

*The Address—Mr. Gingues*

family industry. A man will cut the parts necessary to make hundreds of gloves a day and will then distribute them in homes where members of the families will sew them up, at ridiculous wages. Here, our manufacturers must own huge plants, install therein costly equipment, pay good wages and ensure good working conditions. All this compels them to sell their goods at a higher price than imported goods, in spite of the duties imposed by Canada. This importation, it seems to me, is getting unjust and disloyal. There is still time however, and I today request the government to take every available means to protect the industry and to keep these 500 workers employed. The government can, I think, through conferences with the interested countries, arrive at an agreement which will keep this industry in our midst so that it may continue to progress and to make of Sherbrooke the "cradle of the glove-making industry in Canada."

I read in the newspapers a while ago that a group of Esthonian immigrants were to come to Sherbrooke to work for the Dominion Textile Company. These immigrants were technicians, which would enable the company to take on two Canadian workers for each immigrant it would employ. I hear, Mr. Speaker, that these immigrants are here and that the Dominion Textile Company has taken on six Canadian workers for each one of the Esthonian experts. If it is true, it is not so bad then. But they say that the wives and daughters of these foreigners are employed in other industries. If that be true, it is intolerable because we already have here men and women who are looking for work. I read also in the newspapers that the city council of Sherbrooke had allowed that company to accommodate these people in the former military camp "Lord Sherbrooke."

I shall put some questions on the order paper in order that my constituents may get the necessary information on that subject. If I mention it in this house, it is that I want to disengage myself from any responsibility as far as the arrival of these immigrants is concerned. The answers I shall get will show that I had nothing to do, directly or indirectly, with the coming of these immigrants to Sherbrooke.

I am not against selected immigration but I do not believe that the government should grant entry permits to Canada to anyone while there is unemployment in Canada. I trust that before taking action in the future the authorities of the Department of Mines and Resources and of the Labour Department will refer to the member for Sherbrooke.

The member for Chicoutimi (Mr. Gagnon) said the other day during the course of this discussion that he was afraid that the taxes might lead to revolution. As I said a while ago, I want a reduction of income taxes but I believe that the attitude of the present premier of Quebec (Mr. Duplessis), that dictator, towards organized labour could lead to revolution more than the taxes could.

I was very much amazed to learn that Mr. Picard, chairman of the Catholic Federation of Labour, had been called a "saboteur". I know Mr. Picard and several leaders and chaplains of the Catholic Syndicates. I am well acquainted with their patience and tolerance and with the contribution they have made for the betterment of the position of the Quebec workers and I know that they do not deserve to be called "saboteurs". When a man, speaking on behalf of his government, describes in such terms people who are so honest and so anxious to preserve the good relations which must exist between capital and labour, he simply does so, in my opinion, in order to destroy the labour organization, and I say that he acts as the No. 1 organizer of the communist party. Yes, Mr. Speaker, when the labouring classes have lost confidence in their present leaders, they will choose others, and you know which ones they will select. Our province and the whole country will then see the masses turn to plain socialism, which in my opinion is communism's spring-board. The one responsible for that situation will be the man who, through his dictatorial attitude, will have succeeded in destroying the confidence the workers had in their leaders. This is no time for dictatorship; in this period of readjustment the workers need first the confidence of their leaders and especially the honest and sincere leadership of a government having all the autonomy required for the protection of their rights.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, I am myself a worker, more than anyone else in this house. I know by experience the countless difficulties we had to overcome during the last twenty-five years in order to defend the legitimate rights of workers. The Canadian and Quebec worker enjoys today conditions better than those I have known myself scarcely a decade ago.

That is due to the Liberal governments which have always given fair play to the working class, both by placing social laws on our statute books and by enacting measures enabling workers to discuss on equal