

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

MR. BRIDGES—STATEMENT WITH REFERENCE TO
REPORT IN CANADIAN PRESS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. H. F. G. BRIDGES (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, I desire to make a personal explanation. In the five o'clock edition of yesterday's *Ottawa Journal* there appears a news item, as a Canadian press dispatch from Fredericton, on page 6 of the same under the heading of "Beaverbrook Accepts Chancellorship of N.B. University". The final paragraph reads as follows:

A few months ago, visiting a military hospital in England with fisheries minister H. F. G. Bridges, he told the nurse who escorted him that he only had time to talk with the New Brunswickers. The nurse, an Ontario girl, remarked that Ontario is the "heart of Canada." "Madam," said His Lordship, "the heart is where the head is—and the head is in New Brunswick."

I was not Minister of Fisheries when I visited that hospital in England, as that was in February, 1945. I was then an officer in the Canadian army and I met my friend and benefactor of twenty years ago—Lord Beaverbrook—as we happened to be visiting the same hospital at the same time. What actually occurred on that occasion was this: he told the nursing sister that he wanted to visit the boys from New Brunswick or the maritime provinces. To which she replied: "My, you people from the maritimes are clannish. I come from Ontario and we regard Ontario as the heart of Canada". To which he quickly answered: "The heart was never the head, madam." Then as we walked along—and I do not believe the nursing sister heard this—he said to me: "Bridges, I hope she doesn't find out I was born in Ontario".

In fairness to Lord Beaverbrook and myself, I feel I should make this correction.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

STRIKE IN CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILE PLANT,
WINDSOR

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Bigar): Mr. Speaker, I received a telegram a few minutes ago on which I wish to base a question: I have not been able to give notice of it to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Mitchell), and I apologize for that. The telegram is from Mr. George Burt, of the United automobile workers, Windsor, drawing attention to the strike in the Chrysler plant, intimating that it is likely to spread, and asking what steps are being taken to endeavour to

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

bring an end to this strike, which will interfere with the production of farm machinery and automobiles.

Hon. HUMPHREY MITCHELL (Minister of Labour): That dispute is being handled by the conciliation department of the Ontario government.

CANADA SAVINGS BONDS

ANNOUNCEMENT AS TO FACILITIES FOR INVESTMENT IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I wish to announce to the house the decision of the government with respect to peacetime facilities for the investment of general public savings in government securities.

As the house is aware, the active life of the national war finance committee ended after the ninth victory loan. It was considered that this organization had completed its great work of meeting financial requirements for the prosecution of the war, and should not be asked to carry on in peace time.

It is clear, however, that the activities of the national war finance committee helped many people to save to an extent that no one had thought possible. Many Canadians have built up substantial personal reserves that they might never expect to acquire by other means. This is particularly true of savings made by regular deductions from pay. At the time I announced the termination of the national war finance committee, I mentioned that the government had received many suggestions that the savings programme be continued in a form adapted to peace time. I said that this matter would be given careful study.

I am now able to say that this study has been completed and that it fully supports the proposal to continue some sort of government savings facilities suitable to the times. The government has, therefore, decided to make facilities available, and has created the Canada savings bond for this purpose. The Canada savings bond is designed to replace both the victory bond and the war savings certificate as the government security in which personal savings may conveniently be invested. At the time of the introduction of the new security, the sale of war savings certificates and stamps will be discontinued.

The main purpose which influenced the government to extend facilities for investment of savings and to create the Canada savings bond was to meet existing public demand. The government is also fully aware of the value of this kind of saving and investment to the