

Consular Representatives

pied China, on the understanding that Japanese subjects in Canada who wished to do so may be permitted to return to Japan. As accommodation on the first exchange vessel is limited, an early repatriation of large numbers is not to be expected. Under the circumstances, the Canadian authorities have requested the protecting power for Canadian interests to give priority to women and children in the assignment of berths on the exchange vessel leaving the far east. A small party of Canadians, other than officials, being evacuated from Japan at the present time is expected to arrive in Canada about the end of August or early in September, and other small groups may be expected to arrive at intervals of six weeks or two months from then on. The full list of persons in the first vessel has not yet been received by the Canadian government, and may not be received before the vessel sails.

Mr. H. C. GREEN (Vancouver South): Arising out of the answer which the Prime Minister has just given, may I ask if it is the intention that these exchanges shall be of equal numbers of Canadian and Japanese nationals respectively? May I also ask how many are involved in the present exchange?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I am sorry I cannot give any more information than that contained in the statement, but if there is anything more that I am able to ascertain I shall be glad to let my hon. friend know.

SOVIET UNION

EXCHANGE OF CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES
BETWEEN CANADA AND THE U.S.S.R.

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Hon. members will recall that I informed the house on February 5 that the government of Canada and the government of the U.S.S.R. had signed an agreement in London on that date providing for the exchange of consular representatives.

The Canadian government have come to the conclusion that it is desirable to establish a Canadian legation in the U.S.S.R. on a reciprocal basis, and we have now been informed that the Soviet government accept the Canadian government's proposal and that they desire to establish a legation in Canada. We understand that the Soviet government will also establish a consulate at Halifax.

I am glad to be able to announce, therefore, that an agreement for the exchange of diplomatic missions between Canada and the U.S.S.R. was signed in London to-day at 5 p.m. London time. The text of this agreement,

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

which was signed by Mr. Massey on behalf of Canada and by Mr. Maisky on behalf of the U.S.S.R., reads as follows:

The government of the U.S.S.R. and the government of Canada have reached an agreement as follows:

1. The two governments have agreed to establish direct diplomatic relations and to exchange ministers.

2. The present agreement comes into force immediately after its signature and is not subject to ratification.

3. The present agreement is made in two copies, each of them in the Russian and English languages. Both texts have equal force.

DR. T. T. SHIELDS

PRESS REPORT OF STATEMENT RESPECTING THE
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

On the orders of the day:

Mr. GASPARD FAUTEUX (St. Mary): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. (Translation) Has the Minister of Justice, been informed of the statements made by pastor Shields against the province of Quebec? I do not wish to quote the newspaper article in its entirety but with your permission, Mr. Speaker, I would draw the attention of the Minister of Justice to an article published this morning in the French daily *Le Canada*, in connection with pastor Shields.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I understand that the hon. gentleman is calling attention to some article respecting Doctor Shields and asking a question of the Minister of Justice. From the form of the question I judge that there is no urgency about the matter, and the question should be placed on the order paper.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Fournier (Hull) in the chair.

INTERIM SUPPLY BILL

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance) moved:

1. That a sum not exceeding \$19,401,586.20, being one-twelfth of the amount of each of the several items to be voted, as set forth in the estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1943, laid before the House of Commons at the present session of parliament, be granted to His Majesty, on account, for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1943.

2. That a sum not exceeding \$550,655.91, being one-twelfth of the amount of each of the several following items to be voted, as set forth in the estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1943, laid before the House of Commons at the present session of parliament, in addition to the sum mentioned in resolution No. 1, be granted to His Majesty, on account, for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1943, namely:

Votes Nos. 31, 80, 116, 117, 128, 129, 300.