

should meet and consider other representations and finish our consideration of the bill, because I think all of us wish to see this bill receive royal assent at this session.

Mr. McILRAITH: It would appear that the research committee will be finished tomorrow morning. I do not know about the combines committee, but it will not be sitting on Wednesday, and I do not know about Thursday. I should have said the banking and commerce committee dealing with combines.

The bill of rights committee will not be set up in time to be sitting on Wednesday or Thursday, I would imagine, so I think that those days are likely to be available from the point of view of members, if there is material ready to be presented to the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I would imagine that, as far as statements on the act and a chance to get information is concerned, it would all be available to us on Wednesday or Thursday. I wonder if we might settle for a meeting on Wednesday to hear evidence from the officials of the department, and then agree to fix Friday as the day on which we shall hear representations from the staff associations?

I learn now that Mr. Taylor will be out of town on Wednesday.

Mr. McILRAITH: What about Thursday?

The CHAIRMAN: Would Thursday be satisfactory to the committee? What about Thursday afternoon? Mr. Taylor and Mr. Clark will be available on Thursday afternoon, but the minister will not be able to be here at that time.

Mr. CARON: Let us hear from him tonight.

The CHAIRMAN: Is it agreed then that we meet at 2:30 on Thursday afternoon, and that we meet again on Friday, for the purpose of hearing representations?

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): Friday at 9:30 a.m.?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, Friday at 9.30 a.m.

Mr. BELL (*Carleton*): Might we not carry on throughout the whole day, rising only for the orders of the day? Is that the intention?

Mr. McILRAITH: Let us not tie it too tightly now until we see what is assigned for Friday in the House. If we meet at 9:30, surely we can fix the hours for Friday.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall hear from the organizations on Friday. The difficulty is that I would like to be able to tell the representatives of the various associations when they may be heard.

Mr. ROGERS: Why not meet at 9:00 o'clock on Friday morning?

Mr. CARON: Do you not go to bed?

Mr. ROGERS: Surely.

The CHAIRMAN: Would you agree to meeting at 9:30 on Friday?

Agreed.

Well, ladies and gentlemen, the business before the committee is the consideration of Bill C-76, "An Act to Amend the Public Service Superannuation Act". Our first witness this evening is the Hon. Donald Fleming, Minister of Finance. I shall ask the minister to introduce the members of his department who are present with him tonight, that is, his senior officials, and then I shall ask him to address the committee.

Hon. DONALD M. FLEMING (*Minister of Finance*): Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for the privilege of appearing before this very important committee, and for the opportunity of tendering my congratulations to you upon your election as chairman of the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you.