

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, November 19, 1953

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

DIPLOMATIC INSTRUMENTS

TABLING OF EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN
UNITED STATES AND CANADA—HAINES-
FAIRBANKS PIPE LINE

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I should like to table an exchange of notes between Canada and the United States of America constituting an agreement concerning the Haines-Fairbanks pipe line signed in Ottawa on June 30, 1953, in English and in French.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

ALLEGED ABUSE OF MEMBERS' FRANKING
PRIVILEGES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. T. Applewhaite (Skeena): I should like to ask a question of the acting Postmaster General. Is the Post Office Department investigating the apparent abuse of members' franking privileges, as reported in an item on page 6 of the *Ottawa Journal* of November 18, copy of which I have sent to the minister?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Acting Postmaster General): I noticed the item myself in the *Journal* last night. It is a reprint from the *Calgary Herald*, and I have asked the Post Office Department to communicate with the editor of the *Calgary Herald* to see whether he can get both the cover and the contents so we can find out which member's frank had been used. I assume of course from the article that it was used improperly.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

IGOR GOUZENKO—APPEARANCE BEFORE UNITED
STATES SENATE COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): I would like to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of a news report to the effect that the United States government is renewing its application, or passing on its request, for an examination of Igor Gouzenko, is there any probability of the government changing its decision already made on the first application, under this further apparent pressure?

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I can only say in reply to the question that notwithstanding press reports to the contrary, no such second request has yet been made to the Canadian government. If such a request were made I should think that, unless it included new information and new factors bearing on the case there would be no reason to change the decision already made.

INQUIRY AS TO EXTENSION OF ANZUS PACT
IN PACIFIC AREA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver-Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Are there any negotiations either taking place or in contemplation for the extension of the ANZUS pact on the Pacific, or for any wider Pacific defence pact?

Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of any such negotiation taking place at the present time, or of their imminent likelihood. I am aware that certain proposals have been made in Washington by members of the congress looking toward the extension of that pact. However, there have been no governmental negotiations as yet to this end.

SEA RESCUE

SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF COASTGUARD ON
BRITISH COLUMBIA COAST

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Colin Cameron (Nanaimo): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Transport. As we are dependent upon the United States coastguard for sea rescue on the coast of British Columbia, has the government any plans for the establishment of a coastguard service on the Pacific coast in the near future?

Hon. Lionel Chevrier (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I find myself in disagreement with my hon. friend as to the first part of his question. I do not think it is accurate to say that we are dependent on the United States coastguard on the west coast. On the contrary, we have two very modern life-saving stations on that coast, on Vancouver