

What right has the committee to recommend a different way? If our reference to economies; and, by the way, these remarks apply to a lot of the discussion about priorities except in so far as they affect price; it appears to me that we are just a little bit off on these two items. I question whether it comes properly within the terms of our reference. I would like to read the reference, if I may: "That a Select Committee be appointed to examine the expenditure defrayed out of moneys provided by Parliament for national defence and demobilization, and for other services directly connected with the war, including the disposal of surplus war assets, and to report what, if any, economies consistent with the execution of the policy, decided by the Government may be effected therein." You see, we cannot report a resolution like that. I just raise that point.

Mr. PROBE: I believe that the terms of reference are sufficiently broad; that phrase "including the disposal of surplus war assets" would include this particular item. We had presented last year a number of briefs from educational bodies that were all-inclusive, and the Canada-Newfoundland Educational Association covered the entire dominion. I notice their chief concern is with visual educational equipment which they find it almost impossible to procure. You will recall that Mr. Berry called our attention to the fact that manual training equipment was very difficult to segregate because of the vast ramifications in the tools involved. I do believe however, Mr. Chairman, that this item does come within our terms of reference.

Mr. BRADETTE: Mr. Chairman, speaking for the motion, every member of this committee is in favour of assisting education in every way possible, at any time, and on any occasion. At the same time I would like to point out that it would not be fair to make this special provision for educational purposes alone. You take up in my district, we have an organized district, and we have our organizations. If you are going to ask that a special privilege be given to educational institutions, then I submit while you are you should make it all-inclusive and take in special organizations of any kind, and by that I mean such organizations such as Kiwanis, the Lions, Rotary, Knights of Columbus—everybody. I do not think it should be limited in the way suggested by the motion put forward by Mr. Probe. We all know there is an acute shortage, and the purpose of the motion is absolutely good, there is no doubt about that.

Mr. STEWART: The purpose is not only good, the principle is good. I disagree with Mr. Bradette.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Stewart, just a minute please, I do not know whether Mr. Bradette is through or not.

Mr. BRADETTE: No. I just want to state what I believe to be the case in my part of the country. We have an organized district and I submit that we have just as much right to go before the War Assets Corporation and make representations for special consideration as anyone else, but we could not get a resolution of that kind put through. What can I say to them if they ask me why we put through a motion to favour one particular group without doing something for the rest. I submit, Mr. Chairman, that you cannot get away from the fact that if you open it up for one group or one department or group you have got to open it up for all. If it is to be a matter of government policy to give educational institutions a preference, whether it be with respect to visual educational equipment or any other materials, others have an equal right and are equally deserving of consideration.

Mr. STEWART: I disagree with Mr. Bradette, for this reason: educational institutions are the only institutions in Canada which are supported by all the taxpayers. That is not necessarily the case with hospitals. Educational institutions are supported by all the taxpayers, and if we can get a concession for educational institutions, or for departments of education, as suggested in this