

The question of filling the vacancies referred to has been before us for some time. It has been under very careful review. I had hoped to be in a position to make an announcement at the beginning of this session of parliament. May I say I hope to be able to do so within a very short time.

Mr. GRAYDON: I hope the minister will not forget the farmers, who have a claim in that respect—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. GRAYDON: Surely I may be allowed to interject—

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): This is a speech.

Mr. GRAYDON: I am not trying to make a speech, but I should like to complete what I had to say, just in a sentence; that is, with a reference to the farmers and also the newspapermen, who were mentioned the other day by the hon. member for Lake Centre (Mr. Diefenbaker).

LABOUR CONDITIONS

REQUEST FOR OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ORDER IN COUNCIL P.C. 9384

On the orders of the day:

Mr. S. H. KNOWLES (Winnipeg North Centre): In view of the widespread and active protests by organized labour against the new war-time wages control order, P.C. 9384, will the Prime Minister consider setting aside a time for discussion of this order by this house, at an early day?

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): It seemed to me that the first part of my hon. friend's question was an assertion of something which he alleged to be the case, but I am not sure that he is right in his allegation. As to the second part, the business of the session will have to be carried on in accordance with the regular procedure. All I can say at the moment is that each question will be brought forward for consideration at a time which seems the most appropriate to bring it forward.

CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR

INQUIRY AS TO STEPS TAKEN TO INCREASE AVAILABLE SUPPLIES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. G. K. FRASER (Peterborough West): I wrote the Minister of Finance in regard to this matter prior to the press release of November 11, 1943. What is being done at the present time in regard to speeding up the

production of children's underwear? I ask this question because the hospitals are unable to get sizes one and two in children's under-clothing and as a result have to cut down on the larger sizes available.

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance): If the hon. gentleman wrote me about the matter, as he says, and as I have no doubt he did, I am sure I must have given him a full reply, and I shall write him again and bring the story down to date. Most careful efforts have been made, and very effectively, to increase the production of children's underwear. My recollection is that this production is considerably greater this year than it was in previous years, but I will confirm that fact.

Mr. FRASER (Peterborough West): We must also remember that there have been more births during the past year, which has helped to aggravate the shortage.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SPEECH

ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. L. D. TREMBLAY AND SECONDED BY MR. W. A. TUCKER

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

Mr. L. D. TREMBLAY (Dorchester) moved:

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency Major-General the Right Honourable the Earl of Athlone, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, a member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Grand Master of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, one of His Majesty's Personal Aides-de-Camp, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada.

May it Please Your Excellency:

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both houses of parliament.

He said: (Translation): Mr. Speaker, if I have accepted with much pleasure the signal honour of moving the address in reply to the speech from the throne—a motion which the brilliant and genial member for Rosthern (Mr. Tucker) has been called upon to second—it is because I knew that the right hon. the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) with his characteristic tact, wished, in honouring the constituency of Dorchester, to include in that