

regulations. I am not, however, going to attempt to speak on it to-night, but there is a point which I would draw to the attention of the minister, because I believe it is exceedingly important.

Since the war began, a number of organizations have been declared illegal, and certain members of those organizations have been interned. But by and large the ordinary organizations by which the people of this country carry on their activities have not been interfered with and I do not expect that they will be. For instance, trade unions have not been interfered with. They are carrying on as usual, but certain officials of trade unions have been interned without the reasons therefor having been made public. I suggest to the minister that where it is found necessary to intern officials of organizations, the reason should be made public if at all possible. If the president or secretary of a trade union be interned, it should be stated that he was interned because of membership in an illegal organization, or for whatever reason made the internment necessary, so that there would be no suggestion of his being interned because he was an officer of a trade union, whether we like that particular union or not. The minister will see the logic of this. It would remove every opportunity to say that the government is attacking organized labour, with which I am satisfied the government does not intend to interfere. I leave that thought with the minister. He knows the persons I have in mind, and I have no doubt he knows the necessity that exists for removing every opportunity for creating suspicion and distrust. That, to me, is most important.

Mr. LAPOINTE (Quebec East): I will keep in mind the suggestion my hon. friend has made, but he knows that as far as I am concerned, members of trade unions will not be in any way interfered with.

Mr. MacINNIS: I agree with that.

Mr. LAPOINTE (Quebec East): I believe in trade unions.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: It is said that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance. I doubt very much whether the people of Canada realize this to the extent that they should. It has also been truly said that many of those things which we take for granted as part of our institutions under the British flag are accepted and not appreciated until possibly we lose them. I cannot urge too vigorously that the people of Canada be kept informed—and this is the keynote of what I have to say—and that everything possible be done to maintain the trust, the confidence of the people. We are passing through a dangerous time, and

any Canadian worthy of the name will support to the utmost the regulations that are aimed at protecting us through these trying times when sabotage and betrayal from within are so rampant. Reading through the regulations and studying them, one must feel that there are sections under which a wide interpretation may be read into regulations under which a person might be charged. This leads to serious curtailment of democratic rights. Curtailment of these rights in such matters as criticism of government action may go too far, and it is important that we should maintain, even at this time, the democratic right to exchange ideas.

The other question is that of law. It seems that due process of law has been too severely reduced in some instances. We in this group believe that liberty has a difficulty in living amid greed and avarice, and we see little chance of true democracy thriving in a country where there is great poverty and extreme wealth. I hope the minister will remember that the democratic rights of people under the British flag have been won through centuries of struggle, persecution and even bloodshed. I know the responsibility that rests upon the minister is great, and at no time has a man's integrity been needed so much by his country as at the present day. There is no failure which a man need fear so much as the failure to stand up for the things he believes to be right. After my short acquaintance with the minister I believe there is hope that he will stand up for what is right. The responsibility is so tremendous that I can but say that if he fails, the result will be nothing short of a catastrophe. I urge upon the department that they do their utmost to inform the public and to keep it informed as far as is humanly possible, so that the faith and trust of the Canadian people may be maintained. If that faith and trust should fail, I see dark days ahead.

Item agreed to.

96. Remission service, including remuneration to members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police force (to be expended under order in council, and not to exceed \$1,600) for assistance to this service, and an amount of \$10,900 to reimburse the Royal Canadian Mounted Police force the amounts disbursed by them in ordinary pay and allowances to their men on loan to this service, \$49,160.

Mr. GREEN: Has the minister completed his investigation into the case about which there was a furore earlier in the session, that of Joe Celona of Vancouver? That was a white-slave case in which the man was released when he had served approximately half his sentence, but in consequence of public