

standing on the order paper since November 13. Question 17, surely, would take only a few minutes to answer, and I submit that nine weeks is too long to take to answer a question of that kind. We ought to have an answer to both these questions immediately.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: May I say to my hon. friend that, unfortunately, I came into the house without the replies as they have been prepared by the department, but I shall endeavour to answer the questions orally now.

\*REPRESENTATION OF VICHY GOVERNMENT IN CANADA

Mr. Church:

1. Has the Vichy government of France an ambassador or envoy in Canada?
2. If so, where is he located, who are the members of his staff; is there any inspection of the same, or regulation of the embassy?
3. Is it intended to close this legation?
4. Has the government received any request from his majesty's government of Great Britain to keep it open? If so, from whom?
5. Does this Vichy office in Ottawa conduct any dominion or empire business with Vichy?
6. If so, what is the amount of such business and of what nature is it?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING:

1. There is a representative of the government of France in Canada.
2. The legation is located on Sussex street, and the same precautions are taken with respect to the French legation as are taken with respect to other legations in the city.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): That does not answer the question.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: It does not answer, "who are the members of his staff".

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Is there any inspection or regulation of the embassy?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Just the same, I would say to my hon. friend, as is the case with all the other legations. As long as there are legations here they are all treated alike. Answering now questions 3 and 4:

3. It is not the intention of the government at the present time to ask that the legation be closed.

4. My hon. friend (Mr. Hanson, York-Sunbury) is I think aware that when the right hon. the Prime Minister of Great Britain was here, speaking to members of the press, he made the intimation publicly that he would like to have our relations maintained with the Vichy government. Mr. Churchill has authorized me to make it quite clear that such a desire does exist on his part. This govern-

ment is most anxious to cooperate with the British government in all particulars, and we feel that in this matter we are cooperating in a way that will be helpful generally.

Answering now question 5:

5. The legation, I assume, conducts the regular business that comes before it in the regular way.

I cannot answer the last question, "What is the amount of such business and of what nature is it?"

\*REPRESENTATION OF CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IN EIRE

Mr. CHURCH:

1. Does the government maintain an envoy or minister in Eire?
2. If so, who is he, who are the members of his staff and what are their respective salaries and other allowances?
3. What is the annual cost to Canada?
4. Do Australia and New Zealand maintain similar offices in Eire, and where are they located?
5. Has Canada trade commissioners in Dublin?
6. If so, are these envoys not duplications of services rendered by trade agents?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING:

1. The government has a representative, a high commissioner in Eire.
2. Mr. John Kearney, K.C., of Montreal, for some time past has been high commissioner in Eire. I have not the names of other members of the office and staff. Mr. E. J. Garland, a former member of this house, is next to the high commissioner, and Miss O'Malley, a private secretary, is also a member of the staff.

3. I shall have to give this answer at another time, also the answer to question 4.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): The Prime Minister cannot answer from memory, does he mean?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Yes. Answering questions 5 and 6:

5. Canada has trade commissioners in Dublin.
6. No.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I do suggest that this is a very slipshod way of answering formal questions on the order paper. Will the Prime Minister say that formal answers will be brought down in view of his intimation that they had been prepared?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: My hon. friend said that he wished to have the questions answered immediately.