

his boat-hook for thirty feet from the shore to push them out of the way in order to get his boat into his landing. I submit, honourable senators, that in times like these, when in some parts of the world many people are starving, such valuable food as bananas, which have a high vitamin content, should not be destroyed. In the matter of food supplies we are fortunate in this country, it is true, but, in some parts of the world millions of people would be glad of fruit such as was thrown overboard at Halifax.

The newspaper stated that a high official of the importing company, which I gather is a monopoly, was approached with regard to this food and asked if he could not find some way to have it distributed to institutions and to the poor. His answer was, "No." Then it was urged on him that the public was interested in this. He said, "It is none of the public's business." I submit, honourable senators, that it is the public's business and I regard it as a matter of sufficient importance to be brought to the attention of Parliament. I would ask the honourable the acting leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. King) to report on this incident to the proper authorities and request that some official investigate it thoroughly, with a view to preventing its repetition.

Hon. Mr. LACASSE: Why was the fruit thrown away?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Too ripe?

Hon. Mr. QUINN: No, it was not too ripe.

Hon. Mr. KING: If my honourable friend will hand me the newspaper item to which he has referred, I will have it submitted to the proper authorities for consideration and report.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Mr. KING: I move that when the House adjourns this afternoon it stand adjourned until Tuesday evening, May 26, at 8 o'clock.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, May 26, at 8 p.m.

#### THE SENATE

Tuesday, May 26, 1942.

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

Hon. Mr. QUINN.

#### VICHY GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES IN CANADA

##### INQUIRY

Hon. Mr. TANNER inquired of the Government:

1. Has the representative in Canada of the Vichy Government of Unoccupied France had since the fall of France, and has he now, freedom of communication with his principals in France and with any other persons in France and elsewhere, by letters, wire, radio and otherwise, without any censorship or limitation imposed by the Government of Canada?

2. If any limitations have been imposed, what are they and how are they made effective?

3. Are there any consular agents of the Vichy Government in Canada; and if so, where are they respectively located; what is the nationality of the heads of such consulates; and have they the freedom of communication mentioned in question one, or are they subject to limitations imposed by the Government of Canada? What limitations?

Hon. Mr. KING: These are the answers to my honourable friend's questions:

1. It was stated by the Prime Minister on May 21 that the privileges and immunities which the French Minister in Canada enjoys are the same as those enjoyed by the Ministers of other countries.

2. Answered in 1.

3. It was announced by the Prime Minister on May 20 that the Government had requested the French Minister to take the necessary steps to suspend the operation of French consulates and consular agencies in Canada. It was explained that the duties of the consulates and consular agencies had been much diminished by the course of war and that their presence had become a focus of suspicions and misunderstandings.

#### NATIONAL RESOURCES MOBILIZATION ACT—ADMINISTRATION

##### INQUIRY

Hon. Mr. SAUVE inquired:

1. In order to better facilitate the giving of necessary information requested by the public upon war measures, does the Government intend to publish each week a list of the various war commissions or offices, with their addresses, in the newspapers of each province where these organisms are located?

2. Will the Government consider the urgency of giving clear and precise explanations, which the public can well understand, concerning: (a) the various classes liable to be mobilized; (b) the various classes which may be temporarily or permanently exempted from military training?

3. In order to avoid delays detrimental to national production, besides well grounded criticism, is it the intention of the Government to establish tribunals of appeal in each rural county of the country so as to facilitate and render less costly the access to those tribunals by persons concerned, and render more ex-