

one from Saskatchewan, one from Port Arthur and one from Fort William. So you can see that these people have come a long way, and if they have to stay around here for a considerable length of time, it is going to put them to additional expense.

Mr. CHEVRIER: Might I be allowed to suggest, Mr. Chairman, that the witnesses who have come from far away places, like British Columbia and Saskatchewan, be heard this morning.

Mr. BELL (*Saint John-Albert*): In addition, Mr. Chairman, we have many others who have watching briefs from all parts of the country, and I would think, regardless of the past history of this business of sitting while the house is in session, that it is one time that we could make a particular move to be unanimous on it. But, regardless of that, I so move, that we adopt the motion as outlined by the chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Bell. Have I a seconder of that motion?

Mr. McPHILLIPS: I second the motion.

Mr. HOWARD: Mr. Chairman, might I add one thought here. I know the importance of this matter, the desire to be heard entertained by the people who are here as witnesses and the interest of those who are holding watching briefs in the proceedings. I also know the distances they have come. I wonder whether we might reach some compromise between the motion itself and the idea suggested by Mr. Chevrier, to the effect that we confine our request to sitting while the house is sitting only in so far as consideration of this particular bill is concerned, because of the circumstances surrounding it. I wonder if we could do that, rather than have a blanket request to cover us from now to the end of the session.

The CHAIRMAN: That seems all right, although would it not be possible to deal with those circumstances, when they arise? With regard to the next bill we have up, if we feel it is necessary, we would not have to bring in another motion. If not, we could rescind this.

Mr. HOWARD: I would rather do it as we go along. As I say, this request is for permission to sit while the house is sitting; it does not say we have to sit. Unless it was necessary in another bill I do not suppose any of us want to sit any longer than is necessary.

Mr. CHEVRIER: No; but it has been the experience that when you take the power it is used with reference to all of the matters that come up until they are determined.

Mr. BROWNE (*Vancouver-Kingsway*): It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that the requirements of the sitting of the committee are going to have to be decided by the committee anyway, whether the power is there or not. If we decide to sit some time in the future, it would mean we would have to ask for the power to sit again, and I cannot see any sense in having to do it twice.

The CHAIRMAN: It is the committee which decides, not the chairman. We have a motion before us. What is your pleasure?

Mr. CHEVRIER: Mr. Chairman, could I make this additional suggestion? It has happened from time to time that as the committee has gone on with its work it has been felt that perhaps it would be necessary to sit while the house is sitting. Why do we not go on with the passage of the first motion and delay the passage of the second until we arrive at the time when the committee feels it is necessary. Then we will consider it? It may not be necessary to sit while the house is sitting.

The CHAIRMAN: Of course, none of us want to sit unless it is necessary; but in view of the number of witnesses who wish to appear in regard to this bill, and also the fact that the minister has to be away towards the end of