

Atomic Energy

that announcement comes out appeals may be made, and are sometimes made on behalf of a whole township or on behalf of individuals. The practice is to check these from Regina. Anyone may apply to the Regina office, and unless there have been rechecks made before—and every complaint is already fairly well covered—further checks will be made.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**CHAPUT CASE—QUESTION OF FEDERAL INTERVENTION**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the leader of the C.C.F. party (Mr. Coldwell) asked me the following question:

Has the government received notice that the Chaput case will be heard at the next session of the supreme court? If so, does the federal government intend to intervene in this case as it did in the Alberta press act case to defend the basic and fundamental right of Canadian citizenship to enjoy freedom of worship, assembly, speech and person?

I replied yesterday as follows:

We are aware that the Chaput case will be heard at the next sitting of the Supreme Court of Canada. But since my hon. friend has given me no notice of his question, and I am under the impression that in the Chaput case we have received a notice from the supreme court itself, I should like to make a statement tomorrow covering this point.

Unlike the Alberta press case to which the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggar referred in the question he asked me yesterday, the appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada from the judgment of the Quebec court of queen's bench in the case of *Chaput v. Romain, et al.* arises out of private litigation in which the appellant sued the respondents for damages.

In this Supreme Court of Canada appeal the Attorney General of Canada has been served with a notice, given to the attorneys general of Canada and the provinces pursuant to a direction of the court, that the appellant will contend before the Supreme Court of Canada:

—that the Constables Appointment Act (RSQ 1941 c. 48) and the Provincial Police Act (RSQ 1941 c. 47) and all statutes of the province of Quebec that purport to authorize this action on the part of the respondent police officers are illegal, ultra vires, and unconstitutional, both on their face and as construed and applied as being outside the powers vested in the province by the British North America Act and contrary to "An Act Respecting Rectories" (S.C. 1852 c. 175). That the said police powers, on their face and as construed and applied, are an unconstitutional invasion of freedom of worship, freedom of assembly and freedom of speech.

The Attorney General of Canada, pursuant to this notice, intends to be represented by [Mr. Gardiner.]

counsel upon the argument of the appeal and to present such submissions as counsel may advise.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**REFERENCE OF ESTIMATES OF DEPARTMENT TO STANDING COMMITTEE**

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs) moved:

That items numbered 92 to 111 inclusive of the main estimates, 1955-56, be withdrawn from the committee of supply and referred to the standing committee on external affairs, saving always the powers of the committee of supply in relation to the voting of public moneys.

He said: Mr. Speaker, this motion gives us an opportunity each year to review some of the important international developments which have taken place, and more particularly Canada's relationship to those developments.

Although I may be required to speak at some length, I doubt whether I shall be able to cover all the points which will be in the minds of hon. members; but if matters arise during the course of the discussion on which I have not touched in my review I shall of course be glad to do my best to deal with them when I wind up the debate. Even a partial summary of these developments will indicate—this will be no surprise to the house—that Canada's international responsibilities have increased, are increasing, and with international conditions as they are, are not likely to diminish in the foreseeable future.

There are a number of reasons for this trend. One of them, of course, is the growing interdependence of all peoples and this, among other things, is the direct result of modern technical and scientific developments, especially in communications, which show no sign of slowing down. These developments certainly increase man's mastery over nature, and could make possible greater material welfare than he has ever dreamed of; but they also increase and make even more complicated relationships between nations.

Another factor, of course, bearing on our increased responsibility has been the striking growth of our country in strength and in authority. This has made possible an increase in the influence which Canada can exert on the course of international affairs. That influence in this day of super powers is not, or is very rarely, decisive. It may not always be very important; but a country like Canada with a special and close relationship to London and to Washington has unique opportunities through normal diplomatic and governmental contacts and in other ways to exert on occasion a special influence on those