

the provincial government. The relief recipients stated their case and their grievances. There is already on record, I placed it there, the verbatim report of what this man Stephan said. I pick out the only sentence to which the crown objected and on which the whole case was predicated. He said:

I know, and everybody knows, that since this war we—

Meaning the common people, the relief recipients.

—have been pinched, and millions made by certain people in the war.

On the basis of that statement two members of the Regina city council made a charge against this man under the defence of Canada regulations; he was arrested, thrown into gaol, finger-printed, tried, found guilty and fined.

Mr. DUPUIS: Good.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): My hon. friend says "good". Of course that is exactly the type of mentality which gave Hitler his support in Germany.

Mr. DUPUIS: The hon. member would not talk that way if Hitler were here.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): No, but I am prepared to talk that way to anyone here; I shall be prepared to go and talk to Hitler as soon as I get a chance, and I hope my hon. friend will be with me.

This man's case was appealed. I read very carefully the evidence presented at that appeal. In summing up, the judge could not find a single statement of a subversive character made by the man; he could not find anything that had been said which might be calculated to cause disaffection. But he dismissed the appeal and left the charge against this man because, he said, "It has been known for some time that he is an agitator." An agitator! This man is convicted because somebody says he is an agitator, without a shred of proof or of evidence. If that is to be true, any person can be branded by merely labelling him an agitator. I remember that in the last war certain people called the Minister of Justice an agitator, but no one suggested that he should be arrested and put in a concentration camp. Any person in this house might be labelled an agitator by some opponent or any one who had reason to disagree with him. If we allow a man to be convicted merely because someone has labelled him an agitator, then we have started along a very serious path in the Dominion of Canada.

The other day the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart (Mr. Coldwell) raised the question of a newspaper, the *Canadian Tribune*. I understand that this paper was suppressed,

[Mr. T. C. Douglas.]

and that when the editor made application to learn why it had been suppressed, what particular thing it had said to which objection was taken, there was no answer. He was not allowed to learn why it had been suppressed; it was just suppressed. I do not agree with the *Canadian Tribune*. Its last issue contained a most scurrilous and false editorial against the group with which I am associated; but I agree with Voltaire, who said, "I disagree most heartily with what you say, but I will fight for your right to say it." I submit that no regulations and no minister of the crown shall have the right to incarcerate an individual or to suppress a newspaper without showing cause why that step should be taken.

I noticed that in his eloquent speech the other day, the Minister of Justice did not reply to some of the questions asked by the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart. One question, for instance, was why the pamphlet containing speeches by the hon. member for North Battleford (Mrs. Nielsen) had been seized by the mounted police; and our acting leader read a receipt given by the mounted police for the pamphlets that had been seized.

Mr. DUPUIS: The hon. member for North Battleford is able to defend herself.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): I am not defending the hon. member for North Battleford; she certainly does not need it. I am dealing with an infringement of the civil liberties of the people of Canada, particularly with reference to a member of this house; and as yet no explanation has been given by any minister of the crown as to why these pamphlets were seized. Probably every member of this house has seen one of these pamphlets.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: It was so terrible!

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): When the hon. member for Fraser Valley (Mr. Cruickshank) can produce a better one, I shall be glad to see it.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: I will when the hon. member has finished.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): It is no laughing matter, Mr. Speaker, when a home can be raided and a pamphlet containing speeches, all of which can be found in the records of the Canadian House of Commons, are seized as though it were some piece of vile or salacious literature. Surely this house has a right to some sort of explanation, but so far none has been forthcoming.

Mr. MACDONALD (Kingston City): I should like to ask the hon. member if he is