

Inquiries of the Ministry

the more reason why permission to fly the flag should be cancelled immediately, and this shameful question brought to an end.

CHINA**INQUIRY AS TO PROHIBITION OF EXPORT OF CANADIAN FUNDS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. K. Fraser (Peterborough West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Justice. On January 31 of this year and November 15 of this year I addressed questions to the Minister of Finance in regard to prohibiting the export of funds to communist China. The parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Finance on November 16 gave an answer which was not very satisfactory. I am asking the Minister of Justice now whether, owing to the fact that Chinese in Peterborough have had demands made on them to the extent of \$5,000 and \$2,500 within the last two or three weeks, from relatives in China, he will look into the matter and see what can be done.

Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice): I would say in reply to the hon. member that we have already some time since looked into the matter. Since the blackmail in question takes place entirely within communist China, with which at the present time we have no diplomatic connections, it is difficult in this country to do anything about preventing blackmail in China.

Mr. Fraser: Owing to the fact that wires have been sent direct to these Chinese in Canada something should be done about it, something to check on it.

Mr. Garson: The hon. member has indicated in his first question that these demands came direct to citizens in Canada from relatives in China, and not from people who are blackmailing them. Therefore it would be difficult, I suggest,—and I think the hon. member would agree, upon reflection—to take any action within Canada which would prevent the commission of a crime in China.

Mr. Fraser: I know where amounts up to \$9,000 have been demanded. Is there not some way that this money can be stopped from going to communist China?

Mr. Garson: I would be prepared to accommodate the hon. member in that regard, but I think that is a question which should be directed to the Department of Finance.

Mr. Fraser: Then I direct it to the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Finance.

Mr. James Sinclair (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance): The answer that I would give today is exactly the same as the answer I gave at an earlier time. The only effective way to stop money going to China would be for the United States government and ourselves not only to stop all remittances to China but to have a complete postal censorship as well to stop bills being sent. Obviously that is impossible under present circumstances. There is another feature which has been raised by the Chinese in Vancouver who are suffering from these blackmail attempts. There are many families in China who are dependent upon the weekly or monthly remittances made by heads of families in Canada who have lived here for many years, and to cut off all remittances would cause great hardship to these families.

Mr. J. H. Ferguson (Simcoe North): I should like to address a question to the Minister of Justice. Does he not think that the attitude of the House of Commons in connection with this particular Chinese question reminds him of the attitude of the Liberal party when the Ming Sung situation was first brought up?

Mr. Garson: The answer is "no".

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The house resumed, from Monday, November 26, consideration of the motion of Mr. Robert Cauchon for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Drew, and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Quelch.

(Translation):

Mr. Raoul Poulin (Beauce): Mr. Speaker, in rising for the second time to take part in the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, I wish to say a few words in favour of the amendment to the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Acadia (Mr. Quelch) requesting an increase in the amount of war veterans allowances.

In the constituency of Beauce, which I represent, it is known that I am pacifist in the proper sense of the word, and that I am opposed to this war psychosis which sometimes seems to be artificially, even deliberately, brought about.

Nevertheless I have the greatest admiration and the deepest sympathy for those who generously offer their lives for their country which they believe to be threatened or attacked.