

If the committee wants it the other way I do not care, but I do think the best way, having in mind the objective of this committee, to reach that objective, which is more or less common among us, is through a part of our report to parliament containing a recommendation that the government in the meantime make that study contemplated in the terms of reference.

The CHAIRMAN: Could we defer this motion until we draft the report and bring it before the committee?

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: So far as I am concerned, yes.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: I want this motion put to this committee. Let us decide this question once and for all because we are either shadow boxing with this matter or we are facing it. There is nothing to be gained by postponing and procrastinating. A motion such as this, if carried, will lay the foundation for the determination of the question once and for all. I ask that the motion be put.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Diefenbaker, you have suggested that we are playing with it and shadow boxing and procrastinating, and so on. I do not think any of those words are justified at all. There is much I might say as well regarding the course of the work of the session, and so on, but dealing with the matter dispassionately in the various aspects of it, I do not want to get into that kind of debate in this committee. I want to repudiate any idea that the matter is being played with, or that there has been any procrastination or any shadow boxing.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: I do not think Mr. Diefenbaker meant that because if he did I would personally, after having spoken, take absolute objection to it. I do not think he meant it in that way.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: I said if the matter is not faced up to that is the conclusion that will be come to.

Mr. HACKETT: What are the words of the motion?

Mr. HANSELL: What is the motion?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Diefenbaker moves that the clerk of the committee communicate with law schools and attorneys-general of provinces requesting (1) opinion on the question of the power of parliament to enact a comprehensive bill of rights applicable to all Canada; (2) suggested terms of a bill of rights for Canada. Is that right?

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Yes, that is sufficient.

Mr. CROLL: I am afraid we are putting ourselves in the position where they are telling us.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Delete the second one and then we will face the situation.

The CHAIRMAN: The motion is that the clerk of the committee communicate with law schools and attorneys-general of provinces requesting an opinion on the question of the power of parliament to enact a comprehensive bill of rights applicable to all Canada.

Mr. HAZEN: Are these people going to be called as witnesses or are we going to have a lot of opinions here and quote them in argument some time?

Mr. CROLL: Call them as witnesses.

Mr. MARIER: There is no use calling these people when the committee is dead.

Mr. CROLL: They are not deader than this bill of rights is at the moment.

Mr. MARIER: They will not appear next week because it will take time to prepare their briefs. There is no use of the committee calling these people to appear before a committee which may not exist at that time.