

Mr. GRAYDON: May I ask the government what they intend to do with respect to the report just now tabled by the Speaker?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Give hon. members a chance to read it first, and the government will announce its course later.

THE MINISTRY

APPOINTMENT OF M. F. GREGG AS MINISTER OF FISHERIES

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is customary, when a vacancy is created in the ministry by the death of a minister, to announce any consequent change in the ministry. As hon. members are only too well aware, the late Hon. Francis Bridges passed away on August 10. The minister's death created a vacancy in the position of Minister of Fisheries. That vacancy has very happily and, the government thinks, exceedingly fortunately, been filled by the appointment of Mr. M. F. Gregg as Minister of Fisheries. That is the only change in the present ministry since we last assembled.

PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANTS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW APPOINTMENTS

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): It is not necessary to announce to the house the appointment of parliamentary assistants, but I think it would be desirable to have the appointments on record on *Hansard*. I would therefore announce that the following were appointed parliamentary assistants on October 30:

Mr. Ralph Maybank (Winnipeg South Centre) to be parliamentary assistant to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Mr. W. E. Harris (Grey-Bruce) to be parliamentary assistant to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. P. E. Cote (Verdun) to be parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Labour.

Mr. Robert McCubbin (Middlesex West) to be parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Gleason Belzile (Rimouski) to be parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Robert H. Winters (Queens-Lunenburg) to be parliamentary assistant to the Minister of National Revenue.

I might also state to the house that there have been no transfers of duties since the last session of parliament.

Mr. POULIOT: May I ask the government when the usual obituaries on deceased members will be given?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I was about to rise to remind the house that before we proceeded further it would, I believe, be the wish of hon. members to record the loss which the house has sustained in its membership through the passing of two of its most prominent members, both from this side of the house, and to pay some slight tribute to their memory.

TRIBUTES TO DECEASED MEMBERS

THE LATE HON. H. F. G. BRIDGES—

W. E. N. SINCLAIR

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as hon. members know only too well, the government lost one of the most promising members any administration has ever had when, during August last, the Hon. H. F. G. Bridges passed away very suddenly because of a heart ailment of which very few were aware, and which I doubt if the late hon. minister himself regarded as of the serious character it proved to be.

Only within the past ten days another hon. member, Mr. W. E. N. Sinclair, K.C., has been taken from us.

As hon. members are aware, both Mr. Bridges and Mr. Sinclair came into the House of Commons as recently as the last general election. Neither of them therefore had been here for a long time. But in the short time—the three sessions—they were here, they made their influence and personalities strongly felt.

Mr. Bridges, though he was cut off at the early age of forty-five, had had a prominent and useful career. He began life first as a teacher, but most of his adult life was spent in the practice of the profession of law. During the war he also served as a soldier at headquarters and overseas and became an authority on some matters which were of real concern to the army at that time. As one who had had wide experience as a lawyer and was also a war veteran, Mr. Bridges' services were certain to be of value to parliament and to the country.

But there was another reason why Mr. Bridges, while he was with us, was a valuable addition to the membership of this house. He had been a member of the legislature of New Brunswick for some time, and not merely a private member but Speaker of the legislature of that province. In the course of filling that high office, Mr. Bridges felt that discussions were taking place in the legislature in which he himself would like to have an