

in regard to the conduct of this war, it is the discussion of such matters as this, of supra-national governments, which need not be discussed while this war is being carried on; if they are not discussed by irresponsible men like Mr. Sandwell, they will not be discussed in this house.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I should not like to let pass the statement of the hon. member for York-Sunbury (Mr. Hanson) that nothing has been said by myself in this house with regard to the progress of the war since this session opened. If my hon. friend will look at my address in the debate on the speech from the throne, he will find that I took a good deal of time to make the position clear as it existed at that time, particularly in regard to such matters as the Casablanca conference and so on. He will find also that I have spoken on other occasions. It is true that I have not put my remarks in the form of special statements, but from time to time, as the opportunity has been afforded and as I thought the occasion required, I have endeavoured fully to acquaint hon. members with the various aspects of the war which I thought should be brought to their attention. I have made some allowance, however, for what I assumed hon. members would know from their own reading, and have not attempted to traverse a great deal of ground which would not have served any useful purpose.

Mr. GRAYDON: May I just say to the Prime Minister that in regard to any suggestions on my part, I was only asking that the practice which the Prime Minister himself adopted in previous sessions be restored in this session.

Mr. J. W. NOSEWORTHY (York South): Apropos of the point raised by the leader of the opposition I should like to ask the Minister of National Defence for Naval Services if he will consider the advisability of giving to this house, at as early a date as possible, some statement regarding the extent of the submarine menace and the steps being taken to offset it. In this connection I should like to direct his attention, if by any chance he has not seen it already, to a devastating editorial on this subject appearing in to-day's *Ottawa Citizen*.

Hon. ANGUS L. MACDONALD (Minister of National Defence for Naval Services): I have not seen the editorial in to-day's *Citizen*, but I shall be glad to look at it shortly. As to the remainder of the question, I am governed, I think, by the arrangement that was made by the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Ralston) on behalf of the three defence

ministers with the leader of my hon. friend's group, the leader of the official opposition and the leader of the Social Credit group. As I recall that arrangement, it was that there would be no speeches on war matters by the defence ministers until the war appropriation bill came up for discussion, and until the appropriate parts of the bill were reached dealing with the respective departments. The Minister of National Defence, the Minister of National Defence for Air (Mr. Power) and I are all ready, I think, to make statements at any time or to proceed with the discussion of the appropriation measure, whenever the house wishes that done.

MILITARY HOSPITALS

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION IN REGARD TO FACILITIES IN WINNIPEG

On the orders of the day.

Mr. S. H. KNOWLES (Winnipeg North Centre): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Pensions and National Health concerning a matter which must be given immediate attention or it will be too late. Has the minister received a copy of the resolution adopted by the Winnipeg board of trade on April 5, a copy of which I have sent to him, asking for reconsideration of the government's decision in the matter of increasing military hospital facilities in greater Winnipeg, as between Deer Lodge and the Winnipeg General hospital? Further, I would ask the minister what steps he has taken to obtain such reconsideration.

Hon. IAN A. MACKENZIE (Minister of Pensions and National Health): I had not seen the resolution referred to by the hon. member until I received the copy he sent me just a few minutes before entering this chamber. In reply to the second part of the question I may inform my hon. friend that this matter has been given most careful consideration not only by the officers of the department over which I preside but also by the war hospitalization committee, and it is their conjoint judgment that the best methods and policies have been pursued in this case from the point of view of economy as well as of the interests of members and ex-members of the forces.

WHEAT

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SALE OF 7,000,000 BUSHELS TO BELGIUM

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. A. MacKINNON (Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I wish to make the following announcement with reference to a wheat sale to the Belgian government.