

Mr. MITCHELL: If my hon. friend had had on his mind what I had on mine at that time, namely the international situation, and particularly the situation in the near east, one which has cleared up considerably since then, I think he would have got anyone he could to move those Japanese out of British Columbia.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: I think the hon. member for New Westminster can look after himself.

Mr. MITCHELL: The next question was about a gentleman and a stenographer in Port Arthur. At the present time I think we have about 1,800 Japanese in Ontario. We have a large concentration camp in northern Ontario in which there are about 600 or 700 Japanese. This gentleman and his office staff are engaged in the general supervision of the Japanese in that part of Ontario, and in their placement. The next question, I think, was about a Mr. Trueman, located in the city of Toronto. He has the general direction of the movement of the Japanese in eastern Canada, in the province of Quebec and particularly in central and eastern Ontario.

Mr. REID: Probably I shall have more to say about this before the item passes, but the questions I want to ask of the minister at the moment are in regard to an order in council which was passed on Friday, May 28, in connection with the wood-cutting proposition. By that order in council the Minister of Labour is made responsible for having the Japanese cut fire wood. Paragraph 1 reads:

1. To undertake and engage in wood fuel cutting and other timber operations to the extent necessary to supply the needs of the interior Japanese housing settlement in British Columbia. . . .

My question in regard to this is: Have the Japanese been engaged and paid to cut fire wood for their own homes? My second question relates to paragraph 3:

3. To deliver, sell or otherwise dispose of, and to make arrangements with the wood fuel controller. . . .

Will the wood they cut be sold to the wood controller at cost price or at a set price? The third question is in regard to paragraph 5, which reads:

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Civil Service Act to employ, from time to time, occidental machine operators, foremen and assistants required in carrying out the said projects.

Will these men be placed under the civil service commission after their appointments?

Mr. MITCHELL: The answer to the first question, whether they will cut wood for their own homes, is, yes; at cost price, of course. The second question was whether they will cut fire wood for sale, and the answer is, yes. I hope they will cut a hundred thousand cords of fire wood. Of course that will be sold on a strictly competitive basis; there will not be any question of unfair competition with those people who are at present engaged in the industry. The third question was in regard to the men operating the machines. My hon. friend, who comes from British Columbia, knows that, in the operation of the lumber industry there, certain highly skilled operatives are engaged. This provision was to enable us to appoint these people to operate the machines and also to appoint the necessary foremen in connection with getting out the lumber. I do not know about the civil service end of it. At the moment I have not given any thought to that.

Mr. REID: What will the Japanese receive for cutting fire wood for themselves and for the public?

Mr. MITCHELL: They will be paid so much a cord, according to the usual custom in British Columbia.

Progress reported.

On motion of Mr. Mackenzie (Vancouver Centre) the house adjourned at 10.55 p.m.

Wednesday, June 30, 1943

The house met at three o'clock.

PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

REMARKS OF MR. LACOMBE IN DEBATE ON JUNE 25—STATEMENT OF MR. SPEAKER—MOTION FOR COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of the widespread public interest regarding the statement which was made by the hon. member for Laval-Two Mountains (Mr. Lacombe) as contained in *Hansard* of Friday, June 25 last, at page 4042:

Nous avons dans le Gouvernement trois nouveaux millionnaires depuis la déclaration de la guerre. Nous les dénoncerons en temps et lieu. Les fortunes s'édifient.

Or, in English:

We have in the government three new millionaires since the declaration of war. We will denounce them at the proper time and place. Fortunes are being built up.