

Mr. MacINNIS: Has the whole of the loan of \$3 million been used up?

Mr. MacKINNON: Of the total amount, \$2,776,000 has been used.

Mr. QUELCH: Have applications from any nations for loans from Canada been turned down? If so, from what countries?

Mr. MacKINNON: I do not know of any that have been actually turned down.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): Why has the coming into force of the act been made retroactive?

Mr. MacKINNON: Only this section was made retroactive, and this has been done as a result of operating experience.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): Do I understand that something was done which was ultra vires of the original act?

Mr. MacKINNON: The opinion was expressed that the crown might not be an exporter, and we wanted to make that clear.

Mr. GREEN: Has the crown already been an exporter?

Mr. MacKINNON: Yes.

Mr. BLACKMORE: What matters are considered by the government before granting a loan to a given applicant? Do we consider the possibility of Canada's being in a position to import the goods that country can produce, or are there other considerations? Might this be called an element in a mutual aid arrangement?

Mr. MacKINNON: There are many reasons for the legislation, one of which is that we consider it a contribution toward the rehabilitation of those countries the economies of which have been temporarily disrupted and which have been overrun by the enemy. It is an act on the part of Canada to assist in the rehabilitation of countries which in the past have been good credit risks and which we hope in the future will again be in that position.

These loans are being made also with a view to increasing mutual trade in the future. We have looked at the records of the countries concerned, the experiences through which they have passed and their prospects for the future.

Section agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

MEAT AND CANNED FOODS ACT

LABELLING OF CANS—CANNED FISH OR SHELLFISH

Hon. H. F. G. BRIDGES (Minister of Fisheries) moved the second reading of bill No. 164, to amend the Meat and Canned Foods Act.

Mr. BRACKEN: Has the minister given an explanation of this bill?

Mr. BRIDGES: I can only repeat what I said when the bill was introduced on June 3. It is a small bill being comprised of just two sections. The first section is to amend the Meat and Canned Foods Act so that it will no longer be compulsory for dealers to have cans of fish or shellfish labeled with the name of the place and/or province where the same are packed. The present requirement causes unnecessary hardship to assemblers who pack or buy a number of products in more than one province, in which case labels have to be made for each type of product and for each province where it was packed. The amendment will make this no longer necessary.

I might also say that the present requirement is now unnecessary, because under the regulations all cans are required to be embossed with the registered mark or number of the cannery in which they are packed.

The second section of the bill substitutes "fish or shellfish" for the word "lobster". This change will provide statutory authority for the establishment of standards of quality and grades for canned fish or shellfish in addition to lobster if the need for such is established to the satisfaction of the governor in council.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the standing committee on marine and fisheries.

JUDGES

CONSOLIDATION AND AMENDMENT OF ACT— ADDITIONAL PUISNE JUDGE FOR EXCHEQUER COURT

Right Hon. L. S. ST. LAURENT (Minister of Justice) moved that the house go into committee to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to present a measure to amend the Exchequer Court Act to increase the number of puisne judges of the court from two to three, and also to present a measure to consolidate and amend the Judges Act to include provision for the appointment, tenure of office and duties of the judges of the dominion and provincial courts, fixing judges' salaries and providing for the payment of salaries, and for the payment of increased salaries, travelling allowances and annuities to judges and annuities to their wives and widows in certain cases and subject to conditions therein set out.

He said: Mr. Speaker, this resolution contemplates the introduction of two bills. The first one will increase the number of judges of the Exchequer Court from three to four, while the second will increase the salary of all superior courts or district court or county court judges by one-third as from January 1, 1947. As to the first part of the resolution, the Exchequer Court Act was amended in