

Inquiries of the Ministry

In reply to the question I can say that the matter has received the consideration of the government, but that no change has been made in the existing regulations. However, there has been some modification in the enforcement of the regulations, in that the government is now prepared to consider applications for the admission from Germany of first degree relatives of legal residents of Canada, provided that suitable settlement arrangements have been made, and they have been passed as acceptable in respect to health and character. Such applications, if approved, will be dealt with by special order in council.

Those eligible for consideration are: (a) the wife and unmarried children under eighteen years of age of a legal resident of Canada; (b) the husband of a legal resident of Canada; (c) the parents, age sixty-five years and over, of legal residents of Canada.

Mr. Fleming: Is consideration being given to the admission of German fiancés of resident Canadians, having regard to the immigration regulations affecting German nationals?

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton West): That matter has been under consideration. It is not felt that we should make any general regulation as to fiancés because it is too easy for persons to claim that he or she is a fiancé. However, I can tell the hon. member that when a case is made out that seems to be a reasonable one, the matter will receive consideration.

Mr. Wright: I should like to ask whether the lifting of the regulations will apply to Germans living in the Russian zone as well as to those living in the other zones.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton West): There has been no lifting of the regulations. It is merely that special cases, particularly those of hardship involving various families, are receiving attention, and, instead of a complete prohibition, the government is prepared to deal with individual cases by special order in council where it deems the conditions justify such action.

PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

ANSWER TO QUESTION AS TO VISIT TO CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): May I supplement the answer I gave the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon) on Friday last when he inquired whether or not arrangements had been made for a visit to Canada of Prime Minister Nehru. Mr. Nehru has accepted the invitation of the government to visit Canada this fall. It is expected that he will arrive in Ottawa on Sunday,

October 23, and remain until October 26. Mr. Nehru will be the guest of Their Excellencies the Governor General and Lady Alexander at Government House. Following the visit to Ottawa Mr. Nehru will go to the United States, but he will return to Canada for a brief visit to Vancouver on November 2 and 3 to meet the local Indian community.

Mr. Green: May I ask whether or not arrangements will be made to have Mr. Nehru address the members of the House of Commons?

Mr. St. Laurent: That question has been taken up with Mr. Nehru, and we hope, and I think I can say rather confidently, that he will consent to address the members of the houses of parliament.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT

PROCEDURE IN AMENDMENT—CONSULTATION WITH PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Donald M. Fleming (Eglinton): May I ask the Prime Minister if he has yet received replies to the letters he wrote on September 15 to the provincial premiers concerning amendments to the British North America Act, and, if he has, would he consider tabling them so that they may be printed in an appendix to *Hansard*?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): I have received provisional answers from three of the provincial premiers. It is the intention of the government to table the answers as soon as they have all been received. It was felt that it might be preferable to wait a few days and table them all at once rather than have them come forward piecemeal.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The house resumed, from Thursday, September 22, consideration of the motion of Mr. Maurice Boisvert for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session.

Mr. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops): This afternoon I should like to say a few words on the subjects of foreign exchange, Canada's foreign trade, and the devaluation of the dollar. Before doing so, Mr. Speaker, may I humbly extend to you my congratulations upon your election to the office which you now hold. As one who is still a junior member of this house I realize that I must express my congratulations with deference, and I do so, but although I am perhaps ill qualified to express