Monday March 15th, 1943

File.

HOUSE DIGEST

C215379

4/-124

E. G. Hansell (Sc) Macleod moved adjournment to discuss Canada's participation or non-participation in the present inter-allied conversations at Washington but the Speaker ruled this was not a matter of national urgency.

Q: Mr. Graydon

Eden to Address Parliament

The Prime Minister expected that Hon. Anthony Eden would visit Ottawa in about two weeks. He had already invited Mr. Eden to address the House of Commons.

Denies Rowe Statement Colonel Ralston quoted a reported statement by Hon. Earl Rowe that a desire to send Canadian forces to North Africa had been frustrated by lack of adequate reinforcements. Colonel Ralston said this was without foundation; that the composition of the North African expedition had been determined by the High Command.

Mr. Mitchell supplemented his previous statement that the Associated Credit Bureaus of Canada Limited had not been engaged to trace draft evaders. He said that consideration was being given to the use of any existing and suitable agency for such purpose.

BUDGET DEBATE:

Urges Measures to Assist Wheat Growers E. D. Perley (C) Qu'Appelle pointed out that since removal of the wheat quota in the United States, the American price had gone to \$1.50 per bushel. Asked for an early statement regarding sales of Canadian wheat to the United States. Urged an initial price of \$1.00 for Winnipeg wheat with a domestic price of \$1.25 and a storage allowance to Canadian farmers on undelivered quota grain up to 75% of its value. Would prohibit creditors from collecting interest on loans secured on undeliverable quota grain.

Proposed a general survey of Saskatchewan to seek means of improving and developing its economy as a reconstruction measure.

Advocated permanent Boards of Review for the three Prairie provinces, with power to rejust farmers' debt payments each year in the light of current conditions. Favoured the writing off of all Veterans' debts under the old Soldiers' Settlement Act.

Thought farmers should be permitted to deduct wages for their wives, sons and daughters as operating costs against income tax, and that all farmers showing a net income of less than \$2,000.00 a year should be exempt.

Thinks
Treasury
Board's
Powers
Over-extended

G. J. McIlraith (L) Ottawa West argued that the Treasury Board was progressively gaining complete control over all personnel in the public service, Civil Servants having no right of appeal, either to the Board or from its decisions.

Felt the lack of Civil Service representation on the Coon Committee should be remedied.