

EVIDENCE

February 23, 1953.

11.00 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I want to praise you for coming here in such good numbers. It looks as though it is a good idea to hold meetings on Monday morning.

Before we proceed we are all pleased to see our friend Mr. Cote among us again. We hope he is permanently recuperated. We are also pleased to learn that our good friend Mr. Tom Goode is leaving this afternoon for the United Nations as a member of the Canadian delegation and will of necessity be away from our committee work for a few weeks.

Before Mr. Wilgress makes his presentation I believe it will be in order for me to read this letter. It is so important I shall leave it to the committee to decide. It was written on February 14, 1953.

Mr. J. Omar Bradette, M.P.,
Chairman of Committee on External Affairs,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Bradette:

On February 3, we wired you asking for an opportunity to appear before the committee on External Affairs on the question of the conflict in Korea.

Increasing international tensions since that date and the serious concern now being given in the House to Canada's position seem to make even more necessary the hearing of all proposals making for negotiation.

We would deeply appreciate hearing from you as to a date when the committee will be able to meet with a small delegation from the Canadian Peace Congress, to present a brief on the need for an immediate "Cease-fire" in Korea, for prevention of any spread of the war, and for negotiation of differences after the fighting has stopped.

You also are aware of the deep feeling in Canada with regard to the danger of spreading the war and, we feel sure you will welcome the presentation of our point of view on the question.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Mary Jennison, Executive Secretary,
CANADIAN PEACE CONGRESS.

My answer was the following:

Ottawa, February 17, 1953.

Miss Mary Jennison,
Executive Secretary,
Canadian Peace Congress,
289A Church Street,
Toronto.

Dear Miss Jennison:

In reply to your letter of the 14th instant I beg to state that the standing committee on External Affairs has not yet started its activities but I expect it will do so during the course of this week, and at our