

EVIDENCE

FRIDAY, May 8, 1964.

The CHAIRMAN: Order. I see a quorum.

I should like to ask the clerk to read the report of the steering committee.

(See *Minutes of Proceedings of May 8*)

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps I should say a word in explanation of that report from the steering committee.

I indicated to the steering committee that the committee might wish to call me as a witness, and while it was suggested by one of the members of that steering committee that it would not be necessary for me to step down unless I was a witness and only while I was actually giving testimony. I personally felt that I would prefer not to act in this matter because not only should justice be done but it should also appear to be done.

I would appreciate very much the committee accepting the report of the steering committee and appointing an interim or acting chairman while this affair is being considered.

Is this committee agreeable to accepting the steering committee report?

Mr. DROUIN: I move the adoption of the report.

Mr. LESSARD (*St-Henri*): I second the motion.

The CHAIRMAN: All in favour indicate in the usual way?

Mr. PIGEON: Mr. Chairman, you indicate you want to give your position to another chairman. Does this mean you admit that you are at fault, or something like that?

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps in my own defence I should state to the members of this committee that I do not admit any fault at all.

Mr. FRANCIS: Mr. Chairman, I do not think you need to comment in respect of a remark of that nature.

The CHAIRMAN: All those in favour of the adoption of the steering committee report please indicate in the usual way?

All those opposed please indicate in the usual way.

Motion agreed to.

I declare the motion carried.

I will now entertain motions for an acting chairman.

Mr. GRÉGOIRE: Mr. Chairman, I suggest that the person to fulfil the function of acting chairman is the individual who is the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Dubé. He was elected Vice-Chairman to replace the Chairman when the Chairman could not be present. Therefore I would propose the name of Mr. Dubé.

Mr. DUBÉ: (French)

INTERPRETATION: (The interpreter could not hear.)

Mr. DUBÉ: I should like to nominate Mr. Larry Pennell. Mr. Pennell presided over meetings of this committee last year in respect of a very challenging matter indirectly involving another member of the House of Commons and he did acquit himself in this task with great distinction. I think with his experience and his well known fairness he would be an asset to this committee and I therefore nominate him as Chairman.