

Inquiries of the Ministry

being practised. We have no communications from Chinese Canadians in this country or Chinese in China. Through our records we see no increase in remittances. Of course remittances of less than \$100 to various countries are not checked as closely as those over \$100, for which authority has to be received.

The present rate is about three or four remittances a month of more than \$100 to China, and this is as it has been for many years. However, the fact that we may not have official knowledge of the situation may not prove that it does not exist. If we prohibited the export of remittances to China we would harm a great many other Chinese.

As all hon. members from British Columbia are well aware, there are perhaps no people in the world more devoted than the Chinese to their parents and ancestors. Even the poorest Chinese working in a garden or a cannery in British Columbia sends a small remittance back to his family in China. The blocking of remittances at this time would certainly inflict great hardships on those families.

The other point is that to make it effective there would have to be postal censorship, because in addition to remittances there is of course the opportunity of putting American or Canadian dollar bills in letters. Such censorship could be effective only if the American authorities agreed to it because, otherwise, a sure way to circumvent Canadian censorship would be to send money to the United States, and then to China. I can assure the hon. member that the department is giving continual study to the problem.

INDIANS**EXPULSION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST SAMSONS BAND AT HOBEBEMA, ALBERTA**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. H. Blackmore (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, before the orders of the day are called I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, notice of which I have not been able to send. Perhaps he would answer on Monday.

Will the minister tell the house whether or not there is foundation in fact for the rumors that, under the Indian Act, expulsion proceedings are being taken against certain members of the Samsons band at Hobbema, Alberta, on the ground that their ancestors are alleged to have taken scrip. Will the minister make a statement on the situation existing in this connection, and will he give consideration to the suggestion that proceedings in this matter be suspended?

[Mr. Sinclair.]

Hon. W. E. Harris (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration): Mr. Chairman, I might as well dispose of the question now, rather than wait until Monday. Under the Indian Act, which came into force on September 4, there is procedure whereby interested persons may register complaints against other persons on a band list.

I understand that in the particular reserve mentioned by the hon. member there are resident a few members, perhaps as high as 100, whose ancestors did at one time in the past take scrip. That has been the subject of some controversy between the Indians who are members of the band, and those in that group. There have been in the past several steps taken by Indians on the band list to have those in the group he has mentioned put off the reserve. I understand the latest effort in that respect is to find out what procedure they might take by way of complaint against these persons on the band list. No formal complaint has been received, but I understand that one is in process of being filed with the department.

The procedure to be followed on this will be that the registrar under the Indian Act will make a decision based on all the facts on our files and otherwise available, as to whether or not these people are on the band list properly. That decision can be appealed by the injured persons, if indeed they are injured, to a judge of a district court in the immediate neighbourhood of the reserve. Until all that is done no action will be taken to remove them from the reserve.

CANADIAN FORCES ACT**TO PROVIDE FOR COMPENSATION, PENSIONS, ETC. TO MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES AND ALLIED SERVICES**

Hon. Brooke Claxton (Minister of National Defence) moved the second reading of Bill No. 21, respecting the Canadian forces.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Dion in the chair.

On section 1—*Short title.*

Mr. Green: Mr. Chairman, when the resolution preceding this bill was under discussion in committee yesterday, I made the suggestion that the Department of National Defence should undertake an investigation into the adequacy or otherwise of the welfare and educational services being furnished to the troops, particularly those in Korea. I would like also to have this request extend to the troops now serving in Europe.