

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, April 17, 1951

The house met at three o'clock.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

CHANGE IN PERSONNEL OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. W. G. Weir (Portage-Neepawa) moved:

That the name of Mr. Pearkes be substituted for that of Mr. Homuth on the standing committee on public accounts.

That the name of Mr. Decore be substituted for that of Mr. Welbourn on the standing committee on public accounts.

Motion agreed to.

FISHERIES

QUOTA ON SHIPMENTS OF LOBSTERS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

Mr. J. Watson MacNaught (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Fisheries): Yesterday the hon. member for Queens (Mr. McLure) directed the following question to the department:

What is the quota to the United Kingdom on the shipment of lobsters for the year 1951? Is the quota based on cases or on dollar value?

Under the scheme of token shipments administered by the Department of Trade and Commerce, the 1951 quota for shipment of canned lobsters to the United Kingdom is fixed at forty per cent of the average annual value of exports of this commodity to the United Kingdom during the base period 1936, 1937 and 1938.

The 1951 quota amounts to \$489,138.

JAPANESE PEACE TREATY

QUESTION AS TO DRAFTS SUBMITTED BY UNITED STATES AND UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. L. T. Stick (Trinity-Conception): I should like to ask a question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has he anything to add to the statement with regard to consultations on the Japanese peace treaty which he made in the house on April 2?

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I have only this to add, that we have received a draft treaty from the United States government, and we have made a careful study of it. The observations of the Canadian government with respect to it will be forwarded shortly to Washington.

I might also say at this time that there is a broad measure of agreement between our views and those of the United States government on the basic issues of the treaty. It is our expectation that after the views of the governments concerned have been submitted to the United States government there will be further consultation, with the object of concerting future procedure.

Mr. Graydon: Is it the intention to have any kind of conference among the powers in connection with this matter?

Mr. Pearson: It has not yet been decided whether the Japanese peace treaty will be signed at a formal conference, or will be signed separately by governments, with the Japanese government, as a result of negotiations among themselves.

Mr. Browne (St. John's West): I should like to ask a supplementary question. In today's *Ottawa Citizen* there is a statement to the effect that the United Kingdom had submitted a draft treaty to the United States. Has that also been submitted to Canada, and can the minister say whether the government of Canada is in agreement with the terms of that draft treaty?

Mr. Pearson: I understand that the comments of the United Kingdom government on the American draft have taken now the form of another draft treaty submitted by the United Kingdom government. That United Kingdom draft has been submitted to us, but I have not yet had an opportunity to see it. In fact I am not sure whether it has actually arrived in the department.

Mr. Graydon: The situation is full of drafts.

Mr. Green: Is the question of a Pacific defence pact included in these discussions?

Mr. Pearson: No, not in discussions of the Japanese peace treaty.

STEEL

DEFENCE PRODUCTION—SUPPLY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Defence Production): Mr. Speaker, with reference to a question asked in the house by the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. MacInnis), as reported at page 1988 of *Hansard* for April 13, I would say that representation has