

EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, March 1, 1966.

● (11: 00 a.m.)

The CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen we now have a quorum and I will call the meeting to order. First of all I would like to announce that the members of the subcommittee on agenda and procedure are Messrs. Isabelle, Knowles, Rynard, Simard and myself. Since the organizational meeting, the House has referred to the committee the subject matter of four public bills: C-22, C-40, C-64 and C-71, to amend the Criminal Code with regard to family planning and birth control. The subcommittee met on February 24 and has agreed to present its first report.

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

That is the report of the subcommittee on agenda and procedure.

Is there anyone who would like to comment?

Mr. CHATTERTON: Was it intended that we should call expert witnesses to advise us on some of the evidence given by the members of parliament?

The CHAIRMAN: Expert witnesses in what field of expertise?

Mr. CHATTERTON: For instance, one of the bills says that only licensed persons should be able to prescribe these things, whereas others say no. We should have expert advice on medical implications.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure this will come up in Mr. Prittie's discussion of his bill that many people should be called and there are many people who would want to testify and there are other people we would like to testify such as the Canadian Medical Association and the associations on family planning and the Canadian Bar Association. I am sure these people would all have opinions to give.

It was also the feeling of the subcommittee that the four bills referred to all deal with family planning or with the topic of birth control. Only one of the four bills in addition brings up the question of abortion and it was the feeling of the subcommittee that we should at this time be dealing with birth control and restrict our examinations at this time to that topic.

Is there any further discussion on the report of the committee? If there is no further discussion would someone like to move its adoption by the committee?

Mr. ROCK: I so move.

Mr. BALLARD: I second the motion.

Motion agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: I would now like to have a motion from some member of the committee regarding the number of copies of proceedings that should be printed. It has been suggested that we might have 750 or 1,000 copies of English and 500 in French but the committee is open to motion.

Mr. MATTE: Seven hundred and fifty English and 500 French.

Mr. ROCK: Because of the wide interest of the public across Canada in such a study as this, possibly the number of copies should be upped to say 1,000 and