

HOUSE OF COMMONS

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Friday, April 24, 1953

The house met at eleven o'clock.

**BANKING AND COMMERCE**

Sixth report of standing committee on banking and commerce.—Mr. Cleaver.

**SCRAP IRON**

CORRECTION OF STATEMENT WITH REFERENCE  
TO EXPORTS TO JAPAN

**Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, in the course of last night's debate on trade and commerce estimates, as recorded on page 4316 of *Hansard*, the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Fleming) asked me if any exports of scrap iron had been made to Japan in recent months. In replying to the hon. member I had in mind our policy covering scrap generated in eastern Canada, where well over 90 per cent of our scrap is collected and used, and I answered "No, none whatever."

I have since consulted our steel division and find that I overlooked the fact that we have a special problem in British Columbia, where the collection of certain types of scrap is in excess of the melting capacity of the local furnaces. The scrap dealers in buying heavy smelting scrap are obliged to take cast iron scrap, railroad car axles and other types, which are not in demand on the Pacific coast.

Cast iron scrap has also been in surplus in eastern Canada and in the United States and, accordingly, we have licensed the export of these types for shipment to Japan.

Since January 1, 1953, these permits have covered 3,650 tons of scrap iron, 325 tons of scrap railroad car axles, and 1,000 tons of small cuttings and shearings.

**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

INQUIRY AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF BISHOP  
CUTHBERT O'GARA

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. W. J. Browne (St. John's West):** Mr. Speaker, about ten days ago I asked the acting minister of external affairs if the government had been in touch with the Chinese authorities as to the whereabouts of Bishop Cuthbert O'Gara who was supposed to be coming to Hong Kong, and he replied that inquiries had been made of the British

department of foreign affairs and that they were continuing inquiries. The minister indicated that he might have some information in a few days.

**Hon. Paul Martin (Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member spoke to me the other day and I told him that I hoped to be able to give him some information the day before yesterday. Yesterday I told him that I hoped to be able to give him information today. I am afraid that I will not be able to give him anything useful until perhaps next Tuesday.

**DOUKHOBORS**

INQUIRY AS TO REQUEST FOR PROVINCIAL  
CONFERENCE RE SONS OF FREEDOM

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. In view of the rapidly-growing concern of the people of Kootenay West over the developing Sons of Freedom problem and the particular concern of the railroads, and in view of representations from various quarters that a dominion-provincial conference might be of assistance, I should like to ask the minister if he has received a request from the attorney general of British Columbia for a conference to discuss this serious problem.

**Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, the answer to my hon. friend's question is "No", but perhaps I should not leave it there. The attorney general of British Columbia wired me for an appointment on April 23, and then wired again to say that he could not be here on that date but would be here on April 30. It may be that he plans to raise this matter when he comes.

**SUPPLY**

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Beaudoin in the chair.

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION  
A—Department—

57. Departmental administration, \$280,729.

**Mr. Gillis:** Last evening before the house adjourned I had been making some general observations on the question of immigration.