

available some two or three weeks ago. In view of the widespread public interest in the matter it was felt that it should be made public at that time, and it was made available to the Canadian press. If it is desired to have a copy tabled here I will arrange to have it done at one of the early sittings. Copies of the report are in the office of the king's printer and can be obtained by any hon. member of the house who wishes to have one.

As to the second part of the question, the remission branch of the Department of Justice has been making the usual investigation into the matter of the sentences passed upon not only naval personnel but others as well who were convicted of having participated in the disturbances of that day at Halifax. The hon. member knows that it is not the practice to announce in advance at what time a ticket-of-leave will be issued or at what time a recommendation will be made for a reduction of sentence. It is only when the moment has arrived to give effect to the recommendation that it is transmitted to His Excellency.

There are no reductions made in sentences until they become effective when announced; but a very careful and, I may add, sympathetic investigation into the situation has been under way for some considerable time. As soon as it is completed, and if it appears that it is possible at once to give effect to a recommendation for clemency, it will be submitted. I can assure the hon. member that the most sympathetic consideration will be given to the cases of the misguided young men who participated in that unfortunate disturbance.

#### VETERANS AFFAIRS

##### INQUIRY AS TO HOSPITALIZATION IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. CHESTER S. McLURE (Queens): I understand that a resolution has been sent to the Minister of Veterans Affairs by the government of Prince Edward Island, and in explanation of the question I am going to ask I should like to be permitted to read that short resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

Mr. McLURE: This is a copy of a minute of his honour the lieutenant governor in council—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. That may not be read.

Mr. McLURE: Then I will just ask the question. Has the resolution been received by the Minister of Veterans Affairs, and what action has he taken with reference to it?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. Only the question is permissible.

Hon. IAN A. MACKENZIE (Minister of Veterans Affairs): I have received several resolutions from Prince Edward Island in regard to the hospitalization situation there. Negotiations are still proceeding as a result of the recommendations of the wartime hospitalization committee, by whom all recommendations must be endorsed in reference to the hospitalization of veterans in Canada.

#### THE WAR

##### INQUIRY AS TO FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF TERMINATION OF HOSTILITIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. G. HANSELL (MacLeod): May I direct a question to the Prime Minister, based upon the announcement of the Minister of Finance with respect to Mutual Aid, in which evidently it was recognized that hostilities have ceased. At first blush my question may appear a bit foolish, but I have a reason for asking it. Is it expected that the government will make a formal announcement, so far as Canada is concerned, that the war is ended and, if so, when may we expect that announcement?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I would say to my hon. friend that I will take note of his question and answer it at another time.

#### GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

##### ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. W. M. BENIDICKSON AND SECONDED BY MR. J. G. L. LANGLOIS

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. W. M. BENIDICKSON (Kenora-Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to move, seconded by the hon. member for Gaspé (Mr. Langlois), the following resolution:

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency Major General the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, a member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Grand Master of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, one of His Majesty's Personal Aides-de-Camp, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.