

*Motions for Papers*

criticisms in the House of Commons in Great Britain, regarding non-delivery of parcels to prisoners of war?

6. Is it not a government responsibility to look after our prisoners of war?

7. Does the government accept responsibility for the services provided by voluntary organizations in this respect?

## MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

## ORDER IN COUNCIL P.C. 1347

Mr. NICHOLSON:

For a copy of memorandum of the Secretary of State recommending P.C. 1347 of February 20, 1942, to the privy council.

Mr. NICHOLSON: I ask that this be dropped.

Motion dropped.

## MONTREAL BRIDGE TOLLS

Mr. CARDIFF:

For a copy of all letters, telegrams or other communications, passing between any official of the government of the province of Quebec and any official of the government of Canada with reference to the abolition of tolls on the Victoria and harbour bridges in the city of Montreal.

## CONSCRIPTIVE POWERS OF GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL UNDER WAR MEASURES ACT

Mr. CARDIFF:

For a copy of all opinions rendered by the Department of Justice with reference to the power of the governor in council under the War Measures Act to conscript men for service in any theatre of war.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: I ask that this be allowed to stand so that I can have the question considered whether or not this can be complied with without violating the privileges which still exist as to certain communications between the Department of Justice and other departments of the government.

Motion stands.

## THE PLEBISCITE

## INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT ACTION FOLLOWING THE VOTE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Leader of the Opposition): I desire to ask the Prime Minister when he will make a statement to the house with respect to what the government intends to do, having regard to the final and official vote on the plebiscite and the statement of the Prime Minister on Tuesday of last week that in due course the government will make known to the house what action it proposes to take in the light

[Mr. Church.]

of the plebiscite vote, and the prior statement of the Prime Minister, in his plebiscite address of April 7, that the only place it can satisfactorily be decided whether a particular step is necessary or a particular measure needed is in parliament—that in parliament the government can state its case and provide the information on which a wise decision alone can be made.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): First of all, perhaps I should correct my hon. friend the leader of the opposition (Mr. Hanson) in his statement that the "final and official vote" has been given to the house or is available. However, I do not wish to make any point of that except to be strictly accurate. I would say to my hon. friend that I expect to make a statement to the house in the course of a few days with reference to the matter to which he has referred. In the meantime the government will continue, as it has in the past, to endeavour to anticipate and to meet every situation that arises, in the light of existing circumstances.

## VICHY REPRESENTATION

## STATUS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS—RETURN TO CANADA OF MR. DUPUY

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I desire to ask the Prime Minister another question. On Tuesday, April 28, the Prime Minister told the house that he had asked Mr. Pierre Dupuy to return to Canada and indicated that "unless some occasion should arise to make it necessary to take action before he returns" he would not make a statement on our diplomatic relations with Vichy until he had had the opportunity of conferring with Mr. Dupuy. I should now like to ask the Prime Minister if the situation at Madagascar is such an occasion as he referred to in his statement, and if so, whether any further action has been taken by the government. Further, I should like to ask the Prime Minister when he anticipates that Mr. Dupuy will be available for conference on this question.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I am unable to say whether Mr. Dupuy is in the city at present or not. I expect that he will be here this week if he is not already here. I have not had a chance this morning to ascertain. Until I have had an opportunity of an interview with Mr. Dupuy I prefer making no further statement on the matter.