

War Appropriation Bill

of opinion here; if there is an incorrect statement in what I am saying I will be the first to acknowledge it, but at all events that much is true and has been corroborated by the minister to-day. The chairman of the war-time requirements board brought in from the United States a leading executive in aircraft production, Mr. Breech, head of one of the divisions of General Motors, to investigate the situation and give his advice. I am informed that his views were in agreement with those of the Canadian manufacturers, and confirmed the hopelessness of the Federal Aircraft situation. The minister did not traverse that point, but that statement is made to me by the head of one of these aircraft companies.

Mr. HOWE: I will say that statement is absolutely false.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I will say this—

Mr. HOWE: I do not say my hon. friend's statement is false; I say the information given him is absolutely false.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): All right; let us investigate that. The statement was made by this gentleman to these men, and the minister was not present.

Mr. HOWE: Quite so.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): All right. This statement was made to me by one of those gentlemen who were present, when the minister was not; and he tells me that this man did make that statement. I am going to leave it there, but if I call a witness in court I take the man who was present, not the man who was not present. Surely that is elementary.

There was a little interlude here this afternoon with respect to a question asked by the hon. member for Lake Centre. I am going to ask the Minister of Finance if he has a copy of a letter said to have been written by Mr. Breech to Mr. Sloan of General Motors.

Mr. ILSLEY: No.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Did he ever have it?

Mr. ILSLEY: No. The first I ever heard of it was this afternoon.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): All right. I don't know anything about it—

Mr. HOWE: Then why talk about it?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I am asking the question of the minister; I was told he had it. He gives me his word, and that is the end of it. I do not know whether there was ever such a letter.

Mr. HOWE: If my hon. friend gets hold of it will he let me see it?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Yes, I will promise that. Will my hon. friend do the same?

Mr. HOWE: Yes, I will.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): All right; we will have reciprocity. I cannot possibly finish by six o'clock, so I think perhaps we had better report progress.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): What will be the business to-morrow?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: To-morrow Mr. Speaker leaves the chair without question put on going into committee of supply, so we will take up supply, I hope at an early stage in the proceedings, the supply being that of the Minister of Justice and later that of the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Will we not go on with this discussion to-morrow?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: No, I think we have had enough of this for a short time.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I thought this was very urgent.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Well, perhaps it is less urgent that it was.

At six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.