

I may say also that prior to the next meeting we will have a meeting with the steering committee to outline the continuing procedure of the committee, because two further matters have been referred to us. One of these items deals with the National Research Council, which is in Votes and Proceedings of June 3, page 609, and also on the same day at page 610 the subject matter of the designated area program criteria. These are two matters which we will be discussing and I should imagine this will be the subject to discussion with the steering committee. We will not commence discussion of the two matters which deal with the Department of Industry until we have concluded with this department.

There are no further votes to call today, so I would like to thank the members for coming out today. I would also like to thank Mr. McCutcheon who, as representative of the Conservatives on the steering committee, has served an admirable service in bringing his cohorts here to guarantee a quorum. I might say that the next meeting, unfortunately, is again scheduled for one o'clock. If it is your wish, we will leave it to the steering committee to decide whether we should sit at that time. However, if some of you have some particular objection to sitting at one o'clock on Thursday, perhaps now would be the time to say so. We have tentatively scheduled—and this time I hope we can follow that schedule—meetings on Tuesday and Thursday for the next two weeks at the more appropriate hours of 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. I would think that in those four meetings it would certainly be reasonable to assume that we will have completed the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, and we should be well on into the other departments. If there are no comments now on the one o'clock hour, then we can leave it at that. I believe we were quite successful today.

I do not know how much discussion there will be on the two remaining matters, but it might well be that we will not take the regular time in dealing with these two votes in which case we might then commence with the minister. However, knowing that ministers are busy from time to time, perhaps this might tie up the minister for a meeting when he would not get an opportunity to speak on item 1 again. These are matters which I think we will, with your indulgence, leave to the steering committee to resolve.

Mr. HALES: Mr. Chairman, I think you should invite the minister to lunch and then we would have a good quorum.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure that as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee you could arrange payment for such a lunch.

Mr. HALES: I do not think the Auditor General would approve.

The CHAIRMAN: We will adjourn now until the same time Thursday unless the steering committee can arrange a better hour. Thank you very much.