

States, Great Britain and ourselves. I should like to ask the minister if the programme which is envisaged by the bill he mentions will be in collaboration with the lease-lend operations so far as the United States and other nations are concerned. Will there be collaboration with that country as well as with Great Britain in the allocation of supplies? So far as I could see there was nothing in the minister's statement which indicated that this was a move in collaboration with the other countries which are now supplying China and Russia. I should like the minister to be clear on that point because it is a very important factor in the discussions.

Mr. ILSLEY: The allocation board set up under this bill will undoubtedly find it necessary and will wish to keep very closely in touch with the munitions' assignment board in Washington and the assignments board in London.

Mr. GRAYDON: Before the government decided to bring down this legislation, may I ask whether Great Britain and the United States were consulted?

Mr. ILSLEY: I do not think so, no; but perhaps I had better give that some consideration and make inquiries before I answer the question definitely.

Mr. GRAYDON: The only point I wished to bring out was that we are engaged in a vast pooling arrangement of our resources and man-power to defeat the axis, and it seems to me only appropriate that we should bring down any such bill as this only in collaboration with our allies.

Mr. ILSLEY: It is very important, too, to communicate one's intentions to the Canadian parliament before they are communicated to other nations.

Mr. COLDWELL: I understand that the minister is interested in getting the supplementary war appropriation bill through as rapidly as possible. If I might make a suggestion it would be that the supplementary bill be introduced and carried through the house without discussion, interrupting this debate, if necessary, for the purpose, on the understanding that we should be free to discuss all war matters on the main measure.

Mr. ILSLEY: I am very much obliged to the hon. gentleman for making the suggestion, for that is exactly what I should like to see happen. I suggested last year that the debate of our whole war effort take place on the main appropriation bill, but the house did not take kindly to the suggestion. It is important that the supplementary appropriation bill be passed

[Mr. Graydon.]

immediately or very soon. I do not know what the house will want to do about that, but if the leaders and the members talk it over and there is no objection to that course, I will put the resolutions in connection with these bills on the order paper right away. A full accounting of our stewardship can be made on the main appropriation bill. That is when the main debate takes place every year, and I do not see any reason why we cannot adopt that procedure this year by mutual consent.

Mr. COLDWELL: With this proviso, of course, that anything which might have been discussed on the supplementary bill may be discussed on the main bill.

Mr. ILSLEY: I readily agree to that.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: May I supplement what the Minister of Finance said a moment ago in reply to my hon. friend as to the war supplies mutual aid allocation bill, as it will be called when introduced. The particular action as therein proposed has been proposed by the Canadian government on its own. It was our government that decided to adopt this method of aiding to the utmost in the war effort. In the course of the preparation of the measure particular departments in the governments of Great Britain and the United States especially interested were cognizant of what was in our minds. I think the word "cognizant" is the best word to use, better than "collaboration" perhaps.

Mr. ILSLEY: I just did not know how to answer the hon. gentleman's question, whether other governments were consulted.

Mr. GRAYDON: They were not consulted.

Mr. ILSLEY: Were not. This is our own action, but I should not like to say that certain details were not discussed.

Mr. GRAYDON: May I answer the minister's suggestion with regard to expediting the passage of this legislation, following up what the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr (Mr. Coldwell) has just said. Our view, of course, is that in times like these we must not allow any technicalities to stand in the way of the government's proceeding with the war effort. I think all members of the house will wish to make sure that no course of procedure is adopted which will in any way hamper the government with respect to the war appropriations which are required. I have tried while I have been in this position to facilitate as much as possible the government's war effort and the legislation in connection with it. I do not think it is the wish of the Canadian people that we should put any small technical obstacles in the way of the government. So