

## EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, April 14, 1959.  
9.30 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we now have a quorum. Before we proceed with our first item of business, the consideration of bill C-38, I would like to deal with two routine motions. The first one is with regard to the number of copies of minutes of proceedings and evidence we should print. I have prepared that motion in the following form, "That pursuant to its order of reference of Tuesday, February 17, 1959, the committee print from day to day 750 copies in English and 250 copies in French of its minutes of proceedings and evidence in relation to bill C-38".

Have we a mover and a seconder for this motion?

Mr. MCBAIN: I so move.

Mr. ASSELIN: I second the motion.

The CHAIRMAN: All those in favour of this motion?

Motion agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: The second is a motion to request permission for the committee to sit while the house is sitting. This power has become necessary because of the number of witnesses we have with us this morning who have come from great distances to Ottawa.

I prepared this motion in the following form, "That the committee request permission to sit while the house is sitting". Have I a mover and a seconder for this motion?

Mr. CHEVRIER: Mr. Chairman, before you put your motion, I am afraid I must protest and object to the motion, on the following grounds. In the House of Commons the position of the opposition was made quite clear, that it is not humanly possible for those of us who are required to perform our tasks in the House of Commons to sit on committee while the house is sitting. As an example of that I can give you two things that have happened within the last few days. There is business that is required to be done in the morning, and it cannot possibly be done if the committees are going to sit while the house is sitting.

I know there is a majority here who will probably approve of this; but I want to protest in as strong a way as I can. True, there are witnesses—and I realize this—who have come from all parts of Canada, perhaps; I do not know. I think before the motion passes we should get some indication from the chair as to who the witnesses are, where they come from and, furthermore, whether or not we will be required to sit in the evenings, because the budget debate is an important one and we certainly cannot be expected to sit here discussing a matter of this importance and be in the house at the same time.

Mr. FISHER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if you could suggest how long these meetings are going to continue on this particular bill. Can you make any judgment as to how long it is going to take. With regard to your plan to sit while the house is sitting, is the intention to go right through in the afternoon and evening until we have finished the whole business?

The CHAIRMAN: Just in the afternoon, Mr. Fisher. In reply to Mr. Chevrier I would say this. We have some witnesses here from British Columbia, Toronto,