

*Invoking of War Measures Act*

**Mr. Caouette:** It is quite untrue that the FLQ is made up of disadvantaged, poor people who live in slums. As for its members, we have seen them again on the state-owned television network. Last night I heard Robert Lemieux yelling that he would overcome, priding himself on being an FLQ supporter, with Michel Chartrand in his wake. That is the story.

Now we know that the people we have seen for many years, the rebels, really exist. Michel Chartrand does not live in a slummy district in Montreal, even though he has always tried to rouse the destitute, such as the boys from Lapalme, for instance. They were mentioned a while ago and said to be members of the FLQ. This is not true. You can find among the former employees of G. Lapalme Inc. a few members of the FLQ, but they are not all members. These workers were roused by people like Michel Chartrand who blamed the government by stating: "You did not hire again the Lapalme drivers." They did not work for the government, but for a private company, G. Lapalme Inc.

If I close down my garage in Rouyn, will the government be forced to hire my former employees?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Caouette:** The government offered the employees of G. Lapalme Inc. to integrate them in the public service. However, people like Chartrand told them not to accept.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Caouette:** We sympathize with these former employees of the Lapalme Company, but never with the likes of Chartrand, because these are people who have no respect for anyone or for anything. In fact, he is one of those who formally declare their intention of overthrowing the present system and of taking over. I do not want rulers such as Chartrand and I do not think that members of the New Democratic Party would want him either.

Mr. Speaker, following the unanimous adoption of war measures by the House this morning, I would once again ask the Prime Minister to be careful, because some armed forces members who are now in Quebec come from parts of the country other than Quebec. Their searches should be controlled lest they meet somebody with an FLQ card and mistake him for a member of the Front de libération du Québec when he might be only a member of the Fédération libérale du Québec—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, I know as everybody else does, that the situation in Quebec is serious. As far as we are concerned, we do not want to deprive citizens of their rights. However, as the Prime Minister suggested earlier, those people are the ones who asked for what is happening this morning. They are those who, by their doings, have decided of their present fate. Do we have the right to let them deprive the Canadian citizens of their free-

[Mr. Caouette.]

dom? Indeed, they have no right to do so. Then, they will complain that we have accepted to impose dictatorial measures. The steps taken this morning have absolutely nothing in common with dictatorship. What we want, Mr. Speaker, is to save our country and safeguard its unity.

That our administration has deficiencies, there is no doubt about it. Is any administration free of them? Some countries governments have been changed and have gone through upheavals. Have they for all that attained perfection? Not at all!

The same Castro, who pulled off his coup in Cuba, in the name of freedom and the poor, today tends his resignation saying that it resulted in a fiasco. Therefore it is certainly not in Cuba that perfection is to be found.

Is there any perfection in Russia? Not at all. No more than in Czechoslovakia. We do not have it here either but at least we enjoy freedom of expression. We have never prevented Mr. Michel Chartrand of Montreal, for instance, from expressing his opinion on radio and television or from publishing in newspapers all the nonsense he wrote in them.

Mr. Speaker, we still enjoy that freedom in spite of all the faults which are found in Canada. At least we can express ourselves. And this is, Mr. Speaker, what we believe in—and I shall say it in English,—the four basic principles capable of establishing true order which the Prime Minister has called "the just society", which should avoid situations such as the one we are facing at the moment. And I quote now these four principles which can be accepted by any political party. They are not political but social and economic principles which can be accepted in order to achieve true democracy, true freedom and true security. They are the following:

• (12:20 p.m.)

[English]

1. We firmly believe that the individual is the most important factor in organized society. Because he is a divinely created being, with spiritual, mental and physical needs and potentialities, he has inalienable rights which must be respected and preserved.

Because of this belief, we are unalterably opposed to communism, fascism and all forms of totalitarian government which make the individual citizen subservient to the state.

It stands opposed to political organizations whose aims are the furtherance of the sectional interests of organized labour, business, or finance.

2. Government must serve the individual. The major function of democratic government in organized society is to secure for the people the results they want from the management of their public affairs, as far as such results are physically possible and morally right.

3. The individual must be free and have economic security. The individual can only attain his full stature in a society where his ability to make moral choices is restricted as little as possible. Economic security is a necessary means for attaining this freedom not as an end to be attained by restricting it.

This is the strongest one.

4. The physically possible must be regarded as the financially possible. Whatever is physically possible, desirable, and morally right, can and should be made financially possible.