

were special committees to whom had been extended the privilege of sitting while the house was sitting. In this chamber we do not sit many days in the week to discharge our functions as a forum. Normally, we sit Tuesday afternoon and evening, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon and sometimes Thursday evening. Therefore, it seems to me that we can do our work in the committees and our work in the Chamber if we have an understanding between the committee chairmen and those who manage the business of the house.

We are grateful to Senator McDonald, who called together the chairmen of the committees this morning. Where chairmen could not themselves attend, their representatives were present. An agreement was reached which I think will provide for the orderly dispatch of the business of the Senate and of its committees.

Senator Croll has told us that beginning next week his committee is going to hold sessions in various parts of the country. That is the decision of the committee. Obviously, if the work of the committee is to be undertaken, an exception must be provided to Rule 3 to enable him to carry on this outside work of the committee while the Senate is in session. I think there should be no difficulty in our agreeing to the suggestion made by Senator Grosart, that with regard to this motion in these particular circumstances we should invoke Rule 3 which would permit the suspension of Rule 76(4). Senator Grosart nods approval. I think that is the way to solve this problem.

I come now to Senator Lamontagne's motion. At first I thought that I should not deal with this matter at this stage, but on second thought I have decided to do so because it will explain the problem more clearly. Senator Lamontagne's committee has had many sessions. His committee had established its work schedule before the new Rules came into being and before we had the large number of committees that we have now. Therefore, he could very well argue with moral justification that having undertaken the work of his committee and having regard to the agenda that had been provided, he had to carry on with it in the way he did. As he knows, I felt that if it had been possible for him to arrange the meetings of his committee when the house was not sitting, it would have met a particular responsibility facing those of us who had to arrange the business of the

[Hon. Mr. Martin.]

house. But, as Senator Lamontagne has pointed out, his committee will not be holding further sessions, that problem is resolved.

Hon. Mr. Lamontagne: And I shall not initiate another committee under the new Rules.

Hon. Mr. Martin: He says he would not initiate another committee under the new Rules. That is what he says at the moment, but I happen to know the kind of man Senator Lamontagne is. He is a man who carries out functions with the greatest dispatch.

Therefore, I suggest that a motion be put along the lines indicated by Senator Grosart. This will give emphasis to the desirability that the kind of agreement reached this morning by the chairmen of the committees be observed. If that is done, I am sure we shall have no difficulty in the discharge of our business.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Honourable senators, I move that Motion No. 1 be amended by inserting after the word "Senate" in the fourth paragraph the words "and that Rule 76(4) be suspended accordingly." That paragraph as amended will read:

That the Committee be authorized to print such papers and evidence from day to day as may be ordered by the Committee, to sit during sittings and adjournments of the Senate, and that Rule 76(4) be suspended accordingly.

The Hon. the Speaker: May I ask the honourable senator to submit a draft of his amendment.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: I will hand it to the Clerk.

The Hon. the Speaker: While the amendment is being prepared, honourable senators, may I come back to the point raised by the honourable Senator Grosart, in order that it is fully understood.

I have not said that the motion by the honourable Senator Croll is contrary to one of the rules. In his motion the honourable senator is asking permission to sit during sittings of the Senate. If this is by leave, then honourable senators by giving unanimous consent can grant this permission notwithstanding Rule 76. It is only in the event that unanimous consent is not granted, as is the case now, that this amendment is required. That is my understanding of honourable Senator Grosart's point.