

The original form of this subsection assumed that the appropriate select standing committee of the House, let us say the internal economy committee, was the body that would provide the independent judgment and would arbitrate, but if you cannot do it that way, I do not know what to do.

The CHAIRMAN: The internal economy committee is not a select standing committee of the House, so, if we do that, if there is any hesitation as to choosing between the words "the Senate or the House of Commons" and the wording "the appropriate minister" I might suggest "the internal economy committee of the House."

Mr. MACDONNELL: Who are on the internal economy committee?

The CHAIRMAN: They sit all the time—three ministers plus the Speaker. Paragraph 16 of the House of Commons Act reads:

The Governor in Council shall appoint four members of the King's Privy Council for Canada who are also members of the House of Commons who with the Speaker of the House of Commons shall be commissioners for the purposes of this and the four next following sections.

Then you come to 18:

All sums of money voted by parliament upon such estimates or payable to members of the House of Commons, . . . etc., . . . shall be subject to the order of the commissioners or any three of them of whom the Speaker shall be one.

So, the internal economy committee is not a select standing committee and it would be the appropriate body here—

Mr. SINCLAIR: What about the Senate? The Senate have not got one? And what about the library?

Mr. WRIGHT: That is the difficulty; the Senate has not got the same body we have.

The CHAIRMAN: I stick to my first opinion, the select standing committee should not be included.

Mr. SINCLAIR: The internal economy committee might apply to the House of Commons but it does not apply to the Senate nor the joint committee for the library. On the question of the comptroller giving his views to the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Finance formally informing the Speaker, the Speaker is going to take a very good look at it.

The CHAIRMAN: But who will decide?

Mr. SINCLAIR: The Speaker will decide. If he is wrong, then six months later in the Auditor General's report Mr. Watson Sellar will mention the matter referred by the minister to the Speaker pointing out that he feels that the Speaker has exceeded his authority—I think it will be a long time before we have a Speaker getting himself reported in the Auditor General's report.

The CHAIRMAN: In all other cases you have the Treasury Board as the judge. In this case you leave the minister and his officials who have done the thing to be the judge. I think we can say the internal economy commission—

Mr. SINCLAIR: But that leaves the Senate and the library—the other two—out in the cold.

Mr. FULTON: May I ask Mr. Sellar if the Senate has any committee that corresponds to our internal economy committee?

Mr. SELLAR: Yes, sir.

Mr. FULTON: Can we not say—

The CHAIRMAN: What is the name of the committee?

Mr. SELLAR: I think it is what they call the Committee on Expenditures, although I do not want to swear to it.