

The CHAIRMAN: It was considered by the steering committee—unfortunately you were not there, Mr. Dumas—and there are obvious reasons why Eldorado should come before this committee at an early date. For that reason it was agreed that we would hear Eldorado in probably three or four or five meetings and then continue with the National Research Council. I do not think it makes much difference to the committee's procedure if we have a few sittings with Eldorado and then proceed with the National Research Council. I thought probably a week from Tuesday we would be able to visit one of the laboratories at the National Research Council or call Dr. Stacie and have one or two meetings with the committee, and then visit the laboratory. It looks to me as though we will be having probably forty meetings of this committee, with the National Research Council alone; because when you have the officials of the National Research Council before the committee and you visit the laboratories, and if we decided, with your approval to call the provisional research foundation heads, in universities, and probably have evidence from Dr. Farquharson, who is the new head of the medical research council, and as well as some deans from medical schools, and then because of a tie-up with the National Research Council representation from business, we are going to have a long period of meetings with the National Research Council. It might then not have been possible to call Eldorado and hear representations from other private companies.

Mr. DUMAS: On this point, can you tell the committee when we will be hearing those companies coming before the committee?

The CHAIRMAN: In the conversation I had yesterday I asked them if they would be ready for next Tuesday. These are people who take a strong view in connection with the operation of Eldorado, which is a crown company, and they feel that Eldorado is in competition with them. They want to make representations.

Mr. DUMAS: Can you give us the names of the companies?

The CHAIRMAN: One was the Canadian Metal Mining Association.

Mr. DUMAS: So this is an association?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Wansbrough was the one who phoned. In view of their position these private operators gave us a good deal of food for thought, and ordinarily if we had called research first, we might not have been able to have Eldorado until June or later. We felt we should be able, perhaps within a week or two, to have representations maybe for one special meeting or two from these people on the Eldorado item.

Mr. DUMAS: The private companies would be represented by the Canadian Metal Mining Association?

The CHAIRMAN: Whoever they would like to have present. We as a committee should hear what they have to say.

Mr. McILRAITH: There is no necessity to finish with the Eldorado witness before they are called? I understand from your earlier remarks that you wanted to finish with the other witnesses first.

The CHAIRMAN: I can assure you we are going to hear these people. It is a job; and they want to be heard long before the end of June. If the committee agrees, I will arrange for them to make their representations at their earliest convenience.

Mr. BATTEN: Mr. Chairman, there is one comment I want to make here. Apparently we are here for a good deal of work in this committee. Is it going to be possible to arrange our meetings so as not to have too much concurrently with other committees?

The CHAIRMAN: I hope so, Mr. Batten; as a matter of fact, this will be discussed among the whips because I do want a good attendance at our meetings. Members who are not interested in coming I think would indicate