

you going to consider at all the capital investment in this business? Aren't you going to give us anything at all for that?" "No," they said, "We are not going to do that at all. Out you go."

Now, Mr. Speaker, what I am getting at is this. That was in 1919, when I understand that this section of the criminal code was made law, and if it was required then, it is required twenty times more to-day having regard to the activities of some of my friends—

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Your friends, I should say so.

Mr. MacMILLAN:—in the corner to your left, Mr. Speaker. I am going to quote again from the Canadian Annual Review of 1919, at page 475:

In the Commons Sir R. Borden on June 20 stated that the men were arrested under the criminal law of the country, upon the charge that they had engaged in a seditious conspiracy, and they were placed under detention upon that charge.

In Calgary on the same day W. A. Pritchard of Vancouver was arrested on the same charge as the others. In Winnipeg on the twenty-third another O.B.U. leader, J. S. Woodsworth of Vancouver, a one-time Methodist minister who had taken Ivens' place on the Western Labour News, was also arrested and the journal itself suspended.

I think that confirms, Mr. Speaker, the statement I made a little while ago to which the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre objected. Again quoting the hon. gentleman from Winnipeg North Centre:

J. S. Woodsworth spoke at Calgary, on October 29, and declared that: "Although the British flag flies over this country, most of it is owned by Wall street financiers."

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If hon. members want to put a question, they must ask the permission of the speaker who has the floor.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I would like to know from what source the hon. gentleman is quoting.

Mr. MacMILLAN: Each time that I have quoted from this Review I have named it. It is the Canadian Annual Review for 1919. I think my hon. friend should recognize it by its colour. I wish to quote again from the same book, the Canadian Annual Review for 1919:

In Montreal on the same date J. S. Woodsworth denounced the verdict and sentence and described the O.B.U. as merely an industrial organization; stated that "the one compensation for being in gaol was that one acquired the trust of the labouring people."

[Mr. MacMillan.]

I want to disagree with that statement right here. It is a reflection on the labouring people of this country. I have employed hundreds of them during the greater part of my life, and there is not a man in this house who can ever say or who will say that I have ever been unfair to the labouring men. When my hon. friend utters words like that, I say it is a reflection on the good Canadian working people of this country.

In closing, I just wish to state what the delegation which I had the honour of accompanying to Winnipeg from the city of Saskatoon said when they got home and reported to our council and the citizens generally. The labour men put the final clause into the resolution, and these labour men, as I told the house a moment ago, were, some of them, distinctly red, if you want to use the word, when they left Saskatoon, but when they came back, after seeing what they saw and hearing what they heard in the city of Winnipeg, they put into our resolution a clause to this effect: They said that the Winnipeg strike was nothing more and nothing less than an attempt at the overthrow of constituted authority and the establishment of a soviet government.

Mr. JEAN-FRANÇOIS POULIOT: Mr. Speaker, the first thing we have to do in this matter is to read the criminal code which, before section 98 was passed, contained provisions regarding rioting and sedition. Unfortunately the criminal code has been very badly drafted and a lot of definitions are missing. If the house will allow me I shall quote from the Encyclopaedia Britannica a definition of the word "sedition":

Sedition, in law, an attempt to disturb the tranquility of the state. In English law it is a very elastic term, including offences ranging from libel to treason. It is rarely used except in its adjectival form, e.g., seditious libel, seditious meeting or seditious conspiracy. Sedition is a common law indictable misdemeanour, and embraces everything whether by word, deed or writing which is calculated to disturb the tranquility of the state, and lead ignorant persons to endeavour to subvert the government and laws of the empire.

That is the spirit of the law, and it is in that sense that it has been interpreted by all the courts of the country. Section 98 was probably inspired by the fear which the Union government had of the present member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Woodsworth). We have heard so much about him from the previous speaker (Mr. MacMillan) that I might be allowed to say a few words about him, Mr. Speaker. I am sure that if the hon. member for Winnipeg North