

That a message be sent to the House of Commons requesting that House to unite with this House for the above purpose and to select, if the House of Commons deems advisable, some of its Members to act on the proposed Special Joint Committee.

Motion agreed to.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MOTION AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE AND REPORT ON FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS

Hon. A. Hamilton McDonald, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 45(1)(e), moved:

That the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs be authorized to examine and report to the Senate from time to time on any matter relating to foreign and Commonwealth affairs generally on any matter assigned to the said committee by the Rules of the Senate, and, in particular, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, on any matter concerning the Pacific area with particular emphasis on the position set out in the policy paper "Foreign Policy for Canadians: Pacific";

That the said committee be empowered to engage the services of such counsel and technical, clerical and other personnel as may be required for the foregoing purposes, at such rates of remuneration and reimbursement as the committee may determine and to compensate witnesses by reimbursement of travelling and living expenses, if required, in such amount as the committee may determine; and

That the committee, before assuming any financial obligations in connection with the said examination and report, submit to the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts a budget for approval setting forth in reasonable detail the forecast of expenses to be incurred.

Motion agreed to.

POVERTY

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Leaving having been granted to revert to Notices of Motion:

Hon. David A. Croll: Honourable senators, I give notice that on Tuesday, the 20th day of October, I will move that a special committee of the Senate be appointed to investigate and report upon all aspects of poverty in Canada, et cetera.

Honourable senators, this motion will be in the same terms as originally moved. I shall indicate why I am doing this in a few moments. The vice-chairman of the committee and I would like to make a statement and put on the record some information concerning what happened on our visits to various provinces during the summer. Furthermore, I think all honourable senators are aware that certain meetings have been scheduled for next Thursday and the following Tuesday morning, and I wanted the house to know that those meetings will proceed as scheduled. Therefore when we finally deal with

the motion to set up the committee, we will take note of the fact that the committee has already been sitting. I mention this so that you will be aware why we are not proceeding by way of motion today.

Hon. Mr. Beaubien: Why not move with leave now? That would deal with the situation.

Hon. Mr. Molson: Is this to deal with any difficulty in the matter of paying staff, for example, in the interim?

Hon. Mr. Croll: We want to ensure that there is authority to sit in the interim. You see, honourable senators, if I move the motion now—and I have it prepared—we will have a debate with the Leader of the Senate who may not like the form of the motion, on which he and I have not been able to agree.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: Let us avoid a debate.

Hon. Mr. Croll: A debate has to take place. I am quite prepared to move this motion.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: Honourable senators, I am not trying to precipitate a debate today, but it seems to me that this committee should be dealt with in the same fashion as we deal with other committees of this house.

I would ask Senator Croll to proceed with this matter in this fashion now and thus dispose of it, so that his committee will be in exactly the same position as other committees.

Hon. Mr. Croll: Honourable senators, may I withdraw my notice of motion?

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, is it agreed that the honourable Senator Croll be allowed to withdraw his notice of motion?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Mr. Croll: I move, seconded by the honourable Senator Fergusson, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 44(1)(d):

That a Special Committee of the Senate be appointed to investigate and report upon all aspects of poverty in Canada, whether urban, rural, regional or otherwise, to define and elucidate the problem of poverty in Canada, and to recommend appropriate action to ensure the establishment of a more effective structure of remedial measures;

That the committee have power to engage the services of such counsel, staff and technical advisers as may be necessary for the purpose of the inquiry;

That the committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to examine witnesses, and to report from time to time;

That the committee be authorized to print such papers and evidence from day to day as may be ordered by the committee, to adjourn from place to place, and notwithstanding Rule 76(4), to sit during sittings and adjournments of the Senate;

That the evidence taken on the subject during the preceding session be referred to the committee; and