

That the committee be composed of the Honourable Senators Belisle, Carter, Connolly (Halifax North), Cook, Croll, Eudes, Everett, Fergusson, Fournier (Madawaska-Restigouche), Hastings, Inman, Lefrançois, MacDonald (Queens), McGrand, Pearson, Quart, Roebuck and Sparrow.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, it is moved by the honourable Senator Croll, seconded by the honourable Senator Fergusson, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 44(1) (d)...

**Hon. Senators:** Dispense.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, is it your pleasure to adopt the motion?

**Hon. Mr. Molson:** Honourable senators, I would just ask my honourable colleague if he would add a clause to his motion about submitting a budget to the Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts.

**Hon. Mr. Croll:** It has been brought to my attention as chairman of this committee that the rules provide that within 15 days of the commencement of the session we shall lay on the Table a report of our expenses. This will be done in due course. The rules do not provide for more than that. However, there is certainly no objection to our providing an estimate of expenditures in the future, although that will be a very difficult thing to do at this stage because we shall soon be engaged in the writing of our report.

It will be done but, as I say, the rules do not provide for it.

**Hon. Mr. Molson:** I might add that the chairman of the Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts has asked the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders to consider meeting in the near future to draft a rule respecting the budgets of committees. This has not yet been done, as my honourable colleague says, and he has pointed out that his committee will be reporting upon its expenses within 15 days. As far as I am concerned, that is completely acceptable.

**Hon. Mr. Davey:** Honourable senators, I should like to be clear on what is being done here. I am familiar with Rule 84 which requires us to place before the Senate a report of our expenses to date, but as I understand the motion of Senator McDonald with respect to the Special Committee on Mass Media, we must also project the expenses for the balance of the committee's existence. Am I correct in that understanding?

**Hon. Mr. Croll:** I said it was not part of the rules, but I undertook to present it nonetheless.

**Hon. Mr. Lamontagne:** I think Senator Davey wishes to know if there are second-class committees.

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** Honourable senators, with your permission, may I outline the procedure which we have followed and the position in which we find ourselves?

If my memory serves me correctly, there is a minute of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Con-

[The Hon. the Speaker.]

tingent Accounts requesting committees of this house to submit budgets. Many members of that committee felt that this ought to be changed, and that we should provide for it in our Rule book.

As Senator Molson mentioned a moment ago, at the last meeting of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts, which was last week, this matter was discussed. Senator Molson, who is chairman of the Standing Committee on Standing Rules and Orders, was present at that meeting, and I understand he has every intention of convening his committee in order to make this requirement a rule of the Senate rather than a minute of that committee. However, it is my hope that we can use the minute of the Internal Economy Committee as our authority to proceed in the fashion that we have followed today until such time as we are able to convene the Standing Rules and Orders committee and make the change in the rules.

**Hon. Senators:** Agreed.

**Hon. Mr. Lamontagne:** At this stage I wish to present a grievance in connection with the procedure being followed today. I do not object to the change in the wording of the motion to provide for this kind of accounting. However, as chairman of the Special Senate Committee on Science Policy and as the original mover of the motion, I would have liked to have been warned in advance that the wording of the motion was to be changed.

**Hon. Mr. Molson:** Honourable senators, may I add a word here. I am not trying to complicate matters. I would like to say that I think we are all aiming at the same goal. We may have some slight misunderstanding, or perhaps matters have become slightly involved in our trying to achieve the same goal.

**Hon. Mr. Lamontagne:** It is lack of consultation.

**Hon. Mr. Molson:** You may be right, Senator Lamontagne; I would not know. Perhaps it is a lack of information. However, the point really is that last year in the course of the proceedings of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts and of the Standing Committee on Standing Rules and Orders it became abundantly clear—I think I can say abundantly clear—that the members of this chamber wished to know what expenses were being incurred by the various activities authorized by the Senate, because they are no longer as modest as they were some years ago. They now amount to substantial sums, and it seemed therefore appropriate and desirable that this house should maintain proper housekeeping procedure in order to watch the expenditures.

There is no intention as far as I know on the part of anyone to check up on the activities of a committee or in any sense bring into question the activities of a committee. It is merely that being now engaged in spending what I think one can fairly say are considerable sums of money, we must be careful about how we account for it. Therefore, in view of our desire to achieve this purpose the question of how the motions are worded and so on is