

Since then, I have had telephone conversation with Dr. Kelly and pointed out to him that while his letter did comment on two of the bills before this committee it did not comment on two further bills also before the committee, where the suggestion in those bills was that some exclusive clause be applied, I asked him what the feeling of The Canadian Medical Association would be in this regard and he told me verbally over the telephone, as in the letter, they felt that while they could speak for the Medical Association, they could not speak for other groups such as nurses, pharmacists and planned parenthood groups. Dr. Kelly felt that the Medical Association had nothing further to add. If it is this committee's wish that they actually do appear—he doubted whether it was necessary—he is willing to have the chairman of the maternity welfare in Halifax appear before this committee and he would be pleased to so arrange it. Would anyone like to comment on this?

Mr. STANBURY: Mr. Chairman, personally, for the time being I would be willing to leave that and perhaps if we need their comments on some other evidence later, we could request it.

The CHAIRMAN: Any other comments on this?

Mr. KNOWLES: The letter is pretty good; it speaks for itself.

The CHAIRMAN: I felt I should speak to him because he had not mentioned the other method of approach which has been mentioned. He said they prefer the method of approach in their letter. Is it agreeable to the committee that we accept this letter, at the moment, as their opinion on this and reserve the right to call them later if the committee so wishes?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN: Before we proceed with the agenda for today, the tentative schedule for the future meetings of this committee is as follows: There is a meeting scheduled for one week from today, at which time we hope to have two organizations before us; the Voice of Women and the National Council of Women; on March 24 the Association of Family Planning Parenthood; on March 29 the representatives of the Anglican Church, the Department of Christian Social Service and on March 31, the Canadian Welfare Council. I understand from various correspondence I have received that there will be other groups ready to appear before the committee to enable us to hold two meetings a week for some time in to the future.

There is one other question of procedure that I wanted to bring before the committee. There was a question placed on the order paper on February 22, 1965, by Mr. Prittie; it dealt with petitions concerning birth control that had been received by the Department of Justice from various individuals and various organizations. The question is answered merely by listing all the associations that have made representations. I wonder whether it is the feeling of the committee that the Department of Justice provide each member with copies of representations the government has received over the past year or so. Would this be of value to the committee? Apparently, there were a few organizations or individuals who actually opposed the change in the law. I think it is obvious from the list of people I have read out that up to this date no individuals opposing the change have indicated a desire to come before the committee as witnesses.