

EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, December 3, 1963

The CHAIRMAN: We have a quorum.

This is our first regular meeting and I hope that it will be fruitful and as orderly as possible. I count on your assistance, co-operation and indulgence and I know, with your experience and your help, along with the help of our witnesses, we will have some very good and satisfactory meetings.

As you will realize, among the matters referred to this committee by the House of Commons on November 20 was the annual report of Trans-Canada Air Lines for 1962 and the auditor's report to parliament for 1962 in respect of Trans-Canada Air Lines and the budget for 1962 which was tabled on May 17, 1963.

Yesterday it was agreed that we should proceed with our examination of the position of Trans-Canada Air Lines and this morning we have with us the officials, including Mr. G. R. McGregor, president, Mr. Seagrim, Mr. Harvey, Mr. MacInnes and Mr. Gauthier as well as Mr. J. A. de Lalanne, the auditor. We have several other officials from T.C.A. including Mr. Lamoureux, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Laing.

Gentlemen, it has been the practice in the past to proceed immediately with the presentation of the report by the president, Mr. McGregor. I suggest to you that this report should be read by Mr. McGregor in toto following which we shall proceed with our questions, section by section. I am sure this procedure will allow ample latitude to all members of the committee to raise questions in an orderly fashion so that we are not jumping from subject to subject day by day.

Mr. MUIR (*Lisgar*): Mr. Chairman, before we take the report I would like to draw the attention of yourself and the committee to the fact that we omitted to appoint a steering committee yesterday. I think this should be done. I think we should complete the appointment of the committee before we hear the report.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I am in the hands of the committee. I am quite willing to receive the usual motion to that effect and to meet with such a committee immediately after our meeting today, or tomorrow.

Mr. MUIR (*Lisgar*): I believe it has been usual in the past, sir, to have two members of the government, two members of the official opposition and one member from each of the other groups. Perhaps that would meet with your approval; that has been the practice.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the usual practice is to allow the Chairman to select the members. I understand your point of view and I will follow that procedure if the committee will give me the authority to select a group of five or six members to serve on the steering committee.

Mr. MITCHELL: I so move.

Mr. NUGENT: I did not think it was for the Chairman to select members. I thought it was for the parties, in consultation with the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I have served on a number of committees and I think the usual practice has been to allow the Chairman to have that discretion. I will follow any other practice you want.