

ment indicate whether any measures are contemplated to enable the committee to function between Parliaments as well as during adjournments of the Senate? In other words, what will happen to the work of the committee if Parliament is dissolved?

Hon. Mr. Lamontagne: You mean, "just in case."

Hon. Mr. Flynn: Yes. I am asking it "just in case." What will happen to the program of this committee, which is not of a legislative nature? I realize this is a rather difficult question, but perhaps we could have some views on it now.

Hon. Mr. Lamontagne: I am not an expert on this subject.

Hon. Mr. Langlois: This situation is covered by the Senate resolution of March 29, 1972, as contained in the Senate *Journals*, 1972, at page 98, which reads as follows:

That, during any period between sessions of Parliament or between Parliaments, the Leader of the Government in the Senate and a Senator to be named by him from time to time and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, or a Senator to be named by him from time to time, be authorized to act for and on behalf of the Senate in all matters relating to the internal economy of the Senate; and

That within fifteen days of the commencement of the next ensuing session there shall be laid on the Table, by or on behalf of the Leader of the Government in the Senate, a report covering in reasonable detail all matters relating to the internal economy of the Senate arising during any such period.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: If you want to give to that motion the widest interpretation possible, Senator Langlois, it could, I suppose, be considered as covering activities such as that which Senator Goldenberg will be dealing with in a few moments. But I am quite doubtful that it would cover, or extend to, the sittings of committees between Parliaments. The publication of a report is one thing; the sitting of a committee is quite another.

If Senator Langlois suggests that this resolution which was adopted by the Senate in 1972 would cover the sittings of committees, I might be willing to accept that, because I am inclined to think that this should be the case, but at the same time in my opinion there is no legislation and no precedent to cover the situation.

Hon. Mr. Langlois: Honourable senators, I had occasion this morning to advise the Leader of the Opposition that tomorrow morning there will be a meeting of the leaders of this house and members of the Internal Economy Committee to consider decisions that will have to be taken during the interim, and I am told that this particular resolution is the authority for that.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: I agree with that, but, important as the work of the Science Policy Committee may be, I doubt that the Leader of the Government and the Leader of the Opposition should be acting without some kind of general mandate from the Senate.

Hon. Mr. Molson: May I ask the acting leader if it is contemplated that a committee could meet after dissolution of Parliament?

Hon. Mr. Flynn: I doubt it.

[Hon. Mr. Flynn.]

Hon. Mr. Langlois: I think it is contemplated. I am not the chairman of the committee. I do not know what Senator Lamontagne has in mind. Perhaps he should explain what he intends to do.

Hon. Mr. Lamontagne: Honourable senators, my previous remarks about the possibility of having a meeting tomorrow were simply to offset the worries of the Leader of the Opposition. It was "just in case," that I was saying we might have a meeting tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: In other words, if there were no dissolution. Of course, if there is no dissolution there is no problem.

Hon. Mr. Lamontagne: As I indicated before, I am not an expert on the rules, but I have had to face this situation twice before so far as my committee is concerned. From past experience, and from what I have been told by members of the interim Internal Economy Committee and by our legal adviser, it is my understanding that committees die with Parliament. It is an awkward position to be in, but that is the fact.

Hon. Mr. Molson: That is my understanding. That is why I asked the question. Up until dissolution all is fine, but if there is dissolution then the committee ceases.

Hon. Mr. Lamontagne: It merely means that the former chairman of a dead committee continues to work.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: I can see that. Perhaps Senator Lamontagne could tell us whether the Science Policy Committee met during the period of dissolution in 1972.

Hon. Mr. Lamontagne: No.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: But I understand that the chairman himself continued to work. For that, praise to him.

Motion agreed to.

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

AUTHORITY TO PUBLISH AND DISTRIBUTE REPORT ON THE PAROLE SYSTEM IN CANADA

Hon. H. Carl Goldenberg, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(h), moved:

That the honourable senators authorized to act for and on behalf of the Senate in all matters relating to the internal economy of the Senate during any period between sessions of Parliament or between Parliaments be authorized to publish and distribute the Report of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs on the parole system in Canada.

● (1450)

He said: Perhaps a word of explanation would be in order. The draft report has now been approved by the full committee. The translation is well under way; indeed I am advised that the first version of the translation is ready now. The question is this: Should we hold it up until Parliament meets again, assuming dissolution, in the fall, or should we be able to distribute it as soon as it is printed, which will be sometime in June? My own suggestion is that the public will be well served if the report is not held