

Mr. MURPHY (*Lambton West*): As I said the other day, there were many questions I wanted to ask Dr. Steacie before I would be through. I did not expect for one moment that Dr. Steacie would come here for an hour and 20 minutes, that would be the end of his evidence.

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, it is not. It is not intended that we are through with him. It was stated in his evidence in chief at the first committee sitting, and it was his proposal, that he would outline administration, but instead of his giving detailed information we should bring the vice-president (administration) here to do that. Dr. Steacie will be here throughout.

Mr. MURPHY (*Lambton West*): I was wondering then, Mr. Chairman, if we could have a few minutes to clarify some points, so that we could deal with administration more effectively. I think there are some points that should be cleared up before we deal with administration.

The CHAIRMAN: That is quite agreeable. Has any member of the committee anything to say about that?

Mr. STUART (*Charlotte*): Before we get into that, Mr. Chairman, could some thought be given to reducing the quorum of this committee? We are losing a half hour every meeting, and it seems to me that we might consider reducing the quorum.

The CHAIRMAN: There is only one matter to be considered in that respect, and it is the old problem that if you reduce the quorum and call the meeting, some members come in late, and others come in later, and you have to go back over evidence that you dealt with a few minutes earlier.

Mr. STUART (*Charlotte*): It must be rather discouraging to those officials, who I know are busy men, who come here on many occasions and must sit waiting for a quorum. I think if we reduced the quorum we might get along just as well.

Mr. BYRNE: I want to offer my humble apologies for forgetting about this meeting today. I can assure you that I will be on time in the future.

Mr. MURPHY (*Lambton West*): Mr. Chairman, I think the idea suggested is sound. We have lost half an hour today. Many of us could be doing something else, and you must consider the members of the National Research Council who come here. A lot of their time is being wasted too. If it is in order, I would move that the quorum be reduced to nine.

Mr. BROOKS: Do you think we should wait and see if it happens again?

Mr. COLDWELL: I was just going to say that, there is some excuse today for the members, because the committee on the Federal District Commission did not adjourn until 1.30 today. I, myself, and other members here, are members of both committees. It makes it a pretty strenuous morning.

Mr. STUART (*Winnipeg North*): This is a very important committee, one of the most important. I do not agree with a reduction of the quorum; I think we should maintain it. We might have to reconsider the days on which we meet. I would like to offer the suggestion that we meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Those of us who are on two committees will have to make up our minds as to which committee we are going to be on.

Mr. DICKEY: Mr. Chairman, I do not think it would be wise to reduce the quorum at the present time. I think the real value of this committee is the attendance of as many members as possible. We might be able to arrange different days for sittings; that is a matter the steering committee can consider. I certainly would not support any motion to reduce the quorum at this stage.