

Taxation Agreements

refugees. To assist in meeting this tragic situation, two amendments were made in the immigration regulations on May 28 which were made known to the house by the Minister of Mines and Resources (Mr. Glen) on May 29. The amendments will permit some increase in the movement of immigrants to Canada without discrimination as to race or creed by adding to the admissible classes the following:

The father or mother, the unmarried son or daughter eighteen years of age or over, the unmarried brother or sister, the orphan nephew or niece under sixteen years of age, of any person legally admitted to and resident in Canada who is in a position to receive and care for such relative.

Since many prospective immigrants coming within the above classes may not be able to obtain a valid passport, as required under present regulations, the acceptance has been authorized of alternative travel documents establishing the identity of the holder.

The action taken is intended as a short term measure to provide some early and partial relief in a number of individual cases. The general problem of refugees, because of its magnitude, can only be resolved by the united nations as a whole. Canada participated fully in the study given to it by the social and economic council at its recent meeting in New York and will join with other members of the council at the meeting which is scheduled for August 30 when a recommendation is expected to be submitted for approval by the general assembly for the establishment of a united nations refugee organization.

TAXATION AGREEMENTS

INQUIRY AS TO RESPONSE BY PROVINCES TO
DOMINION PROPOSALS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. P. C. BLACK (Cumberland): Has the Minister of Finance or the government received proposals or communications from Nova Scotia or from other provinces regarding taxation agreements or the payment of subsidies to such provinces in accordance with the budget? If so, has the dominion government made reply, and will copies of these communications be laid on the table?

Right Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance): The government has received telegrams or letters from two provinces accepting in principle the offer made to the provinces in the budget. Others have acknowledged the telegram and letter which I sent to them, stating that consideration will be given the offer. One province has asked for clarification

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

on a number of points, and a reply has been sent. Copies of these communications will be placed on the table in due course.

TRANSPORT COMMISSIONERS

MEETING OF BOARD AT CHARLOTTETOWN ON
JULY 17

Mr. W. CHESTER S. McLURE (Queens): I desire to direct a question to the Prime Minister, or the Minister of Transport, or both. Under what or by whose authority is the board of transport commissioners to hold a meeting in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on July 17 next regarding truck freight rates on the Borden-Tormentine ferry?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I am afraid I shall have to leave it to the Minister of Transport to answer that question, or have it stand as a notice.

Mr. McLURE: Then I would direct the question to the Minister of Transport.

Hon. LIONEL CHEVRIER (Minister of Transport): As the Prime Minister has already indicated, the question may be treated as notice. I shall inquire into it and have an answer for my hon. friend. I may tell him immediately, however, that any individual or group of individuals may make application to the board of transport commissioners to have rates revised, as the hon. gentleman was told some time ago in reply to a similar question. However, I shall be glad to ascertain who made this particular application.

Mr. McLURE: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I wish to protest against this meeting being held.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I do not think the hon. member should debate the matter here.

PRAIRIE FARM ASSISTANCE

INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF AMENDING BILL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. J. McCUAIG (Maple Creek): On May 30, under item 30 of his estimates, the Minister of Agriculture stated that it was his intention to introduce a bill this session to amend the Prairie Farm Assistance Act, and to refer it to the agriculture committee. When may we expect this bill to be brought down?

Hon. J. G. GARDINER (Minister of Agriculture): I just returned a few hours ago, and have not had an opportunity of ascertaining the position of this legislation at the moment. So far as I know, however, that is still the intention.