

subject to the House of Commons being in session. If the House of Commons is not in session at that time we will not make the visit. Is there any discussion in this regard? This is a one day trip. We would go down in the morning and come back in the evening.

Mr. MACKASEY: Do you wish a motion to accept the steering committee's report?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. MACKASEY: I so move.

Mr. WILLOUGHBY: I second the motion.

Mr. ORLIKOW: I must admit that this is the first I have heard about this suggestion and I do not want to be too critical of the offer made by this company or the steering committee's recommendation to accept, but speaking personally I am not too happy with the suggestion that the committee members make a trip at the expense of that company. One of the biggest problems which faces us in this respect is the possible conflict of interest between what is good for a company and what is good for us. As far as I am personally concerned, I am not happy about the suggestion that we make a trip at the expense of any company. If it is worth while our making a trip at all, then let us make the trip and let us request the committee itself to find the funds to pay for the trip. I am not in favour of accepting this offer.

Mr. MACKASEY: I agree in principle with Mr. Orlikow. If the funds are available I would agree with his suggestion. My remarks, of course, are not intended as any reflection upon Mr. Orlikow. I think we should try to get some objective information. We travelled to Montreal last week and I was quite impressed with the impartiality with which the tour was conducted by the sponsors. On this committee I am labouring under a certain difficulty in that I am neither a pharmacist nor a doctor, and I must seek information as I go along. I found the tour of great benefit to me.

I have enough confidence in my own integrity to go down at the expense of Cyanamid and to come back and take a completely objective view in any deliberations.

Mr. WILLOUGHBY: I feel, Mr. Chairman, much the same way, since this is purely a trip for observing the work of this company. I do not think we are under any obligation to them to commit ourselves because the expenses of our trip happen to be paid by this company. I feel we are certainly free to express our own opinions when we get back, and I concur in the comment that in the trip we had to Montreal there was no pressure brought to bear upon us; we were perfectly free to come to our own conclusions. The same thing can happen here. If we do not take advantage of these things when they are offered to us, I do not see how we can sit here and listen to briefs in regard to the method by which these products are produced and understand them thoroughly. I feel we should take up this offer and thereby improve our understanding of the problem.

The CHAIRMAN: I think Mr. Orlikow's point is that the two trips are a little different in their circumstances in that we did pay our own transportation and looked after our own accommodation on our previous trip; this time we would not be doing so.

Mr. ORLIKOW: I would not want to suggest that taking a trip as proposed would obligate the members. I am certain the members would not feel obligated. At the same time, this committee will probably be making a report at some future date which will deal with some rather controversial proposals. We have a brief today, for example, from the Canadian Medical Association in which they reject one of the key recommendations made by the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission with regard to patenting of drugs. It may be