

ment, and I do not believe Mr. Ryan is right when he says that the events happening in Montreal come exclusively under the jurisdiction of the provincial government.

In my opinion, what he said in his editorial ties in quite well with the remarks made recently in Montreal by the leader of the Parti Québécois, Mr. René Lévesque, who spoke of the federal government as of a foreign government. This is very unfortunate from an editorial writer such as Mr. Ryan who enjoyed, however, the admiration of many people.

I am under the impression that during the last few months, following a series of lead articles more or less well thought out and, in particular, after this article, he is much less popular not only in the province of Quebec but elsewhere in Canada.

I think that the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe was much too vague in his remarks. Yet, his three Progressive Conservative colleagues from Quebec had said that they supported the position of the government and that they would vote for the motion. I am wondering if the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe will be here Monday to vote, and if he does not vote, I think that he will be shirking his duty.

Mr. Speaker, I think that this crisis does not only concern Quebec. Too many hon. members have seemed to look at what is happening in the province of Quebec as if it were strictly a Quebec matter. It is really a Canadian matter. It is not only a crisis affecting Quebec only but Canada as a whole.

Our country has changed in ten days. I would like tonight to express the wish that our present trials will make us grow up, will enable us, as Canadians, to tighten the bonds that tie us together and will teach us to co-operate in the best interests of the nation.

That is why I deeply regret the comments made in the House by certain members of the NDP. It is all very well to speak in the name of freedom. I do not believe that there is anyone here who is against individual liberties. Because of the NDP's weeping and wailing, I am tempted to repeat the well-known sentence: "O liberty what misdeeds are done in thy name!"

Under the circumstances, the attitude of the NDP is completely irresponsible and unacceptable. Obviously, that party does not have any elected members from Quebec and will not have any for a long time yet, considering its totally unrealistic mentality.

Judging from what the New Democrats say, one would think that they were living in limbo, that they have no knowledge whatever of the serious situation prevailing in Montreal.

Mr. Speaker, it is dishonest to pretend as some have done that the extraordinary legislation proposed by the government will deprive Canadian of all their freedom.

These emergency measures adopted by the Canadian government are exceptional measures meant exclusively for terrorists, revolutionaries, in short those who would

Invoking of War Measures Act

overthrow legitimate authorities by violence, crime, murder.

The vast majority of the population, well meaning citizens whose conscience is at peace have nothing to fear from these emergency measures and should not let the members of the NDP convince them that their liberties are at stake. The Army and the police will not bother them. On the contrary the task of the armed forces is to protect the population and to maintain peace.

I trust that by using such powers the government will be able to put an end to intimidation and terror and to ensure peace and security for all.

I pray that the lives of Mr. Cross and Mr. Laporte will be saved. I pray that their wives and children may see them home again safe and sound.

Mr. Louis-Roland Comeau (South Western Nova): Mr. Speaker, it is rather late. All of us are tired. The problem is serious and I have no reason to speak now.

● (10:20 p.m.)

[*English*]

While I do not approve of what the government did on Friday morning, I am willing to support it. I was willing to support it on Friday; I thought the element of surprise was necessary. But I do not know whether I am willing to accept it today. I was willing to accept it Friday morning.

An hon. Member: That was a fish day.

Mr. Comeau: I think the government should come forward very soon, as promised by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) and the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) last night on television, with legislation so that we may revoke the War Measures Act and bring in a bill which will deal with the situation more closely.

[*Translation*]

I am not from the province of Quebec but I think that the current problems there have become much worse since last week. There is no one in Canada who is not disgusted with what is going on in the province of Quebec. Those events have consequences for French-speaking Canadians throughout the country. The FLQ matter is serious, there is absolutely no doubt about it. This clandestine movement must be crushed. I really wonder if machine guns and guns will be enough. But this is not the way to solve the situation once and for all.

We all know that in the last few years, society has become—I do not blame anybody—much too permissive.

[*English*]

Protests have been encouraged in the last seven years. Young people, although in a minority, have made a lot of noise. Some people have been allowed to break every rule in the book across the country, the police watching them. The unrest we sense today in Canada has to do mostly with young people. This is unfortunate, because not all young people are for this type of measure.