

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

House of Commons, Room 277,

MONDAY, May 24, 1954.

The Special Committee on Veterans Affairs met at 11.00 o'clock a.m. and the Chairman, Mr. Walter A. Tucker, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Balcom, Bennett (*Grey North*), Cavers, Croll, Dickey, Enfield, Forgie, Gillis, Goode, Green, Hanna, Harkness, Henderson, Herridge, Jones, MacDougall, Pearkes, Philpott, Quelch, Stick, Thomas, Tucker, and Weselak.

In attendance: Mr. E. L. M. Burns, Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs, and the following other D. V. A. officials: Mr. P. H. Parliament, Director General of Welfare Services; Mr. W. Gordon Gunn, Q.C., Director of Legal Services; Mr. O. C. Elliot, Director of Training and War Service Lands Act; Mr. C. B. Topp, Chief Pensions Advocate; Mr. E. J. Rider, Research Adviser. Also, Mr. T. D. Anderson, General Secretary, and Mr. D. M. Thompson, Chief Welfare Officer, of the Canadian Legion, B. E. S. L.

Before the business of the day was proceeded with, Mr. Croll, rising on question of privilege, read an extract from the Ottawa Citizen on Saturday, May 22, 1954, relating to an interview given by Dr. C. B. Lumsden concerning the Canadian Legion's presentation to the Committee on May 19th.

The Chairman presented a Report from the Sub-committee on Agenda and Procedure as follows:

The sub-committee met at 2.00 o'clock p.m. on Friday, May 21st when the following members were present: Messrs. Gillis, Green, MacDougall, Pearkes, Quelch, Roberge, and Tucker.

The sub-committee reviewed the legislation now before the Committee with the object of finding a method by which the various bills can be most efficiently and expeditiously dealt with.

After careful consideration your sub-committee agreed to recommend as follows:

- (a) that sittings of the Committee be held on Monday, May 24th, Tuesday, May 25th, Thursday, May 27th and Friday, May 28th, at 11.00 a.m. on each of these days;
- (b) that the order of procedure for dealing with bills 82, 101 and 339, recommended in the sub-committee's report of 14th May, be rescinded;
- (c) that on Monday, May 24th, and Tuesday, May 25th, the Deputy Minister and other officials concerned of the Department of Veterans Affairs be invited to attend in connection with bills nos. 101 and 459;
- (d) that on Thursday, the Committee hear representatives of the National Council of Veterans Association;
- (e) that immediately following the submission by the National Council of Veterans Association the Committee proceed with a study of bill 82, if it is then available, and thereafter consider Bills nos. 339