

would give us only Thursday morning because tomorrow morning, being Wednesday, is a time when most parties have their caucus. And on Friday we shall be sitting at 11 o'clock in the house anyway. So we would be greatly limited in our time.

Mr. McILRAITH: Mr. Chairman, I submit that the motion might be properly put if we still require it at the end of this morning's session. In addition, there is a very important external affairs debate starting later, this afternoon, and I do not think that the British Columbia Telephone Company is more important than national security.

The CHAIRMAN: Might I say that point has been considered. We wondered—if we did not sit this afternoon—that perhaps we might sit tonight, say at 8 o'clock.

Mr. McILRAITH: What I mean is this: coming back to the original question, why put the motion now? We do not know if we will want to sit this afternoon or this evening because we may be all through with this matter by 1 o'clock.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, if we did not put the motion this morning and if we did not ask the house for it at 2.30, then we would be out of luck and we could not sit this afternoon or tonight.

Mr. McILRAITH: I shall leave it at that. But we do not know whether or not we shall be all through with this bill by 1 o'clock.

The CHAIRMAN: Let us leave it to the opinion of the committee, and if they feel that they do not want to sit this afternoon, it will be up to the committee to say whether they wish to sit tonight or tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. McILRAITH: Why put the motion now? Why not leave it until later on in our proceedings?

The CHAIRMAN: It would delay us for a whole day.

Mr. McILRAITH: The house does not sit until 2.30 and we are now meeting at 10.30. We may be finished with this company before lunch and if we are finished with them, there would be no purpose in putting the motion at all. Otherwise, I would agree to the motion being put.

Mr. WINCH: You have already raised the point I had in mind. Personally I do not like committees sitting at the same time as the house, but if we have to, then we have to. But in view of the external affairs debate, a number of us feel that we should not sit today because this will be the first time that the matter of external affairs will have been brought up.

The CHAIRMAN: You mean this afternoon?

Mr. WINCH: We do not know how long it will go on this afternoon. There might be major speakers that we will all want to hear in the evening.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall leave it then. Are there any other comments?

A motion has been moved by Mr. Martini and seconded by Mr. McGrath that a recommendation be made to the house to reduce the quorum of this committee from 20 to 12. That motion was put through. Then we have it moved by Mr. Broome, seconded by Mr. McGrath, that a recommendation be made to the house to authorise this committee to sit while the house is sitting. What is your opinion?

Hon. Mr. MARLER: Why not let the motion stand until the end of this morning's session?

The CHAIRMAN: Is that the feeling of the committee? Then we shall let it stand until the end of the sittings this morning. All right.

Now we should have a motion to obtain authority to print the record of our meetings.

Mr. HOWE: I move, seconded by Mr. Rea that we seek authority to empower this committee to print its evidence and such papers as may be ordered by the committee.