

be adults. It indicated that these persons were intending to proceed to Paraguay for permanent residence. Group certificates not being available, individual applications for passports will be necessary. The individual application for at least one family has been brought to the attention of the passport officer.

We have no information concerning the departure from Canada of a large number of Hutterites.

On May 23, 1947, I made a statement to the house concerning the emigration to Yugoslavia of certain residents of Canada. Statements which I made at that time concerning loss of domicile and citizenship apply to any other persons who propose to leave Canada either singly or in groups. There is no compulsion upon anyone to remain in Canada if he desires to take up permanent residence in another country.

It is regrettable that persons who have for some years lived in Canada should prefer to leave our country, but we find that there are many persons in other countries anxious to come and live in Canada. Furthermore, there may be particular factors inducing people to move elsewhere. Such factors may be an economy more suited to their particular way of life, climate more in accord with their desires, the presence of kinfolk and so forth.

It may be of some interest to mention that there was recently received, through the embassy in Buenos Aires, advice that over 2,300 Mennonites from the Black sea area had arrived in Paraguay, and that the director of Mennonites in that country had approached the British authorities on behalf of a number of the group who, having close relatives here, were desirous of joining them in Canada. The inquiry is being dealt with through the regular immigration channels.

TORONTO HARBOUR

INQUIRY AS TO DAMAGE FROM HIGH WATER AND FLOODS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. L. CHURCH (Broadview): I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Public Works. Has the minister received a report from his engineers with regard to the damage on Toronto centre island from high water and floods? Three weeks ago a copy of it was ordered as a return.

Hon. ALPHONSE FOURNIER (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I did receive a report from our engineer at Toronto, which reads in part as follows:

The only damage which I was able to observe in any of the structures was a small gap forty feet wide near the west end of the rubble-mound breakwater. Because of the abnormally high water, it is difficult to determine what amount of stone would be necessary to repair this break and it is possible that only the crest of the breakwater has been damaged.

Mr. CHURCH: What about the government breakwater?

MOUNTED POLICE

RECRUITMENT OF PERSONNEL TO ARMED SERVICES

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, last night the hon. member for Lake Centre (Mr. Diefenbaker) asked me to lay on the table a copy of a general order referred to in the discussion last night of the estimates for the Department of Justice. It is general order 1073 for the week ended September 30, 1939.

I am now laying on the table the Royal Canadian Mounted Police general orders, part I, issued by the commissioner for the week ended September 30, 1939. The two relevant orders are Nos. 1073 and 1074.

No. 1073 sets out a letter from the then minister of justice to the commissioner, of which the relevant parts are I believe the following:

I fully realize that young men in particular will have a great desire to enlist for overseas service, and while this patriotic spirit is entirely commendable, nevertheless the important duties which I have outlined, when energetically and faithfully carried out, are of no less importance than those which might be performed on active service.

Furthermore it must be obvious to all members of the force that these important duties can only be efficiently performed by a trained personnel, and for these reasons I shall not be able to consent to granting any leave of absence to officers, non-commissioned officers or constables of the force for the purpose of serving in any expeditionary force which may leave Canada on active service, with the possible exception of a representative unit to be recruited from the R.C.M. police. Neither will it be possible to grant discharges from the force to enable non-commissioned officers or men to enlist for overseas service. No discharges by purchase will be authorized until further orders.

In conclusion, I further desire to express my sincere appreciation of the services which have been rendered by the force to the country and the empire in the past, and to ask you to see that my views on this important subject are communicated to all officers, non-commissioned officers and constables.

Ernest Lapointe.

The commissioner in his letter says:

I now enclose copy of general order number 1073 for the week ended September 30, 1939, which is the actual general order in question and which is distributed throughout the length