

EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, April 6, 1954.

The CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, I have been informed that on the 15 January at a general meeting of all the committees of the House, according to common procedure, chairmen were elected for the different committees, and I have been told that on motion of Mr. Garland, seconded by Mr. Jutras, I was elected chairman of the committee on External Affairs.

Mr. STICK: You have my sympathy.

The CHAIRMAN: At one time during the proceedings of another committee, this procedure was declared to be not exactly legal because nobody could be sure whether or not there was a quorum of a particular committee at the general meeting. So, if anybody says that they do not want to corroborate the decision of the meeting, I might step down from the chair and have a new election held. If not, with your consent, I will carry on.

Mr. FLEMING: If there is any doubt, I will move a motion that Mr. Picard be elected chairman of the committee.

Agreed.

The CHAIRMAN: We are here today because of an order of reference from the House to enable us to work as a standing committee on External Affairs. The order of reference was: that the standing committee on External Affairs be empowered to examine and to enquire into all such matters and things as may be referred to them by the House and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon with power to send for persons, and records. And then, on April 1, it was ordered that items Nos. 84 to 103 inclusive in the main estimates, 1954-55, be withdrawn from the committee of supply and referred to the standing committee on external affairs, saving always the powers of the committee of supply in relation to voting public moneys.

I will not read the changes in membership of the committee which are not material.

We will have with us this morning, with your approval, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, as soon as we are through with this part of our work. Prior to that I think that it would be in order that we should have a motion for the printing of our reports of proceedings. The committee printed in 1952, 600 copies in English and 250 copies in French. In 1953 they had to increase the number of French copies due to the demand, so that there were 600 copies in English and 300 copies in French of our reports.

Mr. Low: Was that found to be a sufficient number of copies in French?

The CHAIRMAN: According to the Queen's Printer the number was increased from 250 to 300, and according to the demand last year it seemed to be sufficient for both. Unless there is an increase in demand, that would cover the request from the public, the Embassies and from the newspapers.

Mr. MACDOUGALL: I move that the same number be printed this year.

The CHAIRMAN: On motion of Mr. MacDougall the committee asks permission to print from day to day 600 copies in English and 300 copies in French of the minutes and proceedings and evidence. Is that agreed?

Agreed.