

[Chairman: Mr. Stewart]

[8:05 p.m.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Members of the committee, I think we'll call the meeting to order. Note that we do have a quorum. Item 2 on the agenda is the approval of the agenda. May I have a motion? Mr. Oldring. All those in favour of the motion to approve the agenda? I declare that carried.

We have five meetings for which we have minutes for approval. I believe they've all been circulated to the members, and I will deal with them individually. First of all, the minutes of June 22, 1987. Mr. Campbell, you're moving the adoption of those minutes?

MR. CAMPBELL: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question on the approval of those minutes?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All in favour?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Carried.

Approval of the minutes of June 23, 1987, morning session. May I have a motion?

MRS. OSTERMAN: So moved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All those in favour?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Approved.

June 23, 1987, afternoon meeting. May I have a motion? Mrs. Hewes. All those in favour of approval of those minutes?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I declare it carried.

June 24, 1987.

MR. GOGO: So moved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All those in favour of approval of the June 24 minutes?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I declare that carried.

June 25, 1987. May I have a motion on the June 25 minutes? Mr. Anderson. All those in favour of approval of the June 25's?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Carried.

Yes, Mr. Wright.

MR. WRIGHT: Before moving on to the business of the evening proper, I have a point of order arising out of the proceedings of June 25. If we go to page 213 of the transcript, which I have since that meeting had a chance to peruse, I see that the

hon. Minister of Advanced Education, who is here tonight, read from a letter or said he was reading from a letter on that day from our House leader, Ms Barrett. I would like him very much to lay that letter on the table please, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What page in the transcript are you reading from, 213?

MR. WRIGHT: Second column, just immediately before Mr. Gibeault is recorded as saying something. He says: "I'm reading from the letter of the hon. House leader," and then when he resumes again, Mr. Chairman, the second sentence:

They claimed in a letter from their House leader, which has been tabled as an exhibit, that *Hansard* staff had been informed...

and so on.

I've looked at what was tabled as an exhibit, and there is no letter that says that, Mr. Chairman. So I would appreciate if the hon. Deputy House Leader, the Minister of Advanced Education, would table the letter he refers to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to respond to that, Mr. Russell?

MR. RUSSELL: Yeah, I'll do that. I recall the letter, Mr. Chairman. I obviously can't table it now, but I certainly will. If the hon. member had let me know, I'm sure I could have gotten a copy of it. I recall the letter.

MR. WRIGHT: I think I know the letter, and perhaps I can ask him if this is it?

MR. RUSSELL: I'd have to check. I can't verify it at the moment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sorry. Mr. Russell?

MR. RUSSELL: I can't recall definitely for the purposes of tabling, whether this is the letter or not. It looks like it, but I'd like to have the opportunity to check it.

MR. WRIGHT: The source of my concern, Mr. Chairman, is that this letter -- if this is indeed the one, and we are at a loss to know what letter it could be unless it were this one -- was a letter that was sent by our House leader to the Speaker. It was assumed that it was a private communication in an attempt to resolve this matter, and if it was released, then, well, we are at a loss to know how it could have got into the hands of the Minister of Advanced Education. It should not have been referred to in any event, but of course it shouldn't have been in his hands without our permission or the sender's permission in any event, and it is something that we find a matter of concern, Mr. Chairman. I hope that perhaps the minister can ask someone to have a look before the end of this evening's proceedings so we don't have to bring the committee back or prolong our deliberations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, it wasn't a matter of an exhibit or anything like that or a matter of tabling of the letter at all?

MR. WRIGHT: He thought it was an exhibit, and I think there is an exhibit of that date, Mr. Chairman. But the exhibit -- let's see if there... I have a somewhat defective list of exhibits here, and there is, in fact, an exhibit of the date, April 8, 1987. I

think it's exhibit 2, but that's a letter from the Member for Athabasca-Lac La Biche to the Speaker, and I don't see any other letter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, Mr. Russell is going to undertake to look for the letter and produce it.

MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, moving then on to item 4, discussion of the draft report. I have forwarded a copy of a draft report of the standing committee to each member so that they might review it prior to this meeting. I think that perhaps for purposes of order it might be appropriate to call for a motion with respect to the approval of the report to put the draft report on the table.

MRS. OSTERMAN: I so move.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mrs. Osterman. Any discussion on the motion? All in favour?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I declare the motion carried.

Discussion on the draft report? If not, is there a motion to approve the draft report as the report of the committee?

MR. ANDERSON: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Anderson.

MRS. HEWES: Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question? Does the letter in question that's raised by the Member for Edmonton-Strathcona appear on the list of exhibits?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Apparently not.

MRS. HEWES: It was simply referred to in the discussion and debate, not an exhibit and not tabled as such?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have . . . Pardon me. There's a motion on the floor, then, with respect to approval of the report as being the report of the committee for submission to the Assembly. All in favour of the motion?

MRS. HEWES: Mr. Chairman, before you call the question. I suppose this is repetitious. While I agree this is an accurate reporting of the work of the committee, I must again reiterate that I do not agree with the recommendations as they are put forward. I've stated that unequivocally and at some length before, and I simply want it in the record that I want to reinforce that position, that I don't agree with the recommendations of the committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think that the record would show that you did not agree with the substance of certain motions that were put forward.

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, there was one important piece of evidence, if you can call it that -- we treated it as evidence -- which is not referred to in this summary. Of course, this cannot be an exhaustive statement of what went on. Nonetheless, I think it deserves some mention, particularly since there was some controversy about using it. And that is the Speaker's letter

to you, perhaps, which was put in evidence as an exhibit, I think Exhibit 15 or 14 -- Exhibit 14, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It was produced. It would not become an exhibit of the committee unless there was a motion put forward and passed at that time. Now, I haven't checked the transcripts in that regard or, indeed, the minutes, but I . . .

MR. WRIGHT: Nor have I, Mr. Chairman. I do have it noted on my list of exhibits and marked as Exhibit 14, so . . . I see the clerk is nodding.

MR. SCHUMACHER: It's listed as Exhibit 14 in the appendix to the report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. That's what I'm saying. It is an exhibit, or at least it's listed as an exhibit, and therefore a motion must have been passed at that time.

MR. SCHUMACHER: The last sheet of our draft report lists the exhibits, numbers one through 14 inclusive.

MR. WRIGHT: Very well, I'm finished with that, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question then?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All those in favour?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Contrary? I declare the motion carried.

MR. GIBEAULT: Mr. Chairman, we would like to have our opposition to that report recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would the secretary please make note of those voting in favour of the motion and against the motion.

All those in favour, please raise your hands. Contrary? Three.

Item 5 on the Agenda, Other Business. Is there any further business to come before the committee?

MRS. OSTERMAN: Mr. Chairman, when will this come to the Assembly?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I'm sorry?

MRS. OSTERMAN: When will the recommendations come to the Assembly, the report from the committee?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would propose to table the report in the Legislature tomorrow.

May I have a motion for adjournment? Mr. Schumacher. All in favour? I declare it carried.

Just in closing, I want to express my appreciation to all members of the committee throughout the proceedings for their co-operation, assistance, and patience. It's been very much appreciated. Thank you very much.

[The committee adjourned at 8:18 p.m.]