

order in council? Does not the minister consider this a form of intimidation of employees?

Mr. MITCHELL: We are still living in a free country.

An hon. MEMBER: Are we?

Mr. MITCHELL: I hope we are—sometimes I wonder whether we are. However, the order in council is a public document. What objection can there be to its being printed in *Hansard* or in the newspapers, or to having it announced over the radio? It is just a matter of information.

MASSEY-HARRIS—SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTE IN
TORONTO AND BRANTFORD PLANTS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. HUMPHREY MITCHELL (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, it might not be amiss at this time if I advised the house that another industrial dispute involving several thousand workers in Toronto and Brantford appears to have been settled as a result of the efforts of Mr. Leonard W. Brockington, K.C., C.M.G., Ottawa, who had been appointed by me last week as an industrial disputes inquiry commissioner to deal with questions in dispute between the employees of the Massey-Harris Company Limited in its Toronto and Brantford plants. The employees were represented by the united automobile, aircraft and agricultural implement workers of America.

The commissioner recommended that the dispute be settled on the following basis:

1. A general wage increase of ten cents an hour effective July 1, 1946.

2. The parties to enter into negotiations for a general adjustment of wage rates if there be an advance of four points or any multiple thereof upon the cost of living index for September, 1946, as prepared and published by the dominion bureau of statistics; if the parties are unable to agree on such wage adjustment after thirty days' negotiation, application may be made to the regional war labour board;

3. Two weeks' vacation with pay, effective in 1946, for employees with five years' service.

The company and its employees had previously agreed on a reduction of the work week from 48 to 45 hours, with payment of time and one-half for hours worked in excess of 45 per week.

I understand that the recommendations of the commissioner have been accepted by both the company and the union.

[Mr. MacInnis.]

I do not know why this form of approach could not have been carried out in connection with the steel dispute. Might I say again that I am the last man to run away from a dispute but, as I have said before, I do not think industrial disputes can be settled in the House of Commons. It has been my experience for a good many years that it sometimes makes things worse. So far as the record of my department is concerned, I am prepared to defend it in any general debate with anyone, and particularly as to its stand with respect to the question of the settlement of industrial disputes.

In the very nature of things we must follow the basic principles of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act. In my judgment it has been the finest piece of legislation ever adopted by any country, because it is predicated upon conciliation, a willingness to give and take between parties in a dispute. If anyone knows of a better way of doing it, let him say so. I should like to learn from any member, or indeed from anyone outside the house, who has a better approach to industrial problems than that which is exemplified in the basic principle found in the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act.

VETERANS LAND ACT

AGREEMENT RESPECTING UTILIZATION OF
PROVINCIAL LANDS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. HERRIDGE (Kootenay West): I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Will he kindly inform the house of developments in the signing of an agreement between the government of British Columbia and the federal authorities on the utilization of provincial lands for settlement under the Veterans Land Act administration?

Hon. IAN A. MACKENZIE (Minister of Veterans Affairs): An agreement was signed to-day. I shall table it at the earliest possible moment, and send a copy to my hon. friend.

THE BUDGET

DEBATE ON THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT
OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The house resumed from Friday, July 12, consideration of the motion of Right Hon. J. L. Ilesley (Minister of Finance) that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair for the house to go into committee of ways and means, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Macdonnell, and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. MacInnis.