

the hon. gentlemen opposite who are making so much noise have stopped to consider that today the Prime Minister holds more power in his hands than any prime minister in the peacetime history of Canada.

**An hon. Member:** Thank God.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Right now there is no constitution in this country, no Bill of Rights, no provincial constitutions. This government now has the power by Order in Council to do anything it wants—to intern any citizen, to deport any citizen, to arrest any person or to declare any organization subversive or illegal. These are tremendous powers to put into the hands of the men who sit on the treasury benches.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** If my friends will look at the regulations they will find that if the police in their judgment decide that some person is a member of a subversive organization—not just of the FLQ but of any organization that the police decide is subversive—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** —or that he contributes to such a party—

**An hon. Member:** Why is the hon. member scared?

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** —or that he communicates any of the ideas or doctrines of such a party—

**An hon. Member:** What has changed you, Tommy?

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** —that person may be arrested and detained for 90 days. At the end of 90 days, he has the power to appeal to a superior court judge to set a date for his trial and that may be postponed for some time. He may be denied bail.

● (12:00 noon)

A person in Canada may be held for 90 days or more without any opportunity to prove his innocence, to prove that he does not belong to a subversive organization or to prove that the organization to which he belongs is not subversive in spite of what may be in the minds of those who ordered the arrest. The regulations give the power to seize property and hold it for 90 days. It is a resurrection of the padlock law. These are very serious powers. If the government requires those kinds of powers, surely in a democracy they should have asked the democratically elected representatives of the people to give them those powers.

23226—141

### *Invoking of War Measures Act*

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** What will be the effect of the action which the government has taken? I hope the effect will be to bring about the release of Mr. Cross and Mr. Laporte. I also hope the effect of this will be to reduce the effectiveness and activities of the FLQ, but I am not very sanguine about that because the history of our country and other countries is that revolutionary movements, when declared illegal, go underground and have an unhappy faculty of coming up from underground stronger than when they went down.

We remember when section 98 was included in the Criminal Code to deal with the communist party. It was not very effective so the Liberal party rescinded it. I was in the House at the time the Liberal party removed section 98 from the Criminal Code on the very proper Liberal ideology that you should not condemn a person for his ideas, but only for his acts of violence.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** The Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) pounds his desk. That is precisely what he is doing under these regulations. It does not have to be an act of sabotage. One does not have to commit an act of violence. He just has to belong to an organization which, in the opinion of the police, is dedicated to violence.

**Some hon. Members:** Tell the truth.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Give him a hearing.

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** I suggest to the House, Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Cafik:** Thank God the ship of state is not in your hands!

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** If the ship of state were in my hands, the first thing I would do would be to get rid of some of the barnacles like the hon. member!

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Cafik:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please; the hon. member rises on a point of order.

**Mr. Cafik:** It seems odd, Mr. Speaker, that one who advocates democracy would get rid of one of the duly elected representatives if he had the power.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** The hon. member knows that being Democrats, we would get rid of him by the democratic process. I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that the action of the government constitutes a victory for the FLQ.