

by Trans-Canada Air Lines, effected by an exchange of notes, February 6, 7, 9 and 27, 1942; St. John's March 1 and 2, 1944.

Exchange of notes between Canada and the United States of America constituting an agreement for the settlement of claims arising out of traffic accidents involving Canadian and United States vehicles, signed at Ottawa March 23, 1944.

Exchange of notes between Canada and Mexico recording the agreement in respect of conscription for military service in Canada and Mexico; Mexico, February 29, 1944.

Hon. R. B. HANSON (York-Sunbury): In connection with the exchange of notes between the United States and Canada in regard to the settlement of claims for injuries to members of the armed forces, as I gathered it, I desire to ask the Prime Minister if any arrangement has been made with the government of the United States whereby Canadian nationals may have some chance of getting claims against agencies of the government of the United States settled without having to resort to actions in United States courts. Perhaps I could go a little further and say this. It is a well known rule of international law that a foreign government may not be sued in Canada, we will say. That rule apparently is being extended to cover and include agencies of foreign governments which have incurred obligations in Canada for and on account of a foreign government. In a case that has come to my attention suit was brought against a foreign agency and a default judgment was entered; then, as I understand it, the Department of External Affairs intervened and asked that the judgment be vacated, on the ground of a breach of international comity. Personally I think that is carrying the rule a little far; but the effect of it, if accepted and carried to a conclusion, is that no Canadian national can recover in a court of law in Canada his just claims against a foreign government; he must go to the foreign country to pursue his claim, at great expense to him. If it is possible to make an arrangement in this regard similar to the arrangement made in regard to the subject matter covered by the notes tabled to-day, I suggest to the Prime Minister that some arrangement ought to be made to cover these claims for supplies and materials, we will say, furnished by Canadian nationals to United States government agencies in connection, for instance, with the construction of the Alaska highway. I know of one case where a bill of \$30,000 has been unpaid for fifteen months. The person concerned has a judgment which he is being

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

asked to vacate, and on which he cannot collect unless he goes to the United States to pursue it. Of course that ought not to be the case.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Perhaps my hon. friend would allow me to look into the matter and give him an answer to-morrow.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Certainly.

## UNITED NATIONS

### APPLICATIONS FROM CANADIANS WISHING TO SERVE ABROAD ON STAFF OF UNRRA

Hon. L. R. LaFLECHE (Minister of National War Services): During the course of the discussion on Tuesday on the second reading of the bill for the carrying into effect of the agreement for United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, the statement was made by the parliamentary assistant to the President of the Privy Council that if any Canadians wished to serve abroad on the staff of UNRRA, applications might be forwarded to the Department of National War Services, which would pass them on to UNRRA headquarters at Washington.

As a result of the publicity which has been given in the press and over the radio to this matter, I should like to offer a word of explanation as to what the situation is at the moment. There are two classes of positions which UNRRA will be called upon to fill. The first includes administrative and executive posts, and the selection of personnel for these positions rests entirely with UNRRA. Canadians who may be interested in such opportunities should forward their applications direct to the Director General, UNRRA, Dupont Circle building, Washington, D.C.

Should any such applications come to the Department of National War Services, their receipt will be acknowledged and they will be forwarded immediately to UNRRA.

There is a second class of positions for work in the field which contemplates, I understand, small groups of planning and supervising personnel. It is expected that these positions will be filled from voluntary agencies interested in UNRRA activities. We have given an assurance to UNRRA that we shall be prepared to offer our best assistance in organizing cooperation between these agencies and in the recruiting of such personnel.

As mentioned by the parliamentary assistant to the President of the Privy Council, no indication has yet been received by the government as to how many employees will be required under this scheme, nor do we know the requirements in regard to experience.