

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, March 31, 1949.

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts met this day at 11.00 o'clock a.m., the Chairman, Mr. L.-Philippe Picard, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Beaudry, Benidickson, Bradette, Burton, Case, Cleaver, Croll, Cruickshank, Dechene, Denis, Fleming, Fournier (*Maisonneuve-Rosemont*), Fraser, Gauthier (*Portneuf*), Golding, Isnor, Jackman, Jutras, Langlois, Marshall, Murphy, Mutch, Nicholson, Picard, Pinard, Probe, Raymond (*Wright*), Richard (*Gloucester*), Richard (*Ottawa East*), Sinclair, Stuart (*Charlotte*), Warren, Winkler, Young.

In attendance: Mr. Watson Sellar, Auditor General.

The Chairman presented the first report of the subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure which read as follows:

The subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure met on Tuesday, March 29th and has agreed to recommend:

1. That the next meeting of the Committee be held at 11.00 o'clock a.m., on Thursday, March 31st, and that the Auditor General, Mr. Watson Sellar, be requested to prepare and present at that meeting a statement in respect of certain matters which he considers important. It is also recommended that the business of the meeting be confined to the presentation of this statement and questioning of Mr. Sellar on it.
2. That the next meeting of the subcommittee to consider agenda be held as soon as practicable after Mr. Sellar has been heard.
3. That each member of the Committee be furnished with a copy of any brief or statement prepared for the Committee's information.
4. That Mr. Nicholson's notice of motion, viz.:

That this Committee proceed with an examination of the procedure of auditing the accounts of the Canadian National Railways with accountants other than the Auditor General.

be ruled out of order on the ground that it deals with a matter which is beyond the scope of the Committee's Order of Reference. It is suggested that such a motion might properly be made in the Sessional Committee on Railways and Shipping, owned and operated by Government.

In respect to paragraph 4 of the subcommittee's report, the Chairman suggested that the question of the admissibility of Mr. Nicholson's motion be allowed to stand.

The report of the subcommittee, as amended by the Chairman's suggestion, was concurred in.

Mr. Sellar was called, heard and questioned.

At 1.00 o'clock p.m., the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

A. L. BURGESS,
Clerk of the Committee.