

THE SENATE

INQUIRY AS TO APPOINTMENTS TO FILL EXISTING VACANCIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. G. ROSS (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, in view of the urgency of the situation and the desirability of strengthening in every possible way our parliamentary institutions by recruiting thereto men and women of outstanding ability, will the Prime Minister tell the house when he will be in a position to announce the appointment of men and women of ability to the Senate of Canada to fill the many vacancies at present existing?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I shall be glad to take note of my hon. friend's desire to be considered in that connection.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING

DESIRABILITY OF DISPLAYING THE ROYAL PORTRAIT IN RECRUITING STATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. JEAN-FRANÇOIS POULIOT (Témiscouata): May I ask the government if it is not possible to have a fine picture of His Majesty the King, the commander of the army, in each recruiting office?

Hon. J. L. RALSTON (Minister of National Defence): I will deal with that when my estimates are under consideration.

TORONTO HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

EXPEDITING OF BILL ON ORDER PAPER IN NAME OF MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. H. HARRIS (Danforth): In the absence of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Cardin) may I ask the government to be kind enough to expedite the introduction of the bill standing in the name of that minister having to do with the Toronto harbour commissioners. The urgency lies in the fact that the summer vacation of the city council may preclude the possibility of taking advantage of a \$5,000,000 debenture issue which is coming due on September 1.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I can promise my hon. friend that the matter will be taken up to-morrow.

INTERNMENTS

ESCAPES OF GERMAN PRISONERS FROM CANADIAN CAMPS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. K. FRASER (Peterborough West): I should like to address a question to the

Minister of Justice (Mr. St. Laurent). Owing to the escape of two more German prisoners from the internment camp at Bowmanville, as reported over the radio this morning, will the minister tell the house whether these frequent escapes are being investigated by his department and whether provision is being made to stop such escapes?

Hon. J. L. RALSTON (Minister of National Defence): That comes under my department. The guards at internment camps are under the Department of National Defence, and I have constituted a board, composed of Colonel G. S. Stairs, M.C., V.D., of Montreal, Colonel K. R. Marshall, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., of Toronto, and Colonel C. M. Edwards, D.S.O., V.D., of Ottawa, who will make a special investigation with regard to the escape of these two prisoners, and any other matters that may be referred to them in connection with the administration of the camp. There have been four different commanding officers there and the escapes which have occurred have occurred under all of them, so that it seems to be a question as to where the responsibility lies. However, the matter is being thoroughly investigated by the officers whom I have named. As a matter of fact I ordered that the district officer commanding should himself proceed to Bowmanville this morning. I did so the moment the report came in and he is on the ground now. The court of inquiry will be constituted at once.

THE "NEW CANADIAN"

VANCOUVER NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH—PRE-PUBLICATION CENSORSHIP

On the orders of the day:

Hon. N. A. McLARTY (Secretary of State): On Monday the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Reid) asked a question with regard to a paper which is being published in Vancouver under the name of the *New Canadian*. It is published in Japanese and in English, and the hon. member inquired whether any steps are being taken to check up on it. I have now secured the necessary information and would advise that the *New Canadian* is still being published in English and in Japanese at 396 Powell street, Vancouver. It generally appears three times a week. Its Japanese section occupies approximately one-quarter of its space and consists entirely of translations of official announcements and notices affecting the Japanese-Canadian population. In regard to the second portion of the question, I would point out that in the early days of the war the *New Canadian* was handled exactly like all other Canadian publications; it was subject to post-publication censorship. However,