

derivatives, and cocaine. The inability of drug addicts to obtain these drugs has driven them to the use of codeine. When they first found their supply of these drugs cut off they resorted to paregoric. As soon as it was ascertained that the consumption of this drug was increasing it was brought under the active control. They are now using codeine. The use of codeine has been discussed by the representatives of Canada on the League of Nations, with the object of endeavouring to impose the same measures of control upon it that have been put into effect on other narcotics.

Successive governments have cooperated fully with the opium traffic and social welfare sections of the League of Nations in controlling the illegal traffic in narcotics. Canada has actively participated in the work of the advisory committee on traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs to which the chief of the narcotic division of the Department of Pensions and National Health was appointed as Canadian representative in 1934, and is at the present time chairman of this committee, and has for years proceeded to Geneva at least annually, at the expense of the Department of External Affairs of the Canadian government. He is at the present time acting in the capacity of chairman of the narcotic division of the League of Nations at Geneva, having been sent there by the government.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my grateful appreciation of the statement the minister has just read; for I had intended as a matter of privilege to make some statement in view of the use of my name very frequently last evening, and the charge made against me of personal responsibility for codeine being purchased by people in this country.

I desire to add just this word to what has been said. The services of Colonel Sharman, who is chief of the narcotic division of the health department, have been so highly spoken of by the League of Nations that it resulted in his being appointed chairman of a special committee dealing with narcotics, and, as I understand from the minister, he is now in Geneva.

During the time we were in office the Department of External Affairs saw to it that Canada was represented at the League of Nations, and Colonel Sharman discharged his duties in a manner that brought to us warm commendation upon his efforts and his appointment. I resent the idea of being charged personally with responsibility for the acquisition by

people of the habit of using dangerous drugs, simply because I happened for a time to hold office.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

IMPOSITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF SANCTIONS AGAINST ITALY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. S. WOODSWORTH (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, according to the press Geneva has been considering the question of sanctions. May I ask the Prime Minister to state whether in the recent discussions Canada voted in favour of a continuance of sanctions against Italy?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): In reply I would say to my hon. friend that Canada is not a member of the council and therefore did not have a vote in the matter.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: May I ask, since there has been consultation between the British empire and the dominions, what is the attitude of Canada in regard to the question of continuing sanctions against Italy?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: So far as I am aware, there has been no consultation in respect to the matter to which my hon. friend refers.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: May I ask one other question, whether the Prime Minister will shortly inform the house as to what the attitude of Canada is in regard to the continuance of sanctions against Italy?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I have already intimated that when we come to discuss the estimates we have still one item relating to the League of Nations, and at that time questions with reference thereto may be asked and will be answered so far as circumstances and information available will permit.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Does the Prime Minister intimate that no opportunity is to be given this house to discuss this matter before the estimates are under consideration? That was not my understanding the other day.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS—COAL

On the orders of the day:

Hon. FERNAND RINFRET (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the member for Royal (Mr. Brooks) inquired for a return regarding contracts for a supply of coal to dominion public buildings in the maritime provinces in the year 1935-36. I may say that the return involves several departments, and