

me, that if the people of Canada knew what is going on they would be more willing to support their government. There is no disgrace in having a failure in production of war materials, but there is great disgrace in not admitting that we have failed in production along certain lines. The third reason is psychological. There is to-day a feeling in Canada that the government is not exercising the greatest economy, or all the economy it might. With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley) a straight question, and resume my seat in order that he may answer. Is it true that in Canada to-day cabinet ministers are allowed and receive the sum of \$2,000 a year for a motor car?

Mr. MACDONALD (Brantford City): Read the estimates.

Mr. ADAMSON: The minister indicates that that is so. I am glad to get the minister's admission; I thought the item was in the estimates. The people of Canada also know that. They say: Here are cabinet ministers each drawing \$2,000 a year for a motor car. Most people consider that very excessive. I fully realize that the saving of \$30,000 or \$32,000 or \$34,000, if this item were struck out of the estimates, would be a comparatively small matter. But what is important is that it would show the man in the factory who is asked to give up one hour, two hours, three hours, or half a day's pay every week, that the government are willing to economize for this war effort right in the highest tribunal in the land.

Mr. MACDONALD (Brantford City): Who is asking anyone to give up half a day's pay?

Mr. ADAMSON: The workers in several industries in my riding have been asked to give up half a day's pay.

Mr. MACDONALD (Brantford City): For war savings certificates.

Mr. ADAMSON: Exactly.

Mr. MACDONALD (Brantford City): Does the hon. member know that the cabinet ministers are buying war savings certificates?

Mr. ADAMSON: But they are also receiving \$2,000 a year for a motor car. And the public in Canada do not consider that justified, whether the hon. member does or not.

Mr. MACDONALD (Brantford City): The hon. member asked—

Mr. ADAMSON: Mr. Speaker, I have the floor. The hon. gentleman can speak afterwards.

Mr. MACDONALD (Brantford City): I understood the hon. member was asking me a question.

Mr. ADAMSON: I am not; I was not addressing the hon. member.

On occasions I find myself in the position of driving on his majesty's business in Canada, using my own motor car. I find that the system in general use throughout this country is to pay six cents a mile to a man using his own motor car on the government service.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: May I ask the hon. member a question?

Mr. ADAMSON: I ask the hon. gentleman to be seated. I have the floor. I am interested to see that this discussion has awakened so much interest.

Mr. MACDONALD (Brantford City): Will the hon. member tell us whether he is in the army himself?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): That is not a proper question.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. The hon. member has said that he does not desire to have his speech interrupted.

Mr. MACDONALD (Brantford City): He should not cast aspersions on other hon. members.

Mr. ADAMSON: If I have cast an aspersion on any hon. member, I am very sorry. The hon. member must have an extremely thin skin. I am dealing with a question of psychology, and suggesting that the ministers give up this \$2,000 for the good of the country.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: What about the leader of the opposition?

Mr. ADAMSON: Yes; I would even suggest that.

The second method of borrowing this money is by the sale of bonds. Since the tremendous increase in the income tax, people in the bond buying class have found themselves having difficulty to pay their income tax; and when the time comes for the next war loan some time during the summer, the minister is going to find that this reservoir of bond buyers, these people who would normally buy bonds, have no surplus available for bonds, they are up against it paying their income tax. I suggest to the minister that when he puts out the next war loan, some system must be arranged so that not only are they good collateral at the bank, as all Dominion of Canada bonds are, but that they can be bought on the instalment plan without interest