

Inquiries of the Ministry

the international joint commission made a report in connection with the proposed Passamaquoddy project?

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): In reply to the hon. member for Charlotte I would say that the international joint commission made its report to the two governments on October 23, 1950, recommending that a further investigation would be necessary to enable it to make recommendations concerning the feasibility of the Passamaquoddy project, and has estimated that such an investigation would cost \$3,900,000. The report suggests that the cost might be apportioned between the two countries in proportion to the benefits that each country would derive from the completed project. This report is still under study by the interested federal authorities, and has been referred to the government of New Brunswick.

KOREA

CANADIAN CASUALTIES—PRESS REPORT AS TO LETTERS WRITTEN TO RELATIVES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Justice if his attention has been directed to reports in the press that the families of soldiers who have appeared on the casualty lists from Korea are receiving letters which, it is stated, must have been communistically inspired. If so, will he let us know what has been done to investigate the situation?

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice): My attention has not been directed to the report in question, but on receipt of the information from my hon. friend I shall be glad to look into it at once.

SEPARATION ALLOWANCES TO DEPENDENTS OF CANADIAN SERVICE PERSONNEL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. H. Ferguson (Simcoe North): I should like to ask the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. Lapointe) if there is any difference between the separation allowance paid to dependents of Canadian service personnel in the Korean campaign and what was paid to dependents in world war II.

Mr. Abbott: Order paper.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that this is the time to ask a question of that kind.

DECENNIAL CENSUS

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS IN MANITOBA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, on a question of

privilege, may I ask for a supplementary answer to a question answered yesterday and appearing at page 996 and 997 of *Hansard*. I direct my request to the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Trade and Commerce, in whose name the answer is given. Without going into detail I would direct his attention to the fact that question 2 was in two parts. The first part was answered in the affirmative. The second part of the question was in these words:

If so, from what persons were such recommendations received—

That has not been answered.

Mr. G. J. McIlraith (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, on looking at the question I notice that it asks whether the Minister of Trade and Commerce had received recommendations from members of parliament, and, if so, from what persons were such recommendations received, and so on. I think it has been usual not to give information about correspondence between members of parliament and a minister. I think that is a well-accepted principle.

Mr. Knowles: On what is that rule based?

An hon. Member: Common sense.

Mr. McIlraith: If I had had some notice of this question I could have looked up the exact reference in Beauchesne's parliamentary procedure.

RENT CONTROL

QUESTION AS TO CONTINUANCE OF FEDERAL CONTROL AFTER APRIL 30

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. S. White (Hastings-Peterborough): May I ask the Prime Minister if he will be able to inform the house before the Easter adjournment what will be the policy of the government as to the continuance of rent control?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): There has been no change in the policy of the government, announced several months ago, affecting nation-wide rent control, which will expire at the end of April. The information I have, obtained from the press rather than from official sources, is to the effect that most of the provincial governments are arranging to enter this field at that time.

DEFENCE PRODUCTION ACT

CREATION OF NEW DEPARTMENT—MOBILIZATION OF ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES

The house resumed, from Tuesday, March 6, consideration in committee of Bill No. 77,