

effect upon our institutions and the respect that the people of Canada have for the judiciary of Canada. I want to make that very clear.

Mr. GREEN: What arrangements are made to look after the interests of Canadians abroad, such as in the recent troubles in Shanghai? Refugees have arrived on the Pacific coast from that troubled area and many have complained bitterly of the lack of help and protection given to them by any Canadian officials in Shanghai. If they wanted any help they had to go to the British. Such a situation does not seem right and I should like to know what arrangements are made to look after Canadians who are in distress.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The statement just made by my hon. friend would imply that Canada should have either a legation or a consular service in every country of the world. If we are to look after our Canadian citizens everywhere, as the great powers seek to do, that would be the proper course to follow. I believe the time will come when Canada will have ministers and consuls general in all parts of the world, but I question very much if the Canadian people would approve of the government taking so far-reaching a step at the present time. So far as Shanghai is concerned, we have no minister, nor have we a consular service in China. We have a fund which is used to help in the repatriation of Canadian citizens in different parts of the world where situations arise such as the serious bombardment which took place in Shanghai. We sought to get as full information as possible about Canadian citizens in China and in that port in particular. We gathered such information as we could from bodies and corporations in this country that had representatives in China. We also communicated with the British authorities who were entirely ready to render any assistance that they could to any British subject in China, whether he came from Australia, South Africa or any other part of the empire. Our own citizens who were there in a business capacity rendered what help they could, but no assistance was received from any Canadian minister or any consul general because there was not one there.

Mr. GREEN: Did the Canadian government take any steps to help Canadians get away from Shanghai?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Had we received any communication indicating the necessity for so doing, we would have endeavoured to make some response, but we were not requested to take any steps to that end.

Mr. GREEN: If a Canadian became destitute because of the trouble occurring there, would this government help him to evacuate his family? Is there a fund for that purpose?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: There is a limited fund that is available for repatriating Canadian citizens who are in distress. Each case has to be more or less carefully examined and the help given would depend upon the circumstances. I would not like to make the general statement that everyone would be assisted; it would depend entirely upon the circumstances.

Mr. MacNEIL: I would appreciate a statement from the Prime Minister as to our relationships with those great powers whose policies may not always be in accord with those of the United Kingdom. In many countries our interests are handled by the British ambassador and there is some concern that should occasion arise to withdraw the British ambassador, it might be considered that Canada was automatically a belligerent nation. Has the government considered the desirability of extending our consular service to certain great European and Asiatic countries?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The question of having a consular service of our own has been under consideration. We have our trade commissioners who perform in considerable degree the duties that consuls general perform. So far as Europe is concerned I question very much whether this would be the best moment in which to institute a consular service. There are times and seasons for all things. I agree with my hon. friend that it is desirable that we should have our own consular service. I have no doubt that we shall soon begin in a small way, as we have with our legations, to have consular representation in different countries.

Item agreed to.

Grant for expenses of Canadian committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in connection with summer meeting to be held in Ottawa in 1938, \$3,500.

Mr. McCANN: I notice this is a grant for \$3,500. Last year when a purely Canadian institute, the Canadian Medical Association, was meeting in the city of Ottawa, the grant was but \$1,000, although it is an organization of ten thousand members. I should like to know upon what basis these grants are made from time to time.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: This gathering will be international in its character. Where similar gatherings have been held in the