

On motion of Mr. Marquis, Mr. Graydon was elected Vice-Chairman. He thanked the members for this honour.

The Chairman reported that he had designated the following members to act, with himself, as a Steering Committee, namely: Messrs. Beaudoin, Benidickson, Hackett, Harris, Leger, Low, MacInnis and Winkler.

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Harris, the Parliamentary Assistant to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Mr. Harris was felicitated upon his appointment. He thanked the members and made a statement relating to

1. The departmental estimates (1949)—(final figures not yet available),
2. The Annual Report of the Department of External Affairs,
3. The United Nations Report to Parliament—(available on or about June 1st next).

He stated that the officials of the Department were at the disposal of the Committee.

A general discussion took place on future procedure and several suggestions were made with a view to effecting an orderly and active consideration of the matters referred to the Committee.

It was agreed to refer these suggestions to the Steering Committee.

At 5 o'clock, the Committee adjourned until Monday, May 17, at 8.30 in the evening.

MONDAY, May 17, 1948.

The Standing Committee on External Affairs met at 8.30 in the evening. Mr. Bradette, the Chairman, presided.

*Members present:* Messrs. Baker, Beaudoin, Boucher, Bradette, Coldwell, Côté (*Matapédia-Matane*), Dicker, Gauthier (*Portneuf*), Harris (*Grey-Bruce*), Jackman, Jaenicke, Jaques, Kidd, Knowles, Leger, Low, MacInnis, Marquis, Pinard, Raymond (*Beauharnois-Laprairie*) and Winkler—(21).

*In attendance:* Messrs. Lester B. Pearson, Under Secretary of State for External Affairs, W. D. Matthews, Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs, S. D. Hemsley, Chief Administrative Officer, R. G. Riddell, Chief of the United Nations Division, and Hume Wright, Executive Assistant and Liaison with the Committee.

The Chairman read the first report of the Steering Committee recommending for the time being

1. To hear the Under Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Lester B. Pearson,
2. To grant a request of Mr. Eric W. Morse of the United Nations Society of Canada and hear him after May 24 next.

This report was accepted and the Committee proceeded with the consideration of the estimates referred, being items 52 to 67 inclusive (1949).

Mr. Lester B. Pearson was called heard and questioned.

In a general statement on the Annual Report of the Department, Mr. Pearson referred particularly to and commented upon

- (a) the new form in which the annual report is presented,
- (b) the diplomatic representations abroad,
- (c) the consular services,
- (d) the reorganization of the department,
- (e) the international conferences.