

well have driven him out of our service.

When the matter came up again years later, in March, 1957, we took quick and, as we thought, effective action.

In view of the disclosures which were being leaked out in Washington, however, it seemed to me that we should go a little further than merely to say that we had confidence in his loyalty, so last Friday, as you know, I said that the charges made as "evidence" were based only on Communist associations during his university days. We knew about them, looked into them exhaustively, and at the time decided that there was nothing in them that contradicted our view that he was a loyal and trustworthy official of the Government. We have no evidence to suggest that he had any Communist associations while he was with the Department. That seems to me to be the crux of the matter; that he should not be condemned and persecuted because of any Communist illusions as a student, which he may have once had, but which he had long since abandoned.

Mr. [John] Diefenbaker⁵ demanded on Friday that we answer the question whether the statements made by the senatorial sub-committee were untrue. It was impossible to give the answer "yes" or "no", without going through all the testimony in which there were, of course, many statements that were untrue and some that were true, though implications drawn from them were false and malicious. If I had given a categorical answer — yes or no — without making public all the evidence, this would have created a wrong impression and would have been grossly unfair to a man who cannot now defend himself. If we now made all the evidence public, we would merely be raking up a lot of old insinuations and charges dealing with situations and activities which took place before Mr. Norman ever joined the Department and which did not affect his loyal service to the Department subsequently. Every bit of evidence derogatory to him, even by implication, dealt with his student activities and to drag all that up now

5. *Le chef du parti de l'opposition loyale de sa Majesté. / Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.*