

NATIONAL FLAG

INQUIRY AS TO MOTION FOR CONCURRENCE IN
COMMITTEE REPORT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. FREDERIC DORION (Charlevoix-Saguenay): I should like to ask the chairman of the flag committee when he will move in the house—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. DORION: I should like to ask when he will move concurrence in the report he tabled to-day.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. DORION: I think I am entitled to an answer. I am not asking the government; I am asking the chairman of the committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The report was tabled to-day, and as the hon. member knows, under standing order 45 some time must elapse before concurrence may be moved.

Hon. P. J. A. CARDIN (Richelieu-Verchères): Arising out of the statement you have just made, Mr. Speaker, in reply to the question of the hon. member for Charlevoix-Saguenay (Mr. Dorion), may I ask the Prime Minister if it is the intention of the government that such a motion shall be made later this day, and that the unanimous consent of those present in the house will be asked in order to do so?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Do I understand my hon. friend to ask if there is any intention of having the motion made later this day? There is no intention to have a motion later this day.

THE BUDGET

DEBATE ON THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT
OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The house resumed from Thursday, July 11, consideration of the motion of Right Hon. J. L. Ilsley (Minister of Finance) that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair for the house to go into committee of ways and means, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Macdonnell, and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. MacInnis.

Mr. WILFRID GARIOPEY (Three Rivers): Last evening, Mr. Speaker, in my desire to conclude my remarks before adjournment I neglected to reply to a couple of interruptions as I might have done. I shall do so now. To the hon. member for Argenteuil (Mr. Heon) may I say that upon investigation I have

found that the school legislation adopted by the Anderson government in Saskatchewan has not been repealed or altered by the present Douglas C.C.F. government of that province. To the hon. member for Charlevoix-Saguenay (Mr. Dorion) I must say that on looking into the records I have found I am somewhat mistaken, in that he has seen the error of his ways oftener than I thought. I have discovered, and I must admit, that he has voted with the government oftener than I thought had been the case. For this good move I am satisfied his electors will be very grateful to him when the proper time comes.

Two hon. members from my province yesterday raised the question of clemency in connection with our youngsters who may have violated the Militia Act. In this connection let me read an article which appeared in the *Ottawa Journal* of October 31 last:

In the united nation countries, it is recognized that the men who served on land, at sea, and in the air to defeat Germany, Italy and Japan have rendered a priceless service to humanity. But in Dublin, Mr. DeValera takes a different standpoint.

By an emergency decree signed by Mr. DeValera himself, deserters from the Irish army who were absent from Ireland during the past five years for a period of more than six months will be barred from any government employment in Ireland for seven years and will be denied unemployment benefits . . .

Admitting that these men committed an infraction of Irish military law in going to war for freedom, it would seem sensible and practicable to grant them amnesty—treat their war service as if they had been sent on special instructional courses—and use them to frame an army in Ireland which would really mean something.

Recently some military police have been in my own county putting their hands on a young man belonging to a well-known family. I am personally aware that the chief of police residing in my district has a list of a certain number of young fellows who are being looked for. I have visited the Longueuil camp not far from Montreal, where at the time I visited it there were over a thousand young men who were prisoners and treated as such. I am not going to plead, Mr. Speaker; I am not going to give any special reasons for what I ask. The war has been over for one year. I appeal to this house, to the country and to the veterans' associations of Canada to join hands, grant amnesty to our young men and let them make a fresh start for the welfare of Canada as a whole.

As to the budget, I accept it as it is, complimenting the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley) on the magnificent work he has done. We have undertakings, we have debts, we have responsibilities that must be met. Mr. Brunet, assistant