

*Prime Ministers' Conference*

Canada regulations. No person has been detained under these regulations during the period from July 1, 1943, to January 25, 1944, and there has been no case in which the Secretary of State has refused to accept the report of the advisory committee.

## ELDORADO MINING

ACQUISITION OF PROPERTIES AND ASSETS BY  
EXPROPRIATION OF CAPITAL SHARES

Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Munitions and Supply): I wish to table order in council P.C. 535 of January 27, 1944, and before doing so I will make the following statement.

As a necessary means for the more effective prosecution of the war, the government of Canada has acquired all properties and assets of Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited, by expropriating all the capital shares of the company. Expropriation of the shares became effective as of three o'clock this afternoon.

Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited will in future be operated as a crown company, and will continue to carry on its present operations. The president, the directors and officers of Eldorado Mining and Refining Limited have been invited to continue to act in their present capacities, and have agreed to do so. There will be no change in existing arrangements affecting the employees of the company.

The directors of the company have agreed with the government that a fair value for the properties and assets of the company is represented by a price of \$1.35 per share, and the directors and a number of other large shareholders have delivered their shares to the government at that price. The same share value is being offered to all shareholders of the company, and will be paid on delivery of the shares, properly endorsed, to the registrar and transfer agent, the Trusts and Guarantee Company Limited, Toronto.

I regret that for reasons of secrecy I am unable to give the house any further information on this subject. In the interests of military secrecy I hope that no questions about this matter will be asked until the necessity for withholding information no longer applies. I now table order in council P.C. 535 which effects the expropriation of all the capital shares of the company.

## PRIME MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

INQUIRY AS TO PLANS FOR PROJECTED MEETING  
IN LONDON

On the orders of the day:

Mr. GORDON GRAYDON (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to make an inquiry of the Prime Minister, of which I have given him notice. Have plans for the projected

[Mr. St. Laurent.]

meeting of the dominion prime ministers now been completed, and if so, can he indicate to the house the approximate date of the meeting?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): In addition to the dominion prime ministers I hope the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom will attend.

Mr. GRAYDON: I was taking my phraseology, as a matter of fact, from the statement which as I recollect it, appeared in the *Regina Leader-Post*, and which was given by the Prime Minister of Canada.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I am afraid my hon. friend is seeking to excuse himself.

Mr. GRAYDON: I was trying to excuse the right hon. gentleman at the same time.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: May I say to my hon. friend I have no more information which I am in a position to make public as to the time than what has appeared thus far in the press. The announcement made in the British House of Commons was, as I recall it, to the effect that the conference would be held some time before very long, but that there were reasons why it was not advisable to name the precise date. As a matter of fact the actual date has not yet been definitely decided.

Mr. GRAYDON: The Prime Minister intends to attend?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I hope so; yes. I have every intention of attending, unless prevented.

## RADIO BROADCASTING

VACANCIES ON BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF CANADIAN  
BROADCASTING CORPORATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. GORDON GRAYDON (Leader of the Opposition): May I ask a question of the Minister of National War Services? I understand that for almost three months there have been two vacancies on the board of governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. I should like to inquire of the minister why these vacancies have not been filled before this time, and also when we may expect an announcement with respect to the new appointees.

Hon. L. R. LaFLECHE (Minister of National War Services): May I first express my appreciation to the leader of the opposition for his having sent me notice of his question.