

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

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Wednesday, June 20, 1956

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

#### TUNISIA AND MOROCCO—RECOGNITION BY CANADA

**Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform the house that after careful consideration the government came to the conclusion that we should recognize the emergence to independent status of Tunisia and Morocco. I dispatched last night messages of felicitations and good wishes to the prime ministers of these two new independent states. I should like to lay on the table copies of those messages.

**Mr. Fleming:** May I ask if that indicates that the government contemplates the exchange of diplomatic representatives?

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** No, Mr. Speaker, not at this time. It was merely a recognition of the fact that these two new states have now independent status.

### MOTION FOR PAPERS

#### C.B.C.—T.V. AND RADIO NEWS PROGRAMS

*Motion No. 83—Mr. Reinke:*

For a written copy of all C.B.C. news telecasts and radio news broadcasts, referring to the proceedings in the House of Commons and the Senate, during the period from May 8, 1956 to June 8, 1956.

### COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

#### REQUEST FOR MEETING IN OTTAWA LATER THIS YEAR

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. George A. Drew (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Will the Prime Minister extend an invitation to the other commonwealth prime ministers meeting in London to attend a conference in Ottawa later this year to discuss trade and economic relationships within the commonwealth?

**Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I understand there is apt to be a discussion of the question as to whether the prime ministers' conference should continue always to be held in London or whether there should be a change made

in that respect. No consideration has been given to the calling of a special conference of commonwealth representatives to discuss economic problems. It may be a question that will arise in the course of our discussions and if it does I shall be glad to report to the house when I return.

**Mr. Drew:** Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact the statement has been made that this conference is not to cover trade and economic questions, may I ask the Prime Minister whether he will raise this question and seek the concurrence of the prime ministers of the other commonwealth countries in a conference to discuss these vitally important questions?

**Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):** The questions are certainly important, but very serious consideration will have to be given to the suggestion made by the Leader of the Opposition.

### TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA—INQUIRY AS TO ROUTE BETWEEN MOUNT EISENHOWER AND REVELSTOKE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Public Works. In view of the general public interest in British Columbia in the route to be followed by the trans-Canada highway between Mount Eisenhower and Revelstoke, can the minister inform the house whether he has received word of a final decision in this respect from the minister of highways for British Columbia?

**Hon. Robert H. Winters (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, in a letter dated June 12 the minister of highways of British Columbia submitted a new schedule A which defined that part of the route as proceeding from the west boundary of Yoho park, approximately 17 miles east of Golden, then northwesterly following the Columbia river basin to Beaver river, thence in a southwesterly direction to the east boundary of Glacier national park, thence southwesterly through the said park to the east boundary thereof—that I understand to be the west boundary, but the letter says "east boundary"—thence continuing westerly to the east boundary of Revelstoke park, thence either