

preserving my independence of judgment and action to take a seat on the opposition side where I will continue to maintain the same attitude.

An hon. MEMBER: Any more?

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MOTION FOR RESCISSION OF ORDER PASSED ON JULY 24, 1944, FOR SATURDAY SITTINGS

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister) moved:

That the order passed on July 24, 1944, under which the house was allowed to sit on Saturday until the end of the present session, be rescinded, and that when the house rises on Friday, November 24, and every Friday thereafter, until the end of the session, it shall stand adjourned until the following Monday in accordance with standing order No. 2.

Motion agreed to.

THE MINISTRY

REPORTED RESIGNATION OF HON. C. G. POWER—
STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I should like to mention just one matter to the house by way of information. Some hon. members have asked me if the report in the press that the Minister of National Defence for Air (Mr. Power) has tendered his resignation is correct and if the resignation has been accepted. I may say that the minister has tendered to me his resignation, but thus far I have not advised His Excellency that I think the resignation should be accepted. I wish further to consider the matter carefully.

Mr. GORDON GRAYDON (Leader of the Opposition): May I ask the Prime Minister if there has been any correspondence between the minister he mentions and himself in connection with this matter and, if so, will it be tabled in the house?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: It all depends upon what is meant by "correspondence". There should be two letters to have correspondence, and so far there has been only one. Should there be correspondence to table I shall see that it is tabled.

Mr. GRAYDON: I would not like to see the Prime Minister limited. If he thinks the letter he has received from the minister should be tabled, we shall be glad to receive it even before he makes his reply.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: My hon. friend speaks about a letter that should be tabled. I have no letter that should be tabled because

[Mr. W. LaCroix]

I have not as yet advised His Excellency the Governor General that the resignation of the minister should be accepted.

CANADIAN FORCES

PETITIONS WITH RESPECT TO APPLICATION OF
N.R.M.A. ACT

Mr. J. H. HARRIS (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present to the House of Commons and parliament assembled a petition, the prayer of which humbly requests that the draftee forces shall be at once dispatched overseas to the aid of our men now fighting at the front. This is signed by H. C. Baillie and many others.

Mr. R. W. GRAY (Lambton West): I wish to lay on the table a petition signed by Neil McLeod of Sarnia and several hundred others praying that full effect be given to what is commonly known as bill No. 80.

Mr. DOUGLAS G. ROSS (St. Paul's): I have a similar petition signed by several hundred persons requesting that bill No. 80 be implemented at once in order that the lives of our men overseas may be saved and reinforcements given to our troops.

Mr. H. R. JACKMAN (Rosedale): I have a similar petition from the constituency of Rosedale signed by approximately two hundred persons, and another from the constituency of Spadina bearing approximately sixty names.

METHOD OF RAISING MEN FOR SERVICE OVERSEAS—
REFERENCE TO PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT
ON JULY 22, 1942

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. B. HANSON (York-Sunbury): When the Prime Minister speaks on his substantive motion on Monday next, notice of which is now on the order paper, I should like him to make clear a matter which is troubling me. At the risk of taking some time to explain the position I would direct his attention to page 4564 of the House of Commons *Hansard* of July 22, 1942. At that time the mobilization bill was under discussion—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. SPEAKER: I wonder if the hon. member could give me some idea as to the relevancy of the statement he intends to make?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I have to lay the foundation. This is not intended in the slightest degree to embarrass the Prime Minister or anyone else.

An hon. MEMBER: Oh, no.