

committee who, apparently, make the decision to call witnesses at a certain date, and then change its decisions. And, in so far as Mr. Poole is concerned, it is rather difficult to understand how it is that at one stage the Minister of Justice felt he could not be called, for various reasons, which were all converse, but that now he is free to give evidence. I think we are entitled to an explanation of that.

The CHAIRMAN: In regard to Mr. Poole, I wrote the Minister of Justice, asking if a certain list of people could be called, and I was informed that the chief of the harbour police, Montreal, was one who could not be called.

Later on we again asked if Mr. Poole could be called, and we were told at that time: not at present; and then later on I had a telephone call, saying: no objection to your committee calling the Honourable Pierre Seigny, Lionel Chevrier, and Messrs. Shea and Poole.

Mr. CHEVRIER: When was this? Would the chairman explain what happened in the interval between the time it was decided, on the advice of the Minister of Justice, not to call Mr. Poole, and the time it was decided to call him.

The CHAIRMAN: I received a letter from Mr. Poole, and Mr. Poole said that some of the statements here were not right, and that he would like to appear before the committee. So, we asked again if he could be called.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): May I ask if you have had any conversation with regard to any matter before this committee with the Minister of Justice since yesterday morning?

The CHAIRMAN: No, Mr. Martin, I have not.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Have you had any conversations with the law officers of the crown, with regard to any matter before this committee, since yesterday morning?

The CHAIRMAN: We have the clerk of the law office right here.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): I asked you if you had any—

The CHAIRMAN: No, Mr. Martin.

Mr. McPHILLIPS: You did not get much out of that.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I read the report of the steering committee, and I asked your wishes in regard to Mr. Murphy, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Poole appearing as witnesses on Tuesday next. Is that agreeable?

Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any objections? All those in favour?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): On what are we voting?

The CHAIRMAN: We have to have a vote.

We need the agreement of this committee in calling witnesses in cases where there are expenses incurred. It has to be in the form of a motion, and I would like someone to put that motion.

Mr. CHEVRIER: Have we followed this practice in the calling of earlier witnesses?

The CHAIRMAN: We would have to do that in the case of earlier witnesses, if there were any expenses incurred but, so far, there have been no expenses, except in the case of Mr. Shea—and we had a motion concerning that.

I would like a motion that Mr. Murphy, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Poole be called as witnesses for Tuesday.

Mr. BROWNE (*Vancouver-Kingsway*): I so move.

Mr. SMITH (*Simcoe North*): I second the motion.

The CHAIRMAN: All those in favour? All those opposed? Thank you, gentlemen; the motion is carried.