

ALLOTMENT OF TIME FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOOD PROBLEM

SHRI H. D. RAJAH (Madras) : Now that the Prime Minister is here, I would request him to allot a day, in this House, for the discussion of the food problem as well as the problem of West and East Bengal. You know, Sir, in the Lower House a full-dress debate took place about these two important matters which are burning matters of this country today. I would request him to allot a day, out of his official days, and see that that debate takes place in this House.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU : I would gladly consider the question of allowing a day to discuss the food problem here. If the House so wishes, it may also consider the other problem though I may submit to the House, for the present, that there have been no further developments in that problem necessitating an immediate discussion.

In regard to the food problem, I would suggest a discussion at a somewhat later date, say, 10 or 12 days later, round about the 10th December, because then you may have other facts and can discuss them.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : Thank you, Sir.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS NOTIFICATION

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Ministry of External Affairs Notification N. F. 27-16/52-Emi, dated the 13th September 1952, under sub-section (2) of section 30A of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922. [Placed in Library. See No. P-61/52.]

(1) TARIFF COMMISSION'S REPORT ON TIN-PLATE PRICES

(2) RESOLUTION OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : Sir, I beg

to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. P-80/52] :—

(i) Report of the Tariff Commission on the review of retention prices of tin-plate produced by the Tin-plate Company of India Ltd.; and

(ii) Ministry of Commerce and Industry Resolution No. SC(A)-2(92)/52, dated the 12th November 1952.

(1) TARIFF COMMISSION'S REPORT

(2) IRON AND STEEL COMPANIES AMALGAMATION ORDINANCE, 1952

Sir, I also beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, [Placed in Library. See No. P-81/52] :—

(i) Tariff Commission's Report on the fair ratio between the ordinary shares of the Steel Corporation of Bengal Ltd., and the Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd., and

(ii) Iron and Steel Companies Amalgamation Ordinance 1952 (No. VIII of 1952).

HAPPENINGS IN EAST AFRICA

Mr. CHAIRMAN: We now proceed to Legislative Business.

PROF. G. RANGA (Madras) : I wish to make a submission before you proceed with the next item of business. Very extraordinary things are happening in East Africa. I think our representatives are also attending the Commonwealth Conference which is being held in London. I would like the hon. Prime Minister to tender necessary advice to our representatives there to raise this subject, either officially or unofficially, in order to see that the interests not only of our own Indians in Africa but also of the other coloured peoples there are properly safeguarded. As is very well known, the leader of the African peoples, who is on the friendliest terms with Indians in East Africa, has been arrested recently. He dissociated himself as well as his organisation from what is known as the Mau Mau movement, which is supposed to

be a terrorist movement. Things are going on in such a way that there is every fear of the situation degenerating into the same kind of situation that one finds in Indo-China or even in Malaya. Therefore, before things become too bad, I would like the Prime Minister to consider the situation and take this House as well as the other House into his confidence on some suitable occasion before the session comes to an end.

SHRI B. GUPTA (West Bengal) : I object, Sir, to the reflection that has been cast on the struggle of the peoples of Malaya and Indo-China.

PROF. G. RANGA : No reflection has been cast on anybody.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : The question that the hon. Member has raised is a matter of grave concern not only to Government but to large numbers of people who are interested, that is, the question of possible developments in Africa which may lead to grave trouble all round. Our policy in Africa, as I have repeatedly stated, has been to co-operate with the Africans there, and we have advised our people in Africa not to seek any right or privilege against the Africans which may injure the African interests. We are not there to exploit Africa ; we are there to live there, to help and co-operate with the Africans.

It is not possible for me now, or perhaps even later, to go into the details of the situation there. We really do not know much more than what the House knows. We know some more details, but they do not throw any greater light. But quite apart from the origins of all these, and as to who is more to blame and who is less to blame, it is obvious that the situation that has arisen there is very unfortunate for the future of Africa and for the good relations of Africans with other people. So, we have been interested. But when the hon. Mem-

ber suggests that something can be done in relation to this question at the Commonwealth Conference, I demur for a variety of reasons. First of all, I think this House should realise what the Commonwealth is. It is not our habit to raise any question in the Commonwealth affecting our interests or affecting the interests of any other country in relation to us. For instance, there is the South African issue. South Africa is an independent country. We are an independent country. We are naturally interested in what is happening there. We are prepared to raise it, and we have raised it, in the United Nations and elsewhere. We do not propose to raise in the Commonwealth Conference that or any other issue between countries, because we do not consider this Commonwealth Conference as a supernational body to which we can go and appeal or which can issue any kind of direction or even advice. This conference meets for specific objects. We meet together and discuss those matters, but do not issue any directions to each other. Now, the present conference that is being held there is on the economic plane, and our Finance Minister is attending it. I might as well say for the information of the House that in this conference or in any other no decisions are taken binding any country. There is only exchange of information and of viewpoints, and then it is for each Government to consider what it will do in its own sphere. Therefore, we do not consider it right or proper to bring any question of this type formally before the Commonwealth Conference, because that would be a bad precedent for us.

THE INDIAN PATENTS AND
DESIGNS (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1952

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) :
Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill further to amend the Indian Patents and Designs Act, 1911, as passed by the House of the People be taken into consideration.

Sir, I think this is a pleasant duty, because I believe that this measure