the employer and employee, the whole lot together, \$6.5 million, the government itself paid into the fund \$1.25 million, making a grand total for that month received into unemployment insurance fund of \$8.5 million. They have now approximately \$400 million accumulated in the fund, if ever they have any large or small scale unemployment in Canada.

Mr. Hollett I am still a little bit worried. What I want to find out is if a fisherman would be a "worker" under the act?

Mr. ChairmanFishermen are not presently eligible for unemployment insurance. They are not "workers" for the purposes of that act...

Mr. Smallwood Not as yet.

Mr. Hollett I wanted that made quite clear.

Mr. Bailey What about mariners' rights? Is there any marine insurance?

Mr. Smallwood I do not think seamen are included as yet, but men working on fish plants will of course get unemployment insurance if they are insured.

Mr. Butt Was this section produced for you by the Government of Canada?

Mr. Smallwood Yes, this is official from the Government of Canada, furthermore, it was prepared by the Unemployment Insurance Commission's Chief Commissioner — they produced it at our request.

Mr. Miller That table ends at \$30 per week. I was surprised to note that it started at \$7 per week, and to note that people in Canada work for as low as \$5.40 a week. Does it go beyond \$30 a week? Does it take in incomes higher than that?

Mr. Smallwood I think it reads as follows: "In addition persons earning more than \$2,400 on a monthly basis, or \$3,120 or more on a weekly basis are not insured, but workers paid by the hour or day, at piece rates or mileage rates are covered regardless of the amount of their annual earnings."

Mr. Harrington One question only I would like to ask Mr. Smallwood in connection with unemployment insurance. He referred to a figure of \$400 million. Has he any figures to show whether

at the present time there are any large amounts being paid out of that in any part of Canada?

Mr. Smallwood The payments out are utterly insignificant. I do not know if I have the table or not — the benefit payments in July were \$2 million. The total amount paid out 1942-47 inclusive to the end of July was \$43 million out of a total received in of \$400 million....

Mr. Bailey It seems obvious that there were a lot of people in the Maritimes not in on that insurance scheme according to the amount of unemployment insurance paid out.

Mr. Harrington These payments were made during war years, when there was very little unemployment either here or abroad.

Mr. Chairman As a matter of fact if you can look at the schedule, there were payments out consistently from 1942-47 both inclusive, during the war years, as you say.

Mr. Smallwood The explanation is this: Canada is a country of 12.5 million people; there are vast numbers of industries; a certain amount of ups and downs, comings and goings, men getting work and men losing work; you would naturally expect a tremendous shift of population in 12.5 million people. At the present time, the latest figures I read in the *Financial Post* gave the figure of unemployed in Canada as 80,000 and the Unemployment Insurance Service are seeking 85,000 workers. There are 5,000 jobs more than workers to fill them, although there were 80,000 unemployed...

Mr. Hollett I wonder if Mr. Smallwood could tell me exactly why fishermen are not included in this unemployment scheme?

Mr. Smallwood I cannot tell you exactly why they are not included in that unemployment scheme, in general I would say it is due to the nature of their employment. Many fishermen, not all, are not working for wages and so far they have not been included. They tell us it is their intention to have all workers insured under the act. While we were in Ottawa they were busy getting plans ready to bring in all loggers and longshoremen under the act. The next step will be to bring all workers under the act and have them insured.

Mr. Hollett Who told Mr. Smallwood that?

Mr. Smallwood The Chief Commissioner of the Unemployment Insurance Commission.

Mr. Hollett Have we got that? Is that official?