

PRIZE MONEY

QUESTION AS TO DISTRIBUTION OF FUND

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. K. Fraser (Peterborough West): I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Defence. Has the minister or his department given further consideration to the request of the dominion command of the Canadian Legion and the provincial commands that reconsideration be given to the method of distributing the naval prize fund?

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Fraser: It is very important.

Hon. Brooke Claxton (Minister of National Defence): The policy of the government has been announced. I have not had the submissions to which the member has referred, and there has been no change in government policy.

Mr. Fraser: I understood the minister to say that he had not received a request from the dominion command of the Legion. I should like to ask him if any other department of the government has received it, because on March 4 a brief was presented to this government.

Mr. Claxton: I shall be glad to look into the matter.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

WORKING CONDITIONS OF NAVY PERSONNEL—
INVESTIGATION OF INCIDENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. John O. Probe (Regina City): I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Defence. In view of continuing reports of disciplinary problems and complaints with respect to working conditions among Canadian naval personnel, will the Minister of National Defence indicate what steps he has taken to investigate all aspects of the repeated disturbances? Will he consider setting up a parliamentary or other committee from outside the service to delve fully into naval service conditions?

Hon. Brooke Claxton (Minister of National Defence): The department has received wireless reports of the incidents to which the member has referred. Upon the return of the ships, those incidents and the causes of them will be the subject of a full and thorough investigation. It is not considered appropriate that the matter should be referred to a parliamentary committee, but the investigation will be conducted by a committee which will include other than naval service representation.

Inquiries of the Ministry
INCOME TAXEXEMPTION OF \$500 FOR PERSONS OVER
SIXTY-FIVE YEARS OF AGE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Robert Fair (Battle River): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance or the Minister of National Revenue. Will the additional \$500 exemption from income tax for persons over sixty-five years of age, provided for last year, be continued in 1949?

Hon. Douglas Abbott (Minister of Finance): It is a permanent part of the law, Mr. Speaker.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FILING
RETURNS IN WESTERN CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Mr. C. C. Miller (Portage la Prairie): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue. This being the minister's birthday, before I ask my question I should like to congratulate him wholeheartedly, and also to suggest to him, to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the house, that it is also the birthday of the hon. member for Calgary East (Mr. Harkness), although they are not twins. In olden days ministers of the crown on such auspicious occasions used to hand out amnesties and so on. I am suggesting one in the form of a question. Will the minister consider extending the time for filing income tax returns in western Canada, by reason of the bad condition of roads and the delay there will be in the spring breakup?

Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue): I thank the hon. gentleman for his good wishes. On an occasion of this kind, Mr. Speaker, gifts usually come to the one who is celebrating a particular event. In the matter of making income tax returns, I am sorry that we do not feel at the present time that there is any great necessity for extending the date beyond the statutory one of April 30.

FEED

POULTRY PRODUCERS—SHORTAGES OF BONE MEAL,
MEAT MEAL AND FISH MEAL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. F. S. Zaplitny (Dauphin): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. I have recently received complaints from poultry producers to the effect that bone meal and meat meal products are difficult to obtain. Would the minister care to indicate the reasons for the apparent shortages, and indicate what the present prospects for future deliveries are?