

Questions

5. Was the government of Great Britain consulted or advised as to their selection or appointment in view of the war and the need of joint action with British embassies?

6. Are their speeches, on and off the record, first submitted to the government before being published, and does the government accept responsibility for their utterances?

7. What expenses have been incurred by each of these diplomats since appointment?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING:

1. Four ministerial appointments to diplomatic posts abroad have been made since the house adjourned on August 1, 1942. Canadian ministers will shortly be going forward to the following countries: China, the U.S.S.R., Chile. In addition it has been decided to accredit a Canadian minister to a number of allied governments now temporarily established in London. Until these missions are actually established and final arrangements are completed, it is impossible to determine what the final financial arrangements will be.

2. When the four ministers arrive at their posts they will be located at Chungking, Kuibyshev, Santiago and London.

3. Canadian Legation, U.S.S.R. Minister—L. D. Wilgress, Brigadier H. Jefeuvre, R. M. Macdonnell, Major G. J. Okulitch, A. C. Smith, J. A. McCordick.

Canadian Legation, China. Minister—Major-General V. W. Odium, G. S. Patterson, R. E. Collins, Major H. Wooster.

Canadian Legation, Chile. Minister—W. F. Chipman, M. J. Vechsler, Jules Leger.

Canadian Legation, Allied Governments in London. Minister—Major General G. P. Vanier, Pierre Dupuy.

Since financial arrangements cannot be completed until the various missions abroad are actually established, it is not possible to provide this information at the present time.

4. The experience and abilities of each of the ministers appointed to these posts is a matter of public record.

5. Canadian ministers are appointed by His Majesty the King on the recommendation of the Government of Canada. In accordance with usual constitutional practice, the United Kingdom government has been fully informed in each case before the opening of new diplomatic missions.

6. For obvious reasons it would be impracticable to arrange for the submission of such speeches in advance in all cases. In general, however, it may be said that the government accepts responsibility for statements made abroad by its representatives when acting in their official capacities.

7. See answer to question 3.

[Mr. Church.]

VICHY REPRESENTATIVE IN OTTAWA

Mr. CHURCH:

1. Does the government still recognize the Vichy French government and their representative in Canada?

2. Has Vichy still an embassy in Ottawa and who compose the staff?

3. Have they representatives elsewhere in Canada? If so, where, and who are the members of the staff at each location?

4. Is there any inspection of this embassy or of its mail, cables or other communications?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING:

1. No.

2. No.

3. No.

4. Answered by 1, 2 and 3.

WAR PENSIONS

Mr. CHURCH:

1. Have any pension tribunals yet been set up to deal with casualties in the present war?

2. If so, where?

3. What policy has been laid down and what rules and regulations have been issued in this respect?

4. How many applications have been received for pensions so far in this war and what action has been taken in the matter?

5. What is the total sum paid to the end of 1942 for pensions and other direct aid to dependents of casualties in this war?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre):

1. Yes. Provision has been made whereby the Canadian pension commission and appeal boards of the commission adjudicate upon applications for pension in respect of disability or death suffered by members or former members of the Naval, Military and Air Forces of Canada during the present war.

2. The Pension Act provides for initial consideration of all applications at the head office of the Canadian pension commission. When an application is not wholly granted the applicant may, if he so desires, have a hearing before an appeal board of the commission sitting in his district without expense to him and with a minimum of inconvenience.

3. Early in 1941 a special parliamentary committee gave exhaustive consideration to pension and other related matters arising out of the present war. As a result of its recommendations, the Pension Act was amended so as to make its provisions, rules and regulations with appropriate modifications applicable to the present war.

As a result of these modifications, in respect of military service rendered during the war with the German reich, pensions are awarded