

## External Affairs

## CUSTOMS ACT

IMPORTATION OF SLINGSHOTS AND MALAYAN  
STYLE THROWING DAGGERS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. J. McCann (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday in answer to a question by the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Fleming) I advised him I would look into the matter of slingshots and Malayan style throwing daggers to establish whether representations had recently been received from any police authorities in regard to their importation. Our records indicate that no such representations have been received of recent date.

These articles are normally imported by sporting goods dealers for sporting and game purposes. When imported for these purposes no special permit is required. Should the general use made of these articles indicate that these importations are generally being used for offensive or dangerous purposes the department would consider curtailment of importation by a permit system similar to that operated for revolvers and dangerous firearms and would allow importation only on production of a permit issued by the local authorities.

## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REFERENCE OF ESTIMATES OF DEPARTMENT TO  
STANDING COMMITTEE

The house resumed, from Thursday, March 25, consideration of the motion of Mr. Pearson:

That items Nos. 84 to 103 inclusive, of the main estimates, 1954-55, be withdrawn from the committee of supply and referred to the standing committee on external affairs, saving always the powers of the committee of supply in relation to the voting of public moneys.

**Mr. Colin Cameron (Nanaimo):** Mr. Speaker, last night at adjournment time I was remarking that I felt all intelligent Canadians must have greeted the speeches made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson) in the United States recently with a great sigh of relief that at long last the Canadian government was taking some steps towards effecting a modification of some of the madder aspects of American foreign policy. Last night I was about to add that I doubted whether a reading of the speech made by the minister in this house yesterday would afford the Canadian people the same sigh of relief. Rather I am afraid they would heave a sigh of dismay and consider that we have gone back to where we started.

will take that question as notice and try to have an answer brought down in due course.

[Later:]

EFFECT OF HYDROGEN BOMB EXPLOSION  
IN THE PACIFIC

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. T. H. Goode (Burnaby-Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. It is reported in the press today that serious results have occurred from a reported explosion of a hydrogen bomb in the Pacific. In view of that, I would ask the minister: (1) whether the minister is being kept informed by certain governments regarding the effect of the bomb, and (2) if there is any possibility of radioactive dust falling upon cities on the Canadian Pacific coast?

**Mr. Coldwell:** And (3), what is he going to do about it?

**Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend was good enough to give me notice of this question. The answer to it is as follows. Although the Canadian government has not been given any information by other governments, and in this case, of course, it would be the government of the United States, concerning the effect of the range of the recent explosion of this hydrogen bomb in the Pacific, there is regular consultation with the United States government on the effect of nuclear explosions generally. I am not, of course, in a position to give a dogmatic reply to the second part of the question, nor, I suppose, is anyone else, but from information available we do not anticipate concentrations which could possibly be harmful on the Pacific coast.

**Mr. Knowles:** And what is the answer to the third question?

## VETERANS AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENTS TO WAR VETERANS  
ALLOWANCE ACT

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Is the minister yet in a position to tell the house how soon the government's legislation amending the War Veterans Allowance Act will be introduced?

**Hon. Hugues Lapointe (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the answer is no.