

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, April 26, 1956

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

### ATOMIC ENERGY

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF INVITATION TO ATTEND NUCLEAR TESTS IN THE PACIFIC

**Hon. R. O. Campney (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, in connection with United States nuclear tests in the Pacific the house might be interested to learn that the United States department of defence is today making the following announcement:

Canadian and United Kingdom representatives have been invited to attend a nuclear detonation in the forthcoming test series at the Eniwetok proving ground.

The invitations were issued under the terms of bilateral agreements entered into on July 21, 1955, with Canada and the United Kingdom for exchange of atomic information for mutual defence purposes.

The nuclear detonation for which these invitations have been issued will be after that attended by U.S. news representatives and civil defence officials, about May 1.

I can add that Canada has accepted this invitation and a representative Canadian group will be in attendance.

### EMERGENCY GOLD MINING ASSISTANCE

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXTENSION OF PROVISIONS TO 1958

**Hon. George Prudham (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys):** Mr. Speaker, today the government has decided to extend the provisions of the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act for two more years, 1957 and 1958, at the same rate. A resolution and bill to implement that extension will be brought before the house at an early date.

### NATIONAL DEFENCE

#### INQUIRY AS TO REPORTED RESEARCH IN BRAIN-WASHING

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence a question in connection with the experiments which have been carried on at McGill University in the field of brain-washing. In the light of the minister's earlier answer to a question on this subject on April 17 I wonder if the minister's brains have been washed so that he has forgotten he was minister in the years 1954 and 1955. However,

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if his brain has been set at rest on this subject I should like to ask if he has learned from his own department sufficient of what was going on to be able to clear up certain other discrepancies which appeared in that answer which he made.

**Hon. R. O. Campney (Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, in view of certain reports which have appeared in the press I have made inquiries and I have practically no amendment to make to my statement of the other day. I may say that that statement was based on information from my officials. Notwithstanding the omniscience of certain press people, may I say that this experiment was initiated in September 1951 and was completed in the early days of 1953, and a report was issued in that year. This was all before my time as minister. There were other experiments carried on at McGill following that date, but they had nothing to do with changing the mental attitude of persons to which I referred. I notice the same gentleman accuses me in the press of having made an understatement of the case, but it occurs to me that in view of the number of over-statements we get from the other side of the house my statement may help to balance things up.

### FINANCE

#### BANK OF CANADA—PURPOSE OF INCREASE IN INTEREST RATE

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. M. Macdonnell (Greenwood):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance a question of which I have given him notice. Can he take the house and the country into his confidence in the matter of increasing the interest rate? I am moved to ask this particularly by a statement in this morning's paper—

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Macdonnell:** I have asked the question. I am moved to ask it because of a statement that the premier of Ontario thought that the Canadian economy has been jeopardized because of federal government tinkering with interest rates.

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Macdonnell:** I will repeat my question. Will the minister take the house and the