

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 18, 1961

The house met at 11 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

POSTPONEMENT OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR PHOTOGRAPH OF HOUSE IN SESSION

Mr. Speaker: May I inform the house that when it became apparent that there would be notable absences of members from both sides of the house today, I took the liberty of postponing the proposed portrait. When the budget address is given I hope we may be able to get a more representative picture of the house.

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

ADDRESS TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT TO BE APPENDIX TO "HANSARD"

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, by unanimous consent and in keeping with the practice of the house on past similar occasions, I should like to move, seconded by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Pearson):

That the address of the President of the United States of America, Mr. John F. Kennedy, delivered yesterday before the members of the Senate and of the House of Commons, together with the introductory speech by the Prime Minister and related speeches, be included in today's House of Commons debates as an appendix and in yesterday's in the bound volume, and thus form part of the records of this parliament.

Motion agreed to.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF COMMUNIQUE ON DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN U.S. PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I should like to table two copies in English and in French of the joint communique issued by President Kennedy of the United States and the Prime Minister (Mr. Diefenbaker) bearing today's date, following discussions held on May 17, 1961, in Ottawa.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

FURTHER LEGISLATION TO BE BROUGHT DOWN THIS SESSION

On the orders of the day:

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to ask the house leader when we can expect some of the long

list of proposed bills to be put on the order paper, which is now fairly well cleared up?

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Veterans Affairs): They will be ready for the house just as soon as the house is ready for these other items. We are going on now with estimates for the balance of this week. There will be plenty of material available for the opposition next week and the following week.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA-U.S.—JOINT STUDY ON ECONOMIC AID

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Hazen Argue (Assiniboia): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. It arises out of President Kennedy's strong plea for stepped up economic aid. I am wondering whether the Canadian government is giving further study to this proposal, whether any committee has been set up to study it, or whether there are any plans for joint study with the United States.

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think it would be the wish of the house to defer questions concerning the discussions which have been held between the Prime Minister and the President of the United States during the visit of the past two days until the Prime Minister's return to the house this evening or tomorrow morning.

CUBA—INQUIRY AS TO RETURN OF REMAINING CANADIAN MISSIONARIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gerard Loiselle (St. Ann): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Prime Minister I should like to ask a question of the parliamentary secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Sixty-one Canadian missionaries arrived yesterday from Cuba, and a press report this morning mentions that there are still 57 such missionaries remaining in Cuba. I should like to know whether there is any possibility that the government will furnish the means of transport for these missionaries.

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I shall be very glad to take this question as notice and see that a reply is provided at the earliest possible moment.