

*In attendance:* The Honourable Paul Comtois, Minister, and officials of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

The Chairman read the Order of Reference dated February 13 whereby the 1959-60 Estimates of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys were referred to the Committee.

The Chairman presented the First Report of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure, as follows:

"Your Subcommittee recommends;

- (1) That the Main Committee meet on Tuesday, February 17, and on Thursday, February 19, and subsequently as the Main Committee may determine.
- (2) That the Main Committee order printed 750 copies in English and 250 copies in French of its Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence on the 1959-60 Estimates of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

The said report of the Subcommittee was concurred in on motion of Mr. Dumas, seconded by Mr. MacInnis.

On motion of Mr. Coates, seconded by Mr. MacRae, the Committee agreed that its next meeting on Thursday, February 19, be at 10.00 a.m., and that subsequent meetings be at such times as may be recommended by the Subcommittee.

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the report of the Committee on the Estimates of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources during the 1958 session had included a recommendation that the Committee be activated during succeeding sessions with a larger membership than at present; he stated that he had this matter under consideration with the appropriate authorities with a view to the Committee being increased from 35 to 45 members.

A report of the Chairman, intitled "From Sarnia to the Atlantic Ocean", on his trip in August, 1958 through the Yukon and the Northwest Territories to inspect certain roads and to open new school facilities on behalf of the Minister of Northern Affairs and Natural Resources, was read to the Committee. On motion of Mr. Kindt, seconded by Mr. Aiken, the said report was ordered to be printed in the proceedings of the Committee of this date.

There followed the showing of the following films, namely,

*Northern Giant*—a record of a trip through the Yukon and the Northwest Territories in August 1958 to inspect certain roads and to open new school facilities.

*Down North*—on the economic development of the Mackenzie District.

Item 186—Departmental Administration—of the 1959-60 Estimates of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys was called.

The Minister made a statement regarding the operations of his department and of the responsibilities of his department and of himself as its Minister.

On behalf of the Committee Mr. Dumas thanked the Minister for his interesting statement on the operations of his department, and the Chairman for his very instructive report on his trip through northern Canada during the past summer and for the showing of the film, *Northern Giant*, which resulted therefrom.