

with the material so that we will know what we are talking about. We will not have to read things paragraph by paragraph at the meetings.

I also suggest that we may have certain matters in our correspondence or certain suggestions in our heads with regard to the changes, and if we had access to the recommendations before we get down to work it might help us in our meetings.

The CHAIRMAN: Of course it is quite heavy material to digest but we will hear Mr. Castonguay and perhaps we could postpone our first meeting for about ten days.

Mr. BROWNE: Oh, no, let us go ahead with the meeting on Thursday.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, we will proceed with the appointment of a steering sub-committee.

Mr. BOISVERT: I will move the formation of a steering sub-committee composed of the Chairman and the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, and five other members to be appointed by the Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: All right, we will have a steering sub-committee and the minister and myself will form part of it. I will appoint the other members, and in doing so, I will do my utmost to choose them from among all the different political parties.

Mr. BROOKS: How many members form the steering committee?

The CHAIRMAN: Seven, five plus the minister and myself.

Now, we have with us this morning the Chief Electoral Officer, Mr. Castonguay. Like myself and so many of us he is entering upon his first experience in committees. I feel that it is certainly the wish of the committee to accord him the most hearty welcome. Some of us had the opportunity of knowing his father very well in the past. We know Mr. Castonguay by his reputation as a naval officer and as a public servant. I would ask Mr. Castonguay to come and sit beside me and give us some explanations about that material he proposes to talk about today. May I add that Mr. Castonguay is accompanied by Mr. Anglin, who is assistant chief electoral officer.

Now, Mr. Castonguay,—

Nelson Castonguay, Chief Electoral Officer, called:—

The WITNESS: Mr. Chairman, as you have stated, I also am a newcomer to committees and I wish to thank you very much for the remarks you have made in regard to my father and on my behalf.

The draft amendments that I am submitting to the committee have been prepared with the very valuable assistance of my predecessor in office. They are of a technical and a procedural nature. The amendments relating to the Canadian Defence Service Voting Regulations have been prepared in consultation with an officer of the Judge Advocate's branch of the Department of National Defence. All of these amendments are a result of the experiences we had during the last election in administering the present Act. In addition to these amendments I have included in this folder the report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the 1949 general election.

I would like to draw to your attention correspondence exchanged between the Department of Justice, my predecessor, and the legal counsel of the Ontario Hydro Commission relating to hydro projects in Ontario, which correspondence is attached to the Chief Electoral Officer's report. I do not propose to discuss in detail this matter now, but in view of this correspondence Rule 8 of Section 16 may require some clarification and it may be the desire of the committee to amend the said rule. On some hydro projects in Ontario, the persons who come to work on such projects from other electoral districts are