

accept the petition presented by the hon. member for Temiscouata before having had the opportunity of seeing it. I have noted the remarks made by the hon. member, and he may be assured that due consideration will be given to them.

Mr. POULIOT: Thank you.

REDISTRIBUTION

PETITION AGAINST ENLARGEMENT OF YUKON CONSTITUENCY TO INCLUDE MACKENZIE

Mr. GEORGE BLACK (Yukon): May I present to the House the petition, addressed to the House of Commons in parliament assembled, of a number of Canadians and British subjects residing in Yukon Territory, praying that Mackenzie district be not included with the electoral district of Yukon; and they give their reasons. This petition is in order.

UNITED NATIONS

EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION—CANADIAN COMMISSION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. R. KNIGHT (Saskatoon City): On April 16, as reported at page 2096 of *Hansard*, I asked a question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. I asked if the minister could inform the house what stage the Canadian government's plans had reached for the setting up of a Canadian commission of what is popularly known as UNESCO. Is the minister now prepared to answer that question?

Right Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The Canadian government's plans with respect to the setting up of a Canadian commission of UNESCO have not yet been definitely agreed upon. As I informed the hon. member on April 16, on a proper occasion I shall be glad to discuss everything that has been investigated and considered in that regard, but I could not do it in a short answer to a question on the orders of the day.

Mr. COLDWELL: May we expect an early decision and statement?

Mr. ST. LAURENT: Well, it is a matter of considerable importance, and the setting up of this commission is something which will have to be done in a form that it will not be easy to change afterward. There will be a large number of bodies interested in educational, scientific and cultural matters who will be concerned; and it will not be easy, after the plan has been announced and the com-

mission has been set up, to modify its composition. We therefore feel that we should take considerable care and be sure that we are getting it in the form in which it will be convenient to have it permanently established.

PRAIRIE FARM REHABILITATION

EXTENSION OF APPLICATION TO OTHER PROVINCES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. WILLIAM IRVINE (Cariboo): I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. Can the minister tell the house if legislation will be introduced this session to extend the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act to other parts of Canada, and in particular to British Columbia?

Right Hon. J. G. GARDINER (Minister of Agriculture): There is nothing I can add to the answer which I gave yesterday to the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Reid). The question is under consideration; and just as soon as it has been decided I shall make a report to the house.

SUGAR BEETS

DIFFICULTY OF FACTORIES IN SECURING NECESSARY SUPPLIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. H. BLACKMORE (Lethbridge): I desire to ask three questions of the Minister of Finance. I have not given him notice of these, so perhaps they will have to remain as notices of motion.

1. Has the minister investigated to find out how many acres of beet contracts the Canada and Dominion Sugar Company had signed up by the close of May 1?

2. Will the minister investigate before Monday, May 5, at three o'clock and report to the house on Monday afternoon?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. As the hon. member knows, it is not in order for him to ask oral questions on matters which are not urgent. I would suggest to him that as there is no urgency in this matter, he should put his questions on the order paper.

Mr. BLACKMORE: It is impossible to hear what Your Honour said, but may I put the third question?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

Mr. BLACKMORE: May I point out to Your Honour that 50 million pounds of sugar are involved for Canada in 1947, and the urgency is that if these beet contracts are not signed up immediately, it will be too late.