

Wheat

ever to do with aircraft production and make no reference to it. The report itself was a highly confidential document which was prepared by Mr. MacMillan for submission to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley) and the war cabinet. It became such a subject of discussion that I offered in the house to lay on the table such portions of the report as could be laid on the table without disclosing military secrets which it is not the privilege of the Canadian government to disclose. We have been requested particularly by the British government not to disclose items in connection with small arms and gun production which are contained in the pages which were deleted.

When I made the offer to the house the hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Hanson) said that he quite understood why the pages in question could not be laid on the table, and later in his speech he said he quite agreed with me that they should not be laid on the table. As to Mr. MacMillan being relieved of his oath of secrecy, as long as Mr. MacMillan is an officer of the Department of Munitions and Supply I am afraid he will have to comply with the rules governing the officers of that department as laid down by order in council.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): The statement I made was based upon the theory that the particular pages related to the production of guns. If there is anything else in them, that statement would not apply.

Mr. HOWE: There is nothing else in them. They related entirely to guns.

WHEAT**QUESTIONS AS TO PRICES AND QUANTITIES SOLD SINCE AUGUST 1**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. JAMES A. MacKINNON (Minister of Trade and Commerce): A few days ago the hon. member for Qu'Appelle (Mr. Perley) asked certain questions in regard to the amount of wheat which had been sold since August 1 last, to whom sold, and the average price received. The sale of 100 million bushels (futures) to the cereals imports branch of the United Kingdom ministry of food was announced on August 8 last. Sales have been made to neutrals and Canadian mills, but a considerable portion of this business is being handled through the open market. In such cases the producer does not deliver his wheat to the Canadian wheat board. So far as the board sales are concerned it is thought inadvisable to give the prices at which the board wheat is sold or the amounts of board wheat sold in addition to that mentioned.

[Mr. Howe.]

INCOME TAX**REPORT AS TO PROPOSED APPLICATION TO COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. C. W. G. GIBSON (Minister of National Revenue): I should like to refer to a question asked in my absence on Friday by the hon. member for Acadia (Mr. Quelch). The question was:

* Has the Department of National Revenue requested that cooperative organizations throughout the dominion file income tax returns?

The answer to that question is, no.

PENSION ACT**APPLICATION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF CANADIAN AND UNITED KINGDOM FORCES**

Hon. IAN A. MACKENZIE (Minister of Pensions and National Health) moved that the house go into committee to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to amend the Pension Act to make its provisions applicable to certain members of the Canadian forces serving in the present war and to their dependents, to extend the benefits of the act to certain persons serving in the forces of the United Kingdom and also to make further changes and adjustments in the procedure and administration of the Pension Act.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Bradette in the chair.

Mr. GREEN: How many men have been discharged from the different forces in the present war, and how many of them have been discharged as physically unfit?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): I have not that information at hand, but I shall be glad to give it to my hon. friend to-morrow. I have had the information brought up to date, the number discharged and the number medically unfit, but I did not anticipate that this question would be asked on the resolution.

Mr. GREEN: Can the minister give an approximate figure?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): The approximate figure is 20,000.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Will the minister make a general statement as to the necessity for this legislation?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): This resolution will be followed by a bill to amend the Pension Act. The main portion of the bill will give statutory form to orders in council passed in the last fifteen or sixteen months dealing with questions of pension legislation and administration. Certain new