

Minister of Public Works, or the Deputy Minister of Public Works, who were responsible for structural changes in the building, I do not think the Senate could have reversed any decision of that committee, but that does not have anything to do with the Senate chamber itself. However, they could decide to make some changes in the windows, for instance, of the building, outside the chamber.

**The Chairman:** Yes. Well, I hope what I have said was restricted to the Senate chamber itself, because I do not think the Senate would ever ask for, or ever presume to have, authority to control structural changes that might be made outside of the chamber that would not affect the use of the chamber by the members of the Senate. Is that fair?

**Mr. Fortier:** Yes, thank you.

**The Chairman:** Miss Milne, are you and your staff employees of the Department of Public Works?

**Miss Eleanor Milne, Federal Government Sculptor:** Yes, we are all public servants and employees.

**The Chairman:** So the general statement I made is presumably reasonably accurate, would you think?

**Miss Milne:** I am used often as a designer for different departments, or for the Senate in this case, but the stone-cutting staff very seldom has anything to do with any work other than stone carving, so what I am usually asked to do is to find a contractor who can carry out the designs that I have made, whatever they might be, and in this case I have been asked to do that.

**The Chairman:** But you report to the Department of Public Works?

**Miss Milne:** That is right. My immediate superior is Mr. Baker, and I report to him, but I also report to Mr. Williams directly.

**The Chairman:** Mr. Williams being the Assistant Deputy Minister?

**Miss Milne:** The Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, I think.

**The Chairman:** And Mr. Baker being . . . ?

**Miss Milne:** He, I think, is what is called the area manager or area director. I am not sure of his title.

**Mr. Fortier:** Regional director, I think.

**Miss Milne:** He has a large area to cover.

**The Chairman:** All right. Now, honourable senators, I have done a lot of talking here, and I do not want that to become an established part of this operation. Have you any questions for Mr. Fortier?

**Senator Beaubien:** Mr. Chairman, I think our position is quite clear. There is no question but that we can go ahead and have it done if we want to.

**The Chairman:** We can make recommendations, in any event.

**Senator Beaubien:** Yes. If the Senate does not want it, that is another matter. We make recommendations directly to the Senate, then, I suppose; and does the Senate refer the matter to the Internal Economy Committee who in turn will make another recommendation to somebody else?

**The Chairman:** I think, if the Senate accepts the recommendation of this committee, that is where it rests, and that is the recommendation of the Senate. I suppose from there the Department of Public Works picks up the ball and, if it is government policy to make these changes, starts to do the work. I suppose that if the Senate committee recommended that we have gold leaf on all the walls there might very well be some opposition, either from the department or from the government itself; but I think a reasonable recommendation which a committee might make, and which might be accepted by the Senate, would be rather persuasive to the department concerned.

**Senator Yuzyk:** Mr. Chairman, could Miss Milne give us an idea of what we are thinking of in terms of cost?

**The Chairman:** Yes. I am in the hands of the committee here. I had thought we would have this meeting this morning, that we would complete Mr. Fortier's side of the evidence, and then have our old friend John MacNeill talk about the chamber, because he has certainly been around here longer than any of us. If the committee agrees, I propose to schedule another meeting to hear Miss Milne exclusively, because she will be talking with regard to a different kind of realm, really, than the area that is to be covered by the gentlemen we have here with us now. Would that be satisfactory?

**Hon. Senators:** Agreed.

**The Chairman:** Senator Smith is not a member of this committee, but I see he is here, and I know he is interested. I wonder whether there are any matters that have arisen in his mind as a result of his experience in the Internal Economy Committee.

**Senator Smith:** I appreciate very much your giving me the opportunity to make a speech at your expense, Mr. Chairman. I have nothing to add, really. I think we are on the right track, and I do not think there is any doubt about our ability to convince government to make what should be regarded by us and by them as a rather minor expenditure, in view of the long-term artistic benefits that will accrue from the sort of designs we are familiar with around this building. I have never had the opportunity before to know what the rather famous Miss Milne looked like, and I am happy to have had that opportunity this morning.

I do not think any reasonable proposition that the Senate, as a body, would put forward in order to convince the government would meet with any hostility on the part of those on the other side, nor would they ever seek to block it by any action of Treasury Board, or anything else. If, for instance, on our own initiative we designed such an expansion of our facilities to take care of our space requirements, as would cost something in the millions, such as was placed before us several years ago and which up to this time has not been given really serious consideration, I think the government would be quite within their rights, and certainly within their power, to say, "Well, we cannot provide Public Works with that kind of money." The initiative must come from government in that respect. This, however, is a relatively small amount of money in relation to the several millions which would have been spent before if we had filled in any great wells on this side of the building, and which would, perhaps as a by-product of that destruction of the traditional structure, have improved the office facilities for some of our members and staff.