

NATIONAL ANTHEM

"GOD SAVE THE KING" AND "O CANADA"

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. L. CHURCH (Broadview): I have a question I should like to ask the Prime Minister. Just before the war broke out in 1939 when we were being visited by the monarchy I asked the Prime Minister what was the national anthem of Canada. He replied, quite properly, that "God Save the King" was our national anthem. I asked if there was any other, and he said there was another provincial anthem, as I understood it, "O Canada." I contend that that was just the same as "The Maple Leaf Forever" or any other sectional anthem sung by any of the other races. Parliament has all along refused to change our flag and parliament refuses to change our anthem. Our only national anthem is "God Save the King," and why the other anthem was sung to-day I do not know. It is not the national anthem. Why was not "The Maple Leaf Forever" sung? Have we two national anthems? If so, who authorized them?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Let us sing "God Save the King" now.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: If my hon. friend does not know why "O Canada" was sung to-day, I can only say that I am very sorry for him. Perhaps my hon. friend if he wishes further information will put a question on the order paper with respect to matters pertaining to flags and anthems. There are already several on the order paper which I have not answered as yet.

Mr. CHURCH: There is only one national anthem—"God Save the King".

JEWISH REFUGEES

INQUIRY AS TO AID TO BE GIVEN BY CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mrs. DORISE W. NIELSEN (North Battleford): I should like to ask a question of the Prime Minister because of several inquiries which have come to my desk. Would he let us know when he intends to make a statement with regard to the aid Canada may give to Jewish refugees?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I should like to be able to oblige the hon. member, but I cannot say how long the present discussions are going to take. When we have made progress with some matters which are on the order paper I shall be making a statement on external affairs. I hope it will be soon.

REDISTRIBUTION

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT—CONSIDERATION ON MONDAY NEXT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. SASSEVILLE ROY (Gaspé): I wish to direct a question to the government. There are persistent rumours, which have found their echo even in the newspapers, to the effect that the government is about to withdraw the resolution which has appeared on the order paper for the last few weeks, in the name of the Minister of Justice, for the purpose of amending the British North America Act as regards redistribution. As it is a matter of very great importance, the people of this country wonder if this rumour has any ground. Has the government considered the advisability of withdrawing this resolution, and if so, when does the government intend to proceed with the redistribution in conformity with the constitution and the 1941 census?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): The hon. member's question as he has expressed it has gone beyond the point of a mere question. I shall not therefore attempt at present to answer specifically what he has asked, but I would say to hon. members that I have felt that the government should not lose further time in getting before the house the resolution on the order paper in respect to the amendment of the British North America Act. I had intended to confer this afternoon with the leader of the opposition (Mr. Graydon) opposite and ascertain if he would be willing to agree, and I hope other hon. members will be willing to agree, to have it understood that on Monday next we would take up that particular order. The house will realize that the action this parliament takes if the resolution is adopted will require further action on the part of the parliament at Westminster. It is inadvisable to delay that much longer. The discussion of the resolution should not take very long. I would hope with the consent of the house to make it the first order for Monday next.

WAR APPROPRIATION BILL

PROVISION FOR GRANTING TO HIS MAJESTY AID FOR NATIONAL DEFENCE AND SECURITY

The house resumed from Wednesday, June 30, consideration in committee of a resolution to grant to his majesty certain sums of money for the carrying out of measures consequent upon the existence of a state of war—Mr. Ilsley—Mr. Bradette in the chair.