

The CHAIRMAN: With respect to the motion for Thursday, I cannot be here Thursday, and I just consulted my colleague and he says he cannot be here for Thursday either. I do not know about other Senate members.

Mr. CASE: For a properly constituted quorum I understand that two senators should be here.

Mr. BROWN: Mr. Chairman, if I may refer to the first report of the committee to both Houses, item No. one of the report which was concurred in by the House, and I presume by the other House, reads: "that the quorum of the special joint committee be reduced to nine members; second, that the said committee be granted leave to sit while the House is sitting." We need nine members of the committee for a quorum.

The CHAIRMAN: That was the Commons. I think the Senate quorum must be two. The question as I see it is whether the joint committee can sit; that is, you have to have a quorum of the members from the House of Commons and also of the Senate representation.

Mr. BROWN: Our order of reference says, nine members; that would mean at least seven and two. Will you find the Senate motion passed in the same form as that passed by the House, and it has regard to both members of the House or members of the Senate. It merely says that the quorum of the joint committee shall be nine members.

The CHAIRMAN: The Senate motion was that the quorum of the Senate be two members.

Mr. RAYMOND: Could we not have a special single meeting.

The CHAIRMAN: The point as I see it is whether or not under the rules of the House a joint committee can sit without a proper senate quorum.

Mr. RAYMOND: At the first meeting this was discussed and it was explained that the Senate should have at least two members here at every meeting.

Mr. CASE: I do not know how you could have a quorum unless it were a joint quorum. You could hardly expect the Senate to concur if they were not represented by at least a quorum of two.

Mr. BROWN: Well, the opportunity is here to decide that.

Hon. Mr. STEVENSON: The evidence is all taken down.

Mr. MacNICOL: How about tomorrow afternoon?

Mr. RAYMOND: Could we not have two other senators appointed?

Mr. BROWN: The Senate is not in session to appoint two other members.

Mr. MATTHEWS: I understand that you could not have a record unless you had a formal meeting.

Mr. BROWN: I understand it could be done. In any event it could be ratified by the Senate members on their attendance at the next meeting by their adoption of the minutes of proceedings. I think if we have nine members here it will constitute a quorum, and subsequently the Senate members could ratify what has taken place. It is merely a matter of convenience.

Hon. Mr. STEVENSON: I do not think there would be any trouble on that score at all.

Mr. BROWN: Then, Mr. Chairman, I would like to second the motion of Mr. Gariepy that we meet on Thursday of this week, and that we meet twice on Tuesday next for the purpose of completing the examination of Major MacKay.

Mr. RAYMOND: Would it not be better to have a senator second the motion?

Mr. BROWN: I give way to a senator.