

When the magnitude of the movement can be better determined it may be advisable to make an appeal throughout the dominion for funds to help take care of the expenses that are bound to come. I might add that we are planning to set up a dominion-wide organization in the nature of a supervisory board or committee, and probably a liaison officer or local committee in each province to work in cooperation with the provincial authorities.

The house will agree with me that these proposals constitute a unique adventure. I am sure the Canadian people will understand and sympathize with the difficulties and anxieties of parents in Britain who have to decide on the matter of parting with their children, to be moved thousands of miles away into the care of strangers. This thought I am sure is in the minds of thousands of Canadian mothers and fathers to-day. Nevertheless there will be some difficulties. The warmth of the welcome given in some homes may become cooler; in some cases the child, because of the complete change in environment, may become a problem. Notwithstanding these and other problems which may arise, I am sure we may depend upon the overwhelming and continued support of the Canadian people.

Just a few minutes before I came into the chamber a cable came in from our high commissioner. This was partly in reply to a cable dispatched to him several days ago, dealing with the question when we may expect children and in what numbers, because it is necessary for us to have as much information on that as possible, in order that we may plan a little ahead their distribution and care. The cable says:

Anticipate 3,000 will arrive approximately middle of July and a further 750 each five days from then up to July 25. Will send details as soon as available.

The details, I assume, would be as to number of boys and girls, religious faith, and similar information. This message would indicate, I take it, that up to July 25 we may receive from 5,000 to 5,500 children.

QUESTION RESPECTING "CALLING CANADA" ADVERTISEMENT IN NEWSPAPERS

Mr. PAUL MARTIN (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, I have had brought to my attention an advertisement which has recently appeared in the *Evening Telegram* of Toronto and in a number of newspapers across Canada, and which I am advised has been refused by a still greater number of newspapers. This advertisement is purported to be given out by a group calling themselves "Calling Canada". This advertisement is headed "Calling Mr. King" and the text is as follows:

English mothers rush to evacuate children.

Geoffrey Shakespeare, parliamentary secretary for the dominions, told a press conference that Great Britain has given up plans for immediate mass evacuation of children from the British Isles to the dominions.

The dangers of transportation and lack of adequate reception facilities were given as reasons.

Hitler's bombers will raid England to-night, to-morrow night and the next night.

The battle of Britain has begun.

The slaughter of children is beginning.

Then follows a picture of a poor child crying. Below the picture is the following:

How's your conscience, Mr. King?

For over a year thousands of Canadian homes have been clamouring for a chance to take the children in, pleading for a plan to meet this hour.

You have been the obstacle.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the government and the house two questions: Is this not a matter far beyond the standards of fair comment or criticism? Does it not call for immediate consideration by the government?

Right Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the advertisement to which the hon. member has referred is certainly a dastardly attack upon the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King), and the facts being false makes the comment still more malicious. I am not prepared to say that it comes under the defence of Canada regulations dealing with subversive literature, though I do not know anything better calculated to create disaffection and to hamper war work in Canada. I shall submit this matter to the law officers, and at the same time ask the Secretary of State (Mr. Casgrain) to obtain a report from those in charge of press censorship. I myself believe that "Calling Canada" should be called to some sense of propriety.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to say anything with respect to this particular advertisement as such, but I do feel that inasmuch as some days ago I advised the house that there would necessarily be a delay in connection with evacuated children coming to Canada, on account of the desire of the British government to use transportation facilities for the distribution of alien internees, I ought now, in view of what is set forth in the advertisement, to make it quite clear that in that statement I was quoting from official documents.

This advertisement has appeared since I made the statement in the House of Commons that it would not be possible to have the children come without priority being given to interned aliens. I have in my hand some