

ship to advise the government to suspend this publication, and why the government has seen fit to issue such an order under my signature.

The action of the government in suspending the *Canadian Tribune* was taken only after long and careful examination of its contents, and after two warnings. The first issue appeared in January, 1940. From its inception this newspaper has studiously refrained from supporting Canada's war effort. It has repeatedly carried material which was at least on the borderline of contravening the defence of Canada regulations. The government has ample reason to believe that if it is not actually a communist publication it is pursuing the policy which a communist publication in this country would be instructed by its headquarters to follow.

The *Canadian Tribune* has been twice warned by the press censors, the first time orally and the second time in writing, that it was treading on dangerous ground. The settled policy of the newspaper, however, appears to be to print such material as would encourage readers to refrain from cooperation in the Canadian war effort.

The government has shown great restraint in dealing with this publication, since the *Canadian Tribune* has sought to create the impression that it is a left wing labour organ sincerely concerned with the problems of organized labour, the preservation of civil liberties and the welfare of the masses. The government is determined to preserve the maximum freedom of the press consistent with the defence of Canada regulations. It is anxious not to curb sincere critical comment, and has therefore tolerated considerable objectionable material in the columns of the *Canadian Tribune*. I have in my hand one of the last issues of this newspaper, dated February 1, 1941. I need not read it to the house, but it contains references to certain speeches and utterances of a member of the British House of Commons.

The recent display given by this newspaper to material obviously inspired by the actions of communists, in the light of its whole record, has driven the government to conclude that it could no longer justify its earlier forbearance. The order to suspend, rather than suppress, this newspaper will afford those responsible for its publication one more opportunity to make it what it purports to be, namely "a journal of democratic opinion." A rigid distinction must be drawn between subversion and criticism, and we cannot allow the democratic privilege of freedom of speech to be abused by sworn enemies of all democratic forms, in the furtherance of their work of destruction.

On motion of Mr. Green the debate was adjourned.

CANADIAN YOUTH CONGRESS

RAID BY MOUNTED POLICE ON HOME OF
MONTREAL SECRETARY

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I have communicated with the Montreal headquarters of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in regard to a question which was asked by the hon. member for North Battleford (Mrs. Nielsen) a couple of days ago. The answer is:

1. The home of Jack Brierley was searched on February 12 by members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Montreal city police force under authority of a search warrant issued by Judge Marin. The search was made in an endeavour to trace the source of communist publications and literature which is being insidiously and widely distributed throughout the city of Montreal. The Canadian youth congress has not, as yet, been declared an illegal organization under the provisions of the defence of Canada regulations, and the raid in question was directed not against the Canadian youth organization but against Jack Brierley. Certain important material was seized.

2. The raid was made under the authority of a search warrant.

MEAT AND CANNED FOODS

INSPECTION AND GRADING OF CANNED LOBSTER—
POSSIBLE POSTPONEMENT OF REGULATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Leader of the Opposition): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Michaud). On the order paper, under government orders, will be found No. 7, for the second reading of Bill No. 14, to amend the Meat and Canned Foods Act (fish and shell fish). I should like to direct the minister's attention to the report of a meeting held at Amherst, Nova Scotia, on February 25, attended by nearly all the members of the maritime branch of the canned food section of the Canadian Manufacturers association, at which a resolution was passed to the effect that the lobster industry would not have time, between now and the opening of the next packing season, to adjust itself to the proposed changes, particularly under stress of war-time conditions in the industry.

I should like to ask the minister if this resolution has reached him and whether in