

Mr. AIKEN: Just as long as Mr. Whelan wants to keep on bringing witnesses here, we have to go on and on and on?

Mr. OLLIVIER: It is up to the committee to decide how many witnesses it will hear. I agree that the committee is master of its own procedure. I agree with Mr. Nugent in that respect.

Mr. AIKEN: May we have citation 304 read again? The sponsor can call it off but the committee cannot? That is very well put.

The CHAIRMAN: No, I think not.

Mr. AIKEN: Do I have to sit here week after week?

The CHAIRMAN: Order, gentlemen. Please address the Chair. Would all the honourable members of this committee please address the Chair, and I shall recognize you in the order which I see you. If we continue in that fashion, we might get the business done this morning, more normally and equitably.

Mr. AIKEN: I am merely asking Dr. Ollivier if it is not a fact that while Mr. Whelan wants to continue bringing witnesses before the committee we have to proceed in accordance with citation 304 which he read to the committee this morning.

Mr. OLLIVIER: I have no objection to answering that question. Mr. Nugent said before that the committee is master of its own procedure within the rules of the house. As to those rules which apply in a committee of the whole or in any other matter, if you want to call witnesses *ad infinitum* to deal with the bill, you may do so. But if the committee decides that it does not want to hear any more witnesses, the committee can decide that it adjourn. It is purely a matter of procedure within the committee, and within the jurisdiction of the committee.

Mr. AIKEN: May we have the citation read?

The CHAIRMAN: You have asked that citation 304 be read.

Mr. OLLIVIER: Citation 304 reads as follows:

304. (1) A committee can only consider those matters which have been committed to it by the house. C.J., Vol. 65; 539,871.

(2) A committee is bound by, and is not at liberty to depart from, the order of reference. (B.469). In the case of a select committee upon a bill, the bill committed to it is itself the order of reference to the committee, who must report it with or without amendment to the House. M.468.

(3) When it has been thought desirable to do so, the house has enlarged the order of reference by means of an instruction or in the case of a select committee upon a bill by the committal to it of another bill. Mandatory instructions have also been given to select committees restricting the limits of their powers or prescribing the course of their proceedings, or directing the committee to make a special report upon certain matters.

For instance, if there is already one bill referred on a subject, the house might very well refer a second bill and ask the committee to amalgamate the two bills. Sometimes the committee may have to obtain leave from the house to make a special report when its order of reference is limited in scope. But in this case I do not think there is any limitation to the order of reference, which is the bill itself.

Mr. AIKEN: I took down citation 304. I thought that was the one.

The CHAIRMAN: I believe it is another citation you are referring to, and the citation as I regard it does not say what you think it says. I think that is what gave rise to that in your mind.