

THURSDAY, December 13, 1962.

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The Standing Committee on Public Accounts met this day at 10.05 o'clock a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Alan Macnaughton, presided.

*Members present:* Messrs. Cadieux (*Terrebonne*), Caron, Chaplin, Cowan, Crouse, Drury, Dube, Fleming (*Okanagan-Revelstoke*), Forbes, Gray, Honey, Lessard (*Saint-Henri*), Letourneau, Macdonald (*Rosedale*), Macnaughton, McCleave, McGee, McGrath, Moose (*Westaskiwin*), Muir (*Lisgar*), Olson, Pugh, Rapp, Rondeau, Scott, Stefanson, Tucker, Winch—(28).

*In attendance:* Mr. K. Taylor, Deputy Minister, Department of Finance; Mr. G. Steele, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Finance and Secretary of the Treasury Board; Mr. H. R. Balls, Comptroller of the Treasury; Mr. M. Henderson, Auditor General; Mr. Ian Stevenson, Assistant Auditor General, and Messrs. B. A. Millar, G. R. Long, J. M. Laroche, D. A. Smith and J. R. Douglas of the Auditor General's office; and Mr. James C. Thompson, Project Director, Financial Management in the Government of Canada.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the old and the new members, as well as the new members of the staff. He stressed the tremendous task accomplished by the Committee in the past four years and expressed the hope that the deliberations would once again be characterized by the co-operation and understanding shown in the past. The Chairman welcomed the French speaking members in French and indicated that all the facilities had been provided for in order that the business of the Committee could be carried out in either of the two official languages.

The Clerk of the Committee read the Orders of Reference.

The Chairman then announced the composition of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure, which is as follows: Chairman, Mr. Alan Macnaughton; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse; Members: Messrs. G. Muir, H. Smith, L. Cadieux, D. S. Macdonald, H. Olson and H. Winch.

The oral report of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure was then presented by the Chairman, who reported that the Subcommittee had met on Wednesday, December 5, 1962, and agreed to recommend that the Committee hold one meeting prior to the Christmas adjournment in order to hear statements from various witnesses.

The Chairman introduced the first witness, Mr. K. Taylor, Deputy Minister, Department of Finance, who explained to the Committee some of the aspects of the operation of his department.

The witness was thanked and discharged by the Chairman, who called Mr. G. Steele, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Finance and Secretary of the Treasury Board, who briefed the Committee on the operation of the Treasury Board and dealt with certain findings of the Royal Commission on Government Organization.

Having thanked the witness, the Chairman introduced Mr. H. R. Balls, Comptroller of the Treasury, who explained to the Committee the organization of this office.

The Chairman thanked the witness and called Mr. H. Henderson, Auditor General of Canada, who dealt with the functions of his office and commented on the assistance given by his office to the Royal Commission on Government Organization.