

Mr. FLEMING: It is right here in the paragraph from which I just read.

Mr. CLEAVER: May I ask Mr. Fleming a question? I want to make sure that I understand what this is all about. Is your question regarding expenditures based on anticipation of a revote? A certain item is voted and appears in the votes for a certain year but it is not spent in that year and because it is not used it lapses and has to be revoted. Now, the question I am directing to you is this; are you concerned about the time which elapses between the voting of an item and the revote which takes place the following year?

Mr. FLEMING: No, I am simply seeking to deal with this problem of lapsing of which he speaks here. Now, the chairman has indicated that he does not want me to pursue one aspect of the matter, namely payments made in anticipation of lapsing. The study generally speaking has to do with the utilization of votes. That is what I was trying to take up with the witness when the chairman ruled my question out of order.

Mr. CLEAVER: I do not understand what you mean by lapsing. Surely a payment made before the vote lapses is quite proper.

Mr. FLEMING: These are payments made before services are rendered or performed.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not see anything in this memorandum dealing with that.

Mr. FLEMING: So you rule it out of order?

The CHAIRMAN: I have ruled that it is out of order because it is not dealt with in this paragraph now before us.

Mr. FLEMING: Very well, Mr. Chairman, we can come back to that on another item.

Mr. CASE: Mr. Chairman, might I speak on a point of order?

The CHAIRMAN: Certainly.

Mr. CASE: We have Mr. Sellar's report before us and your ruling is that we have to confine ourselves to a discussion of this memorandum paragraph by paragraph. Now, there is this section 2, and surely if the matter raised relates to the subject matter of that paragraph a discussion of it would be in order. Are you referring to this particular paragraph, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: I am just referring to the fact that in the committee on agenda we decided that today we would limit our discussion to the actual terms of the memorandum which has been submitted to us by Mr. Sellar and then on a later date when the Auditor General comes before us again we can raise one after the other all of the points that are mentioned in his report, but that for this morning we will confine ourselves to a discussion of matters directly relating to the memorandum which Mr. Sellar has placed before us.

Mr. FLEMING: My point is, Mr. Chairman, that this is part of paragraph 2.

The CHAIRMAN: Let us say it is part of section 2, I see that sections are divided into a series of paragraphs. We are now discussing items relating to section 2 of Mr. Sellar's memorandum.

Mr. FLEMING: You are dealing with section 2?

The CHAIRMAN: That is right.

Mr. FLEMING: Under the terms of your ruling then may I put a question to Mr. Sellar arising out of the statement that appears on page 2 of the report which was submitted to us this morning?

The CHAIRMAN: At the moment we are dealing with the first paragraph of section 2 of Mr. Sellar's report. Is that what you refer to?

Mr. FLEMING: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sorry.