

*Motions for Papers*

from supplying that information if they felt that it could at any moment be tabled in the house. We think they would be much more reluctant to comply with this requirement.

The publication of this list would involve the names of several Canadians who have very valid reasons requiring them to travel to countries behind the iron curtain, and under present conditions the placing of their names in the list of persons who have given notice of their intention to go there would be apt to cause them some embarrassment among those who did not know the reasons for their proposed visits. I think the hon. member will probably agree that it will be easier for the administration of the passport office and it will help in getting all the information that the office wishes to secure, to continue to treat it as confidential. For that reason I might venture to ask the hon. member if he would not consent to drop the motion at this time.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, if I might be permitted to refer to what the Prime Minister has said, just by way of a preliminary to answering the question he has directed to me, may I say, first, that I did not want, and do not now want, the names of persons going to the U.S.S.R., or to these other countries, who are good Canadians desirous of carrying out official or like responsibilities.

The purpose, however, of the motion is to secure clarification of a question I asked on October 31, 1951, wherein I asked regarding a number of persons who desired to travel to the U.S.S.R., Poland and Hungary; and the answer given was that, from June, 1950, on, when the regulation was brought into effect, to which the Prime Minister referred, there were only eighteen—one to the U.S.S.R., nine to Poland and eight to Hungary.

I have reason to believe that that answer is not a correct answer, and it was for that reason I placed this motion on the order paper. What I wanted to secure was this: a record of the individuals who from time to time leave Canada for participation in any activity sponsored by communist international organizations. For example, I might refer to the visit to the festival of youth, in Berlin, of fifty-five Canadians, of whom twelve were thereafter invited as guests of the U.S.S.R. to tour the U.S.S.R. The Prime Minister has stated that if I press this application it would make necessary the revelation of secret and investigatory reports by the mounted police. That is an argument to which I would be the last one to take objection. In withdrawing this motion and acceding to the Prime Minister's argument in support of the withdrawal, I do ask that the

[Mr. St. Laurent.]

Prime Minister bring to the attention of the department such persons who leave this country to participate in communist activities abroad, and on return disseminate in this country the propaganda they have secured under schooled auspices.

In view of what the Prime Minister had said, I withdraw the motion. I would be the last to do anything that in any way would infringe upon security.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** I thank the hon. member for accepting the explanation given. The answer to his question was that since that regulation came into force there were eighteen persons who had complied with it, and given the information called for by the regulation of June 30, 1951.

Now, the hon. member will realize that when anyone applies for a passport he applies for a passport to travel abroad, and the passport office has only such information as he supplies. The passport does not give him the right to enter a country behind the iron curtain. In order to do that he has to get the visa of the authorities in the country he wishes to visit. We do not get from the countries behind the iron curtain the exchange of information we get from other countries about visas granted for travel in the countries concerned.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** It was a communist newspaper that gave me information I cannot get here.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** The department would not have it; and perhaps the communist organization does not give us all the information they gave the hon. member.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** That is why there should be better security measures.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then the motion of the hon. member for Lake Centre is dropped.

#### USE OF WORD "DOMINION" FOR COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES

##### **Mr. Fulton:**

For a copy of all correspondence exchanged between or on behalf of the government of Canada and the government of the United Kingdom or the government of any other commonwealth country during the last five years concerning the use of the word "dominion" as applied to commonwealth countries, and particularly with reference to any suggested or proposed change or alteration in the description or style of title of commonwealth countries.

**Mr. St. Laurent:** Mr. Speaker, there has been no exchange of correspondence on this subject with the governments of the United Kingdom or other commonwealth countries in the last five years, except for the telegrams exchanged between Mr. Atlee and Mr. Mackenzie King in June, 1947, when Mr.