

Inquiries of the Ministry

of any reports we may receive to the contrary seems to have been an action of unprovoked aggression.

Mr. Graydon: Are there Canadian missionaries and others in Korea? If so, is there anything the Canadian government can do to protect their interests or safety at this time?

Mr. Pearson: We have been looking into that matter already to see what we can do to protect, if protection is needed, Canadian nationals in Korea. We have not exact information as to the number, or indeed whether there are any Canadians in the area affected, but as soon as we receive that information we will take whatever steps are open to us to safeguard them to the best of our ability.

Mr. Graydon: Are there Canadians on the United Nations commission in Korea?

Mr. Pearson: There are Canadian members of the secretariat of the United Nations commission on Korea. Those three Canadians are there now, and there is one Canadian married to a member of the secretariat. We have been in touch with the secretariat as to their welfare, and we have been told they are in no immediate danger.

Mr. Green: If I may ask the minister another question, do these events alter the attitude of the government toward the setting up of a Pacific defence council?

Mr. Pearson: No, Mr. Speaker. Nothing I have learned about this situation in the last forty-eight hours would alter any opinion I may have had previously about the desirability at this time of setting up a Pacific defence council along the same lines as the North Atlantic council.

CHEESE**QUESTION AS TO DECLINE IN PRODUCTION AND INCREASE IN PRICE FOR EXPORT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. O. White (Middlesex East): I should like to direct a question to the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Agriculture, arising out of the serious decline in the production of Cheddar cheese for export. The daily production of one factory alone decreased from 26 to 17—

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. White (Middlesex East): You will get it. Will the government reconsider its requisition order and increase the price for export cheese to conform to the price for concentrated milk, in order to retain for Canada the export market in the United Kingdom?

Mr. Robert McCubbin (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I am quite well aware of the situation to which the hon. member for Middlesex East has drawn my attention. I admit that in some districts of western Ontario the concentrated milk people are taking some of the milk that formerly went to cheese factories; but any change that might be made is a matter of policy which will be announced in due course.

COMBINES INVESTIGATION ACT**REPORTED APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Lake Centre): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice, following press notices to the effect that a commission is to be set up with a view to making recommendations concerning the Combines Investigation Act. I would ask the minister whether it is a fact that such a commission is to be set up.

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice): It has been and still is my intention to make an announcement in this connection as soon as the personnel of the commission is completed. Three of the four we propose to appoint to the commission have already agreed to accept that appointment, and at the present time we are in communication with the fourth. As soon as the personnel is completed, an announcement will be made.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Then may I ask the minister what the commission is to do?

Mr. Garson: It might be preferable for me to cover that question more fully in the announcement to be made in due course; but for the present I may say that after he had been in his position for some time the new commissioner under the act, Mr. MacDonald, represented that in view of the consideration that has been given this subject, particularly since the war, in other jurisdictions such as the United States, it would be desirable to appoint a commission to examine the act and see if it could be made more satisfactory and more workable than it is at present. I think my hon. friend is referring to the statement which appeared in the *Montreal Gazette*, and I should emphasize the fact that no specific proposals or ideas will be submitted to the commissioners. They will be perfectly free to consider in an objective manner whether they think anything can be done, and if so, to state what in their judgment should be done.