

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

House of Commons, Room 277,

TUESDAY, May 19, 1942.

The Special Committee appointed to deal with the disposition of Canteen Funds met this day at 10.00 o'clock a.m. The Chairman, Mr. W. Ross Macdonald (*Brantford City*), presided.

Members present: Messrs. Abbott, Adamson, Black (*Yukon*), Blanchette, Brooks, Castleden, Cleaver, Emmerson, Fauteux, Hazen, Isnor, Macdonald (*Brantford City*), MacKenzie (*Neepawa*), Marshall, Ross (*Middlesex East*), Sanderson, Winkler.

In attendance: Colonel E. A. Deacon, Director of Auxiliary Services (Army) with Lt.-Col. A. Cairns; Lt.-Col. J. A. de Lalanne, Regimental Funds Board with Major Georges Garneau and Capt. D. Donnelly; Capt. J. O. Cossette, R.C.N., Secretary for Naval Affairs; Mr. A. J. Dixon, Chairman of Subcommittee on the Administration of Special Funds with Mr. A. M. Wright, Director of Rehabilitation and Mr. B. W. Russell, Solicitor, Department of Pensions and National Health.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by reading a letter from Mr. J. C. G. Herwig, Assistant General Secretary of the Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L.; also a letter from Capt. Jules J. Ferry, past President of the Ontario Command of the Canadian Legion. In the first instance Mr. Herwig was requesting a hearing either prior to or following the National Convention of the Legion to be held in Winnipeg on the 24th-27th of May, at the convenience of the Committee. In the second instance Mr. Ferry was requesting the Committee to hear Major A. C. Lewis, Toronto, secretary-treasurer of the Ontario Provincial Board of Trustees. After some discussion it was agreed that these gentlemen should be afforded an opportunity to appear before the Committee at a later date.

Lt.-Col. J. A. de Lalanne of the Regimental Funds Board was called and he filed a Summary of Operations of Canteens operated by Units and Formations of the Active Army and including Training Centres and Depots in Canada, Newfoundland and Iceland covering the period from 1st April, 1940, to 31st December, 1941, also those operated by the four national organizations in Canada and Newfoundland. At a later stage of the proceedings the witness also filed a number of specimen books and forms provided for the use of the Units and Formations of the Army. The Chairman indicated that each member of the Committee would be provided with a copy of the Summary filed by Lt.-Col. de Lalanne and that the specimen books and forms would be left in the custody of the clerk for the information of the members. It was agreed that the witness would be questioned in regard to these at a subsequent meeting.

Colonel E. A. Deacon, Director of Auxiliary Services (Army), was then called. He was questioned at length with respect to the operations of Canteens operated by the four national organizations in England. During the witness' deposition, Lt.-Col. A. Cairns filed a copy of P.C. 60/3404 together with a copy of the memorandum of Agreement between His Majesty the King and the following national organizations: the Young Men's Christian Association, the Salvation Army, the Knights of Columbus and the Canadian Legion War Services, Inc.