

The feeling of the combines commissioner is—and I share it—that these amendments could be defended and would be desirable even in time of peace.

Mr. CAHAN: That is a large question.

Mr. ROGERS: I admit that, and I have no intention of deceiving the house on the point. I believe the amendments could be defended in time of peace. But there is additional need for them in time of war, and since the house is now in session and since these amendments were anticipated, I really felt that the government would be under some criticism if, knowing they were contemplated, we made no effort to take the house into our confidence, or to indicate exactly what we felt should be done to meet the situation.

On the other hand I quite agree there is nothing to be gained by proceeding with controversial legislation at this time, particularly when the main purpose can be realized, I assume, under the War Measures Act.

Mr. CAHAN: Very fully indeed.

Mr. ROGERS: I would therefore say to the house at this time that I shall be glad if the bill is permitted to stand for second reading. Then, in the interval between now and tomorrow, I shall consult with my own officers to assure myself of the fact that the immediate purpose which we have in view can be met under the War Measures Act. If that is so, and since some hon. members have indicated that it would be unwise to introduce controversial legislation at this time, then I may say we shall be prepared to proceed under the War Measures Act. But I should like to leave that matter in abeyance for the time being, until I consult with my officers.

On motion of Mr. Rogers the debate was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. MACKENZIE KING moved the adjournment of the house.

He said: I indicated in my remarks at the opening of the sitting that after the bill respecting the Combines Investigation Act and the bill respecting the patriotic fund had been discussed, the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Ilesley) acting for the Minister of Finance, would bring down his budget. I notice the minister is not in the house at the moment. I believe in any event it would be advisable to wait until to-morrow to have him make his presentation.

87134—9½

Mr. MANION: Is there anything coming up tomorrow, besides that which the Prime Minister has mentioned?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: As I said this afternoon, there is a bill to provide for the regulation of war charities, and a bill respecting a department of munitions and supplies. The resolution respecting the latter I shall have placed on the order paper to-night, so that it will be before hon. members in the morning. Perhaps the house would permit us to proceed from the resolution immediately to the bill itself, and through its different stages.

In speaking of the bill respecting the department of munitions and supplies, I mentioned that there would be a bill related to it to amend the Salaries Act. I did not imagine that anyone would think that particular bill related other than to the salary of the minister, for which provision would have to be made. However this is the capital city, and it is already abroad that there is a possibility of its affecting the salaries of all civil servants. I wish to make it clear that that particular bill relates only to the salary of the minister who may be appointed.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 12, 1939

The house met at three o'clock.

EUROPEAN WAR

TABLING OF EMERGENCY ORDERS IN COUNCIL

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): I should like to lay on the table of the house the following additional emergency orders in council:

No. 2588, relating to the appointment of Lieutenant Colonel Henri DesRosiers and Lieutenant Colonel K. S. MacLachlan as associate acting deputy ministers of national defence.

No. 2595, placing all officers and ratings of the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve and the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve on active service.

No. 2596, waiving the maximum age limits for entry into the Royal Canadian Navy, the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve, and the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve.

No. 2620, setting up a war services offers bureau under the public information committee.

No. 2621, establishment of an agricultural supplies committee.