

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, May 5, 1953.

(29)

The Special Committee on Defence Expenditure met this day *in camera* at 11.30 o'clock a.m. Mr. David A. Croll, Chairman, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Adamson, Applewhaite, Benidickson, Blanchette, Boisvert, Croll, Decore, Dickey, Fleming, Fulton, George, Harkness, Henderson, Herridge, Hunter, James, Jutras, Larson, Macdonnell (*Greenwood*), McIlraith, Pearkes, Thomas, Wright—23.

The Chairman presented the Second Report of the Sub-Committee on Agenda as follows:

The Sub-Committee on Agenda presents the following as a

SECOND REPORT

Your Sub-Committee on Agenda agreed to submit the attached draft as the Committee's Second and Final Report to the House.

The Chairman read the said draft and Mr. George, seconded by Mr. Dickey, moved that same be adopted as follows:

Draft

The Special Committee on Defence Expenditure begs leave to present the following as its

SECOND AND FINAL REPORT

Your Committee was appointed by the following resolution of the House adopted on January 22, 1953:

That a Select Committee be appointed to continue the examination of all expenditure of public moneys for National Defence and all commitments for expenditure for National Defence since March 31, 1950, and initially to give priority in their examination to the expenditures and commitments of the Canadian Army Works Services as dealt with in the Report of G. S. Currie, Esquire, Chartered Accountant, tabled in the House of Commons on December 15, 1952, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon and in particular, what, if any, economies consistent with the execution of the policy decided by the government may be effected therein, with power to send for persons, papers and records and to examine witnesses; and that notwithstanding Standing Order 65, the Committee shall consist of twenty-six Members to be designated by the House at a later date.

The first meeting of your Committee was held on January 29, 1953, and twenty-six meetings were held subsequently, the last on April 28, 1953.

Your Committee examined numerous witnesses including Brigadier W. J. Lawson, Judge Advocate General; Mr. E. B. Armstrong, Assistant Deputy Minister (Finance); Mr. B. B. Campbell, Assistant Deputy Minister (Real Estate Advisor); Mr. H. A. Davis, Superintendent, Engineering and Construction Requirements; Mr. J. A. Kidd, Chief Auditor from the Department of National Defence. In addition, the Committee examined Mr. George S. Currie