

within Canada for the purpose of obtaining further information relating to matters affecting Indians and Indian communities; and

That for this purpose, the said committee be authorized to sit while the house is sitting or during adjournments of the house; and

That the Clerk of the said Committee and the necessary supporting staff do accompany the said Committee.

Mr. AIKEN: Mr. Chairman, I think we all understand, from the debate we had last week, what the problem is and where we are going. May I ask what is the purpose of the meeting?

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: I will ask Mr. Bell, who is a member of the Department of Indian Affairs, to come forward to explain. We are trying to arrange the trip and there are a number of suggested dates for the first trip.

Mr. G. G. BELL (*Department of Indian Affairs*): Mr. Chairman, my understanding was that I was to come here today to receive your instructions about the dates on which you want to make the trips.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. BELL: And what reserves you want to see.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Do you not have any information on which of the reserves we will visit?

Mr. BELL: I have had nothing on that yet, sir.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: It was suggested, I think, at the last meeting that we take time out for Caughnawaga and St. Regis, was it not?

An hon. MEMBER: As a first step.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Yes; as the first step.

Mr. ORLIKOW: Mr. Chairman, I am not on the steering committee so that I do not know whether any thought has been given to the time that we will spend at the reserves. It was discussed in the House and there was some criticism from all sides of the House that the original plan—and I am speaking from memory only—which provided for spending from one to two hours on some reserves, was not adequate.

I suggest that we agree now that the first trip be made to the two reserves mentioned, Caughnawaga and St. Regis, and that we agree to spend one full day at each of these reserves.

Mr. WATSON (*Châteauguay-Huntingdon-Laprairie*): I agree in principle that it is a good thing to spend as much time as possible seeing the reserves. There are approximately 1,900 or 2,000 reserves in Canada.

I have said previously in this Committee, and I will say it again, that of all the reserves in this country that have had attention, Caughnawaga has had, perhaps, ten times as much as all the others put together. Everyone who wants to see an Indian reserve goes to Caughnawaga. It gets a great deal of attention. My own feeling is that you can see everything you want to see on both of these reserves; you might be able to fit them into one day, or you might be able to visit