

## EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, March 3, 1959.  
10.30 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Good morning, gentlemen. We have a quorum so we will proceed.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our first active meeting. We have one or two small orders of business which I think we will proceed with prior to the introduction of the minister and his staff.

The first is the motion for printing. Pursuant to the order of reference of February 16, 1959, may I suggest that we adopt, as we have in the past, the procedural printing of 750 copies in English and 200 copies in French. Do those figures seem to be satisfactory? If so, Mr. Bell, would you so move?

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: And seconded by Mr. Benidickson?

Mr. BENIDICKSON: Yes.

Motion agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: That is the only item that we have but I should like at this point to reiterate the practice we had during last session in regard to the conducting of our business as a whole, in that we endeavour to permit each member of the committee to continue his examination until he has exhausted it,—or himself. We will then proceed to any other point that any member may wish to introduce. So if you will try to give me the same wonderful cooperation you gave last session, we will be able to preserve some continuity.

I might also mention, gentlemen, the fact that we would like to be able to start on time. I am going to suggest in the initial period that we meet twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays; and if we can commence on time, we will cover a large portion of the business.

Also may I remind you to retain your estimate books because there is not an over supply at the distribution office. It may be difficult later on to obtain copies, should you lose them.

At this time I think I can do nothing more than to call the first item, item 254—General administration of the customs and excise division.

It is a pleasure to introduce to you the Minister of National Revenue, the Hon. George Nowlan and he will read to you his initial statement. Mr. Nowlan, would you be good enough to introduce the members of your staff who are appearing here with you?

### CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DIVISION

Item 254. General Administration .....\$4,317,418

Hon. GEORGE C. NOWLAN (*Minister of National Revenue*): Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I have with me this morning Mr. David Sim, deputy minister of customs and excise; Mr. Labarge, the assistant deputy minister in charge of excise; and Mr. Howell, assistant deputy minister of administration. Mr. Bennett, director of Port Administration; Mr. Cumming, administrative officer dealing with estimates for the department. I think these are the men who primarily will be called upon to answer any questions which may arise.