

CANADA

House of Commons Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, July 7, 1931.

The house met at three o'clock.

PRIVATE BILLS

FIRST AND SECOND READINGS—SENATE BILLS

Bill No. 114 for the relief of Robert Ruff Martin.—Mr. Gray.

Bill No. 115 for the relief of Norah Kathleen Nevins Scott.—Mr. White (Mount Royal).

Bill No. 116 for the relief of Albert Thompson Johnston.—Mr. Bell (St. Antoine).

Bill No. 117 for the relief of Isabel Catherine Rohrer White.—Mr. White (Mount Royal).

PRIVILEGE—MR. MULLINS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. A. MULLINS (Marquette): As a matter of privilege, I wish to ask the Minister of Agriculture a question. I have received a letter from Manitoba from a former member of the house. The letter reads:

There is a report circulating here, and in your constituency, that you contracted for all the available ocean space for cattle, and that the government had to bargain with you.

Will you kindly let me know the facts, and oblige.

I wish to ask the Minister of Agriculture if that is so, and whether I ever had anything to do with any contract for ocean space in any shape or form.

Hon. ROBERT WEIR (Minister of Agriculture): So far as I am aware, the hon. member for Marquette has had nothing to do with the allotment of space.

EMBARGO ON RUSSIAN GOODS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): Before the orders of the day are proceeded with, I promised the hon. member for North Winnipeg (Mr. Heaps) to lay on the table such documents as were in the possession of the department relating to the labour legislation of the Soviet Socialist Republic and other matters in connection

with the embargo. There is a circular letter, one copy only of which is included among the papers, there being several hundred received by the department in printed form, protesting against the embargo. There were also similar letters in favour of it. That, I am advised, is all that is available.

ILLEGAL ENTRY OF JAPANESE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. THOMAS REID (New Westminster): I wish to ask the Minister of Justice a question in regard to an investigation taking place in British Columbia. I have here an article which states:

Illegal entry of hundreds of Japanese to British Columbia, forging and altering of passports, and questionable deals in fishing licences may be exposed by an investigation being conducted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Has the Minister of Justice directed that inquiry to be held?

Hon. HUGH GUTHRIE (Minister of Justice): No investigation is going on at the instance of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Some investigation is taking place, I understand, at the instance of the Department of Immigration, and the police force, which is in the locality has offered its services to assist. That is all.

INCOME TAX

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Leader of the Opposition): I asked my right hon. friend yesterday whether he would consider giving to the house a statement which would make more intelligible the exact effect of the proposed increases and decreases in the income tax.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Prime Minister): I have not had an opportunity to get it in the meantime.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Will my right hon. friend endeavour to let us have it as soon as possible?

Mr. BENNETT: I will.