

Honourable Members will recall that at the time the Defence Purchasing Board was set up, the Minister of National Defence said in reply to a specific question, "The answer is this, that this is a measure for peace time, and I trust that it will long be used for that purpose. If an emergency arises, doubtless other measures will be enacted immediately to deal with the emergency." (Hansard P. 2134).

The main concern at that time was to insure that there should be no profiteering incidental to preparations for defence. The Minister of Finance envisaged different methods for controlling profits in the event of war. In the same debate, Mr. Dunning said: "And of course if - God forbid - war should come and we have to consider the results of war inflation of one kind and another, outside of this measure altogether we shall have to evolve schemes for profit control which ^{apply} will/not only on purchases by the Department of National Defence. I think there is no doubt we would come to that." (Hansard, March 29, 1939, p. 2591.)