

with feed grain was held over for consideration until after representations were received from the farmers' organization last Friday. It is now being given consideration, and an announcement will be made in due course.

PRIVILEGE

MR. PEARKE—WITHDRAWAL OF CANADIAN TROOPS FROM EUROPE—PRODUCTION OF PAPERS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. R. PEARKE (Nanaimo): On April 8, 1946, the Prime Minister asked me not to press at that time my request for the production of papers connected with the withdrawal of the Canadian occupational troops from Europe. In view of the statement made last evening by the Secretary of State for External Affairs will the government now table those papers so that this house may obtain full information on the subject in its relationship to other pending international agreements?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. GRAYDON: There should be an answer.

Right Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The regular way to obtain the production of papers is by a notice of motion on the order paper.

Mr. PEARKE: Mr. Speaker, it was on a motion for the production of these papers that the Prime Minister made the statement to which I have referred.

Mr. GRAYDON: The minister and the Prime Minister are as far apart as the poles.

MR. GILLIS—INCOMPLETE ANSWER TO ORDER FOR RETURN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. CLARENCE GILLIS (Cape Breton South): I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, in order to call the attention of the Secretary of State to the fact that sessional paper No. 142A, tabled yesterday in answer to some questions I asked, is incomplete. I suggest that now he should advise me how I might go about getting the necessary information. In my opinion questions 4 and 5 in this order were not answered at all. I believe the Department of National Revenue were in error in their answer to question No. 4, when they said it was contrary to the practice of the department to furnish information which would disclose the private transactions of the importers at customs. In my question I did not

suggest that any private transactions should be disclosed. I merely asked for the names of companies importing fuel into Canada—nothing about their private transactions.

Question 5 was whether any of the importing fuel companies in Canada were subsidiaries of operating coal companies in Canada or the United States, and the answer was, no information. If the Department of National Revenue or the wartime prices and trade board, which answered these questions, have not that information, then surely some other government department has it. I wonder if I could impose upon the good nature of the Secretary of State to the extent of asking him to suggest to me some way by which I could get this information. I should like to have it because it involves large expenditures of the taxpayers' money, and it is information to which I believe we are entitled.

Hon. COLIN GIBSON (Secretary of State): I shall look into the matter.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The house resumed from Friday, February 7, consideration of the motion of Mr. J. W. MacNaught for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Bracken, and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Coldwell.

Mr. RODNEY ADAMSON (York West): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see that there is at least somebody in the Department of Finance who realizes there is such a thing as a gold industry in Canada. But I want to say here and now that the plan just brought down to the house by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Abbott) will be of as little use as the plan he brought down previously.

Mr. CHEVRIER: You have not even looked at it.

Mr. GRAYDON: He did not have to look at it; it was read to the house.

Mr. ADAMSON: The plan will be of no use whatsoever, because the mines which are facing virtual extinction are those the basic costs of which to produce an ounce of gold are greater than \$35. To offer any tax relief, or to call this a measure of tax relief for mines which at the present time are operating in the red, is only adding insult to injury.

There is one thing to be said about the minister's statement: After four or five years of constant hammering at the Department