

*War Appropriation—Labour*

coldness inside houses, and inoperative boilers and machinery in industry. We cannot take chances on that kind of thing in Canada this year; and I am sure the minister and all those connected with him must agree with this last statement.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: I listened with a great deal of interest this afternoon to the hon. member for York-Sunbury (Mr. Hanson) as he expounded to us the present man-power policy of the now Progressive Conservative party. I had for some time tried to ascertain just what was the policy of that party, particularly since I had had ample opportunity of familiarizing myself with the man-power policy of that party in 1942. The erstwhile leader of that party, in his opening broadcast during the campaign in York South in 1942, clearly enunciated that policy, which concerned itself with little more than the conscription of man-power for overseas service. That was confirmed the following day in full-page advertisements in newspapers across this country, in which there appeared but one little phrase in one sentence in reference to the conscription of man-power, selective or otherwise, other than for overseas service. All through the early stages of that campaign that gentleman, who I presume was speaking for his party, emphasized the need for the conscription of man-power for overseas service. Only in the latter stages of the campaign did he concede that any other form of conscription might be necessary and then, by his own admission, only as a last gasp.

Mr. GRAYDON: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentleman is making a charge against the previous leader of the Conservative party. My recollection is quite clear on this matter. I believe the hon. member is now repeating a statement which gained some publicity at the time, to the effect that only in the last gasp would some policy with respect to the mobilization of wealth be adopted. I speak from recollection, but I believe that statement was denied by the then leader of the party, and now, in attempting to flog a dead horse, my hon. friend is not doing himself justice.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: I fail to see any point of order, Mr. Chairman. An attempt was made to show that the statement was not in accordance with the facts; but if my recollection serves me well, as I think it does, no evidence was ever submitted to prove conclusively that the statement was not made.

Mr. GRAYDON: Did not Mr. Meighen himself deny it?

[Mr. Maybank.]

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: On certain conditions.

Mr. GRAYDON: Of course he denied it.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: Not outright.

Mr. GRAYDON: Why does the hon. member try to drag that in now?

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: The hon. member for York-Sunbury never misses an opportunity in this house to deliver a jibe at the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation party, and I simply want to trace the twistings and turnings and improvisations of the Conservative party's man-power policy, as I have observed them.

Mr. GRAYDON: Well, stick to the facts, if you are going to do that.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: My recollection of the debates that took place in this house last session, is that for the most part the members of the Conservative party who spoke on the question of man-power called for an all-out conscription of man-power for overseas service, and for little else. Only when they went to Winnipeg last summer did they erase the word "conscription" from their statement of policy; and I have not seen that word in their statement, nor have I heard them use the word, since that time. There has been criticism from the Conservative ranks of the government's farm policy, on the ground that the government was calling too many men from the farms. When the Minister of Munitions and Supply was before the committee he was criticized for allowing trained men in the aeroplane factories to be taken into the armed forces. To-day we heard a tirade against the government because they are not getting sufficient men into the army overseas.

I was interested in that exposition of the policy of the Conservative party. I think the hon. member for York-Sunbury made it amply clear this afternoon that, in his mind at least, the supreme effort, the greatest contribution Canada could make in this war, would be the creation of a large army overseas. He admitted, of course, that we were making a great contribution; he admitted that there were other calls upon Canada's man-power, but I think he made it quite clear that so far as he was concerned that was the outstanding contribution Canada could make. Last evening he attacked the attitude of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation party toward the policy of sending an army overseas. I can certainly speak for myself, and I think I can speak for this group when I admit that we never at any time felt, as the hon. member for York-Sunbury apparently feels, that this was the way in which Canada could make her greatest contribution to the war effort. It was