

and automatically to the committee on agenda and procedure. In view of the wording of the motion regarding the appointment of the subcommittee we might handle the situation this way. The subcommittee, consisting of the members mentioned before, shall be appointed to report on all matters relating to procedure and agenda. There should also be added a suggestion that all matters concerning order of precedence be automatically referred to the committee on agenda and procedure. This morning we have a proposal made by Mr. Macdonnell and by Mr. Probe, and perhaps other gentlemen have proposals for matters to be considered by the committee and those proposals would be automatically referred to the committee on agenda and procedure. When the committee meets it will decide upon certain steps and report back to the main committee. Mr. Sellar, for instance, is at our disposal at all times but on some occasions he has to be out of the country as he is one of the three auditors for United Nations. Mr. Sellar himself remarked that in connection with many public accounts matters Mr. Clark, the Deputy Minister of Finance and others might be more able to give us the desired information. The committee on agenda will of course try to arrange the days upon which Mr. Sellar shall be called in order to meet with the necessities of his United Nations work.

Mr. FLEMING: I have just one observation. I do not like your word "automatically." I think when we get our work launched it will be found desirable and necessary in practically every case that suggestions relating to agenda and procedure go to the agenda committee. I am quite sure that when the subcommittee meets it will plan its work in advance so that there will always be work for the committee to do. I do not think we ought to insert the word "automatically" because I think the good sense of the subcommittee will take care of any situations of an emergent nature. It might be found, for instance, that in some cases a witness is available on short notice but might not be available later. Accommodation would be extended to the witness in a situation of that kind. If you omit the word "automatically" I think the motion will take care of all situations of that kind.

I have just one other matter to discuss. As I understand Mr. Macdonnell's motion it is to help the committee get started at once. One would hope with the considerable amount of work this committee will have to do this session as one looks at some of the subjects, we might get started this week. Thursday would seem to be the logical day and if the committee would indicate its willingness to sit Thursday at an agreed hour, perhaps 11 o'clock, and if the committee would indicate something of the work on which it wishes to get started, then the committee on agenda and procedure can arrange that course without delay.

I think that Mr. Sellar is the logical man to begin with. The report which he will give will be a logical jumping-off place for the work of the committee throughout the session because it will be an introduction to other subjects.

Therefore, it would seem to me, notwithstanding the suggestion made by Mr. Macdonnell about our first referring matters to a subcommittee, that Mr. Sellar is the logical man to begin with. We might decide at this time to meet on Thursday and to call Mr. Sellar at that time.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, speaking personally, as chairman of this committee, I think we ought to have a rule to follow. Otherwise, every time somebody proposes a new subject we would have to discuss it and iron it out in this committee. The word "automatic" may not be the correct word to use, although I thought that it fitted the case. So let us say "immediately."

I think that any proposal as to the work of this main committee should first be referred to the committee on agenda and procedure because, properly, the purpose of a committee on agenda and procedure is to iron matters out, discuss proposals, and make decisions.