

STANDING COMMITTEES

NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: Honourable senators, I wish to give notice of the following inquiry for Wednesday, October 23:

1. What is the membership, the quorum, the purpose and the jurisdiction of each one of the sixteen standing committees of the Senate?

2. Besides the yearly routine meetings to set a quorum and elect a chairman, how many meetings of each standing committee were held during each one of the last ten sessions of Parliament?

3. For each standing committee how many subcommittees were there?

4. What is the membership, the quorum, the purpose and the jurisdiction of each said committee?

5. In what year were the said subcommittees appointed for the first time?

6. How many meetings of each one of the said subcommittees have been held during each one of the last ten sessions of Parliament?

I had intended to make this inquiry at the last session. I discovered it in my files and I have redrafted it and brought it up to date. The purpose of the inquiry is to ascertain how many committees we have and how often they have sat. Now, I have a list of the committees, but this list was made prior to presentation of the Selection Committee's report, which will be taken up at the next sitting.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: May I ask the honourable senator whether he is asking for that information with respect to all the standing committees?

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: The standing committees that are not joint committees.

Hon. Mr. Haig: My honourable friend would assist me and the staff of the Senate if he were to put this in the form of an inquiry on the Order Paper. Then we would get the answer and give it to him.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: That is what I am doing.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: My honourable friend should give written notice of it. He cannot make a speech on it now.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: I am giving a copy of it to the Clerk. I do not expect an answer today. That would be impossible.

Hon. Mr. Quinn: But you would like to make a speech on it.

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

AWARD TO HON. LESTER B. PEARSON

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald: Honourable senators, may I raise a matter in which I know all honourable senators are very interested? Yesterday I read a Canadian Press dispatch from Ottawa, as follows:

Following is the text of the cable received by Lester B. Pearson today, informing him he has won the 1957 Nobel Peace Prize:

"I have the honour to inform you that the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament today has awarded to you the Nobel Peace Prize for 1957."

Honourable senators, in my opinion this is a great honour which has come to a very deserving and distinguished Canadian who has served Canada well both at home and abroad. It is a distinction that has never before come to a Canadian citizen. In fact, this prize has been awarded to citizens of this continent on only three previous occasions. The Honourable Lester B. Pearson has made the name of Canada highly respected in the councils of the world. He has represented our country at international gatherings whose main purpose has been to preserve peace, and he has done his work so well that he has now been given this great honour. I am sure honourable senators will join with me in extending to the Honourable Mr. Pearson our hearty congratulations on the winning of this award, and our deep appreciation of the splendid work which he has done for Canada.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Honourable senators, I join with the Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) in conveying to Mr. Pearson our very kind regards and in expressing our pleasure at the great honour he has brought, not only to himself, but also to the Canadian people.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, October 22, at 8 p.m.