

## MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

THE SENATE,

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1946.

The Special Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons appointed to examine and consider the Indian Act, met this day at 11 o'clock a.m. Mr. D. F. Brown, M.P., (Joint Chairman) presided:

The CHAIRMAN: Shall we come to order, gentlemen. There are a few preliminary matters of which we should dispose. One is the matter of the distribution of the report of the Indian Affairs Branch for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1945, which was requested at our first meeting. These are just off the printing press and will be distributed to members of the committee to-day. (Printed as Appendix G.)

The steering committee, properly called the subcommittee on agenda and procedure, will meet to-morrow morning, if it is your wish, at eleven o'clock in Mr. Gibson's room, No. 677 of the House. I cannot report to you at the moment where our meeting on Tuesday next will be held. If I recall the discussion correctly, I believe it was understood that we would have two meetings next Tuesday, one at eleven o'clock and the other at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr. MACNICOL: Did you decide on two meetings?

The CHAIRMAN: That is my recollection.

Mr. MACNICOL: If the committee is to have two meetings a day that means four hours in attendance at committee meetings and six hours in the House of Commons, ten hours for the day, to say nothing of the other things we have to do.

The CHAIRMAN: That is entirely a matter within the discretion of the committee. I would like a free expression of opinion. The reason for that was that we wanted to get in all Major MacKay's evidence. As you know, he is here from British Columbia and he wants to get back to his work.

Mr. CASE: Well, Mr. Chairman, will there be another meeting next Thursday?

The CHAIRMAN: That will be entirely at the discretion of the committee.

Mr. CASE: I think that if we have two meetings on Tuesday we could do without that.

The CHAIRMAN: These arrangements are contingent upon our having a room. I suppose I should report to you now the progress on that. Following the meeting of the subcommittee we had an interview with Dr. Beauchesne and he has undertaken to provide us with an exclusive committee room.

Mr. GARIEPY: I suggest we leave that matter entirely in the hands of the chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: I wanted merely to report to the committee on that.

Mr. GARIEPY: It would save time presently for us to do that.

The CHAIRMAN: I just wanted to report to this committee what we have done. Dr. Beauchesne has agreed to let us know to-day before one o'clock, that is between now and the time of adjournment, where we are to sit next Tuesday. And in that committee room we will have such secretaries and clerical help as needed; we would also use that room as an office.