

CUTTING OF PULPWOOD—PRISONER OF WAR LABOUR

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. M. BENIDICKSON (Kenora-Rainy River): I wish to ask the Minister of Labour a question, notice of which I have not given him since the information reached me only while he has been on duty in connection with this debate. I have received advice to-day that the Department of Labour has issued an order withdrawing an additional three hundred prisoners of war now engaged in cutting pulpwood in the district of Kenora-Rainy River. Since one woods company alone in that district has been unable to obtain bushmen to fill 800 advertised jobs, and the deferment announced respecting prisoners of war in the sugar beet industry—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member must confine himself to a question.

Mr. BENIDICKSON: Will the minister arrange with the British government for a postponement of the return of these prisoners of war in the Kenora-Rainy River district?

Mr. MITCHELL: The situation is quite clear. These are not our prisoners of war but men who were taken prisoner by the British forces. We merely acted as custodian for them in view of the tremendous pressure in Great Britain on food and so on. The war is over and it is now a question of shipping space. If we had ships they could stay longer. But we expect to get most of our people back from Europe, soldiers, airmen and their wives and families. When that has taken place there will be no more ships at our disposal, and it is absolutely necessary to move all these people out as soon as shipping becomes available. I would rather see our men get home from Europe. That is our first obligation. If there should be a delay in that regard the prisoners can stay a little longer.

EXPORT OF TRUCK SPRINGS TO DETROIT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Biggarr): Yesterday the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Munitions and Supply promised to give an answer to a question which I placed before him regarding the export of steel springs from Windsor to Detroit. He is not in his seat and the minister is not here. Perhaps the answer can be given on Monday. I simply wish to remind him of the promise.

Mr. MACKENZIE: It will be seen to.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

[Mr. Mitchell.]

After Recess

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

PRIVATE BILLS

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 166, for the relief of Lillian Audrey Atkinson Jackson.—Mr. Casselman.

Bill No. 167, for the relief of Bernard Cook.—Mr. MacLean.

Bill No. 168, for the relief of Estelle R. Warhaft Slobod.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 169, for the relief of Alexander Fitz Ormonde Spooner.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 170, for the relief of Eleanor Williams.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 171, for the relief of Joseph Henri Veaudry.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 172, for the relief of Amelia Jesik Pascas.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 173, for the relief of Cyril Mackie.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 174, for the relief of Carol Gordon Cass Planche.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 175, for the relief of Eveline Richmond Sykes Laco.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 176, for the relief of Miriam Vineberg Perel.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 177, for the relief of Paul Krawchuk.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 178, for the relief of Henry Arthur Creates.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 179, for the relief of Stephanie Tymchuk McLean.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 180, for the relief of Annie Spivack Prosterman.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 181, for the relief of Kenneth Edwin Morrison.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 182, for the relief of Almeda Mabel Hartry Ritchie.—Mr. Boucher.

Bill No. 183, for the relief of Margo Ismena Graydon Heubach.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 184, for the relief of Erika Gossen Tenzer.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 185, for the relief of Isabel Green-shields Biggs.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 186, for the relief of Henri Edme Bernard.—Mr. Boucher.

Bill No. 187, for the relief of Nellie Harrison Andersen.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 188, for the relief of Marie Irene Clementine Elizabeth Ash.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 189, for the relief of Alexander Grant.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 190, for the relief of Thomas Beach.—Mr. Casselman.

Bill No. 191, for the relief of Fanny Miller Astrofsky.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 192, for the relief of Grace Ellen Rafter Munro.—Mr. Maybank.