

Currie Report

could not stay there, or if they would not take care of his child because he was afraid there might be some attempt to reach him in his own apartment, and there was an attempt which is related in this report by the Prime Minister and related in the report of the royal commission that there had been a fracas there. Four people had burst into apartment four and had ransacked it. The municipal police had been alerted and they did appear on the scene, and they watched over Gouzenko and his family's safety during the whole of that night, and the next morning they took him to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. I was informed that that was taking place; I was told that he was brought there by the city police. I said: "Well, that seems to be regular procedure. I am not giving any instructions to the R.C.M.P. to behave in any other way than they behave when incidents are brought to their attention by municipal police." After that, the thing developed, but to the best of my recollection I never at any time saw Gouzenko. I did not see him to know that he was Gouzenko even if I did happen to see someone going by with the R.C.M.P. who actually was Gouzenko, and I never saw the documents.

Mr. Knowles: Mr. Speaker, if I made a statement with respect to the part played by the Prime Minister in this incident which is not completely correct I readily accept the correction that he has made this afternoon. But may I be permitted at the same time to ask the Prime Minister one question? Is it not true that the documents referred to were accepted and used by the government of which he was a member, despite their known source?

Mr. St. Laurent: The documents in question were used as evidence of a criminal conspiracy against the safety of the state, which they revealed, and I am convinced that the hon. gentleman will agree that there was nothing done there in any way different from what is done when stolen property gets into the hands of the police and is used as evidence in prosecutions that are later instituted.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

TABLING OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Paul E. Cote (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in conformity with the provisions of article 19, section 5, of the constitution of the international labour organization, I desire to lay on the table authentic texts of the following conventions and recommendations which were adopted by the international labour conference at its thirty-fifth session, held at Geneva,

[Mr. St. Laurent.]

in June, 1952, together with a copy of a letter from the acting deputy attorney general of Canada setting out the legislative jurisdiction for each of these conventions and recommendations: Convention No. 101, concerning holidays with pay in agriculture, 1952; Convention No. 102, concerning minimum standards of social security, 1952; Convention No. 103, concerning maternity protection, revised, 1952; Recommendation No. 93 concerning holidays with pay in agriculture, 1952; Recommendation No. 94 concerning consultation and co-operation between employers and workers at the level of the undertaking, 1952; and Recommendation No. 95 concerning protection of maternity, 1952.

IRRIGATION

SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER—MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT UNDER STANDING ORDER 31

Mr. H. R. Argue (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I desire to ask leave to move, seconded by the hon. member for Melfort (Mr. Wright), the adjournment of the house, under standing order 31, for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the possibility that the government may be influenced by the report of the royal commission tabled yesterday and thereby fail to undertake the immediate construction of the beneficial South Saskatchewan river project consistently recommended by the government's own P.F.R.A. officials and repeatedly promised to the people of western Canada by spokesmen for the federal government.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Argue, seconded by Mr. Wright, asked leave to make a motion under standing order 31 to adjourn the house to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. The motion is made according to the rules after the ordinary daily routine of business has been concluded and before notices of motions or orders of the day are entered upon. The motion is accordingly made at the right time. The hon. member has stated the matter and has handed to me a statement of the matter proposed to be discussed.

It is my duty to determine whether it is in order and of urgent public importance. I have read the motion. One question for me to consider is whether the matter is one of urgent public importance in accordance with the rules of the house. I should remind the house that the question of urgency is one which means that the matter is so important that the national interest would suffer if consideration of it is not proceeded with immediately. The provisions with respect to this matter are found in Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms, third edition, citation