

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

## ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

VANCOUVER, B. C.—REFERENCE TO INSTRUCTIONS  
BY JUDGE TO PRESS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. Has the minister been informed of an order made yesterday by Mr. Justice Manson in open trial in Vancouver instructing the press not to report certain statements that had been made, and an incident that took place in the trial? Can the minister say whether it is permissible for a judge to issue such an order to the press?

**Hon. Stuart S. Garson (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, the incident of which my hon. friend is speaking is one which comes under the administration of justice in the province of Ontario and he might—

**Mr. Knowles:** This was in Vancouver.

**Mr. Garson:** I beg your pardon; in the province of British Columbia. The question which he is asking in this house might more properly be asked in British Columbia of the attorney general there.

## POSTAL SERVICE

PRISONERS OF WAR, KOREA—NON-DELIVERY OF  
PARCELS

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. A. Earl Catherwood (Haldimand):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Postmaster General. Has the minister received any complaints about parcels, addressed to prisoners of war in Korea, which are not being delivered? If so, does the minister wish to make any comment on the matter?

**Hon. Alcide Cote (Postmaster General):** Mr. Speaker, I must thank my hon. friend for having given me notice of this question. The answer is that no such complaints have been received. As a matter of fact, I am advised that there is no parcel post service at the present time between Canada and prisoners of war in Korea, and no such parcels have been tendered for acceptance; neither has there been any request for such service.

**Hon. Brooke Claxton (Minister of National Defence):** If I may supplement the answer, may I say that there is only one Canadian prisoner of war that we know of.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PAN-AMERICAN UNION—STATEMENT BY  
CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO COLOMBIA

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Gordon Graydon (Peel):** I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. I sent him last night a press clipping and notice of my question for today. It is this. In view of the fact that the Canadian ambassador to Colombia, Edmond Turcotte, indicated this week that Canada eventually might join the Pan-American Union if the union tendered such an invitation, will the Prime Minister tell the house whether the government has any steps in this direction in contemplation at the moment and whether that statement accurately reflects Canadian government policy?

**Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister):** The Department of External Affairs has no information other than the press report to which the hon. member for Peel refers about a statement attributed to the newly-appointed ambassador to Colombia concerning Canada's attitude to the organization of American states.

The position of the government of Canada in this respect has not changed since I last referred to this subject on February 12, 1949, when I spoke at a press conference in Washington. Speaking of the Organization of American States, formerly known as the Pan-American Union, I said:

Our government has been giving thought to the Pan-American Union over a great many years and our relations with the members of the Pan-American Union have always been most satisfactory. The angle from which this has been examined is as to whether our actual participation in the Pan-American Union would be productive of any real advantage for any of its members. Our cultural, our trade relations, with other members of the Pan-American Union have always been very good and they will improve constantly. So far it has not appeared to us that there would be any decided advantage in a formal membership in the Pan-American Union.

**Mr. Graydon:** Will the Prime Minister convey to the Department of External Affairs some message whereby they may find out whether the ambassador to Colombia had been correctly reported or not?

**Mr. St. Laurent:** The Department of External Affairs has already asked the ambassador to Colombia to give a factual report on what is referred to in this press clipping.