

EVIDENCE

MONDAY, June 1, 1959.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we now have a quorum. At the last meeting Mr. Castonguay was asked to prepare a summary of the various communications he and others had received with respect to suggested amendments to the Canada Elections Act. This has already been prepared and may be distributed now. I will ask Mr. Castonguay and Mr. Anglin to join us again.

Mr. Castonguay has also taken up a question asked by Mr. Bell of Carleton, and he has the answer here. We might lay that answer on the table for the committee, making certain that Mr. Bell has access to it.

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): Is this the one with respect to investigations in the last election?

Mr. N. J. CASTONGUAY (*Chief Electoral Officer*): Yes, Mr. Bell.

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): Are there any aspects of it upon which Mr. Castonguay would like to comment?

Mr. CASTONGUAY: No, Mr. Chairman. There is one suggestion made by counsel in Montreal to amend section 29 of the Canada Elections Act, and that is included among the letters that I tabled at the first meeting.

Mr. NIELSEN: Mr. Chairman, may we ask questions on this correspondence?

The CHAIRMAN: If Mr. Bell and Mr. Castonguay have finished that item, we can proceed to this summary, and I am sure Mr. Castonguay will answer any questions you may have.

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): This is a very brief statement, actually, Mr. Castonguay is giving about election offences which occur, and it seems to me it might be generally useful if it were printed as an appendix. It is only three pages.

The CHAIRMAN: You so move, Mr. Bell?

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): Yes, I do.

Mr. AIKEN: I will second the motion.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bell moves; Mr. Aiken seconds: that the information which is made available be printed as an appendix to our record.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. NIELSEN: I would like to ask Mr. Castonguay, with regard to the third letter as listed in his summary as being received from Dr. Boyer, whether any changes have been contemplated in your suggested amendments so as to allow survey parties in the field to cast their ballots in future elections?

Mr. CASTONGUAY: Mr. Chairman, the Canada Elections Act limits any suggestion I may make only to amendments that would be for the more convenient administration of the act. This would involve a change in principle, which I am not permitted to tackle in any way.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Mr. HOWARD: Was it our thought that we would take these one by one, or seriatim, maybe, in the general discussion?

The CHAIRMAN: I do not think there was any clarification on that. There is certainly an area of interest for any member to ask questions on.