

Supply—Justice

officers of the country, will then be put under surveillance for as long as he lives. He too may stand charged on the national television network of this country and have his name similarly disclosed. I suggest this would be a new form of trial by national television.

I listened to the hon. member for Royal who referred to a judgment which had been given. Sometimes when we get a little serious it often pays, as I said the other day, to get a little philosophical. The real question facing the western world today is the question of freedom. That is why we stand up against communism. We know they do not offer freedom to their citizens, and our ideas and ideals must be higher than theirs at all times if our way of life is going to survive.

Perhaps Byron made this point best in one of his sonnets, and I am going to close on these words:

Eternal Spirit of the chainless Mind!
 Brightest in dungeons, Liberty, thou art,
 For there thy habitation is the heart—
 The heart which love of thee alone can bind;
 And when thy sons to fetters are consigned—
 To fetters, and the damp vault's dayless gloom—
 Their country conquers with their martyrdom,
 And Freedom's fame finds wings on every wind.
 Chillon! thy prison is a holy place,
 And thy sad floor an altar; for 'twas trod,
 Until his very steps have left a trace
 Worn, as if the cold pavement were a sod,
 By Bonnivard!—May none those marks efface!
 For they appeal from tyranny to God.

This, Mr. Chairman, is what Spencer is doing. He is appealing tonight, not to God, but to the Minister of Justice to give him a break so that every future Canadian will have the same break.

Mr. Cardin: Mr. Chairman, the speech which we have just heard from the hon. member for Bow River has been, to me, a very moving one. I am grateful to him for his very flattering remarks in connection with my coming from a legal family. I cannot claim this honour to that extent.

I should also like to make it quite clear here and now that it was I who suggested to the Prime Minister that a judicial inquiry into this matter was neither necessary nor warranted, nor was it justified.

It has been suggested to me both by the hon. member for Bow River and by the hon. member for Royal that I could make a hero of myself by asking the Prime Minister and my colleagues to set up an inquiry into this matter. It would be very nice indeed to become a hero, and I guess there is nobody in

[Mr. Woolliams.]

this house who would not want to be one. But in this particular instance all I want to do is my job, and I want to do it well.

It is true that as a member of this house and as Minister of Justice I have a responsibility, as have all hon. members, to protect the rights of individuals and their liberties. But as Attorney General I also have the right and the responsibility to protect the national security system of this country.

● (9:10 p.m.)

One of the strangest things about this debate is that not one person, not one hon. member, has asked to know exactly what damage has been done by Spencer in his connection with espionage activities.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Cardin: Everyone has spoken of civil rights. I agree with that. But it is also my responsibility as Attorney General to see that the security of the nation is guarded, and I intend to do this.

We have been speaking of justice, of principles, of righteousness. Well, there is a fundamental principle which applies in law, which applies in justice and which applies in parliament: That principle is the truth. I have been accused on I do not know how many occasions of having stigmatized Spencer on a television program. It has also been in all the newspapers. I have repeated on innumerable occasions that Spencer identified himself on the 4th, 5th and 6th of November and that I appeared on television on the 28th of November.

What is more, on that very program, "This Hour Has 7 Days", before I got on the air the reporter who had identified Spencer appeared and named Spencer about five minutes prior to my appearance. There is, as I say, this question of truth, and I did not see it being applied by hon. members opposite when they continued to insist that I had branded Spencer as a spy knowing full well, unless they do not read the newspapers, that he had identified himself at least three weeks previously. If hon. members opposite want to be righteous, I am all for it. At the same time, let them also be truthful.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Chairman, my remarks will be on another subject, but I should simply like to mention this before. As far as the Spencer case is concerned I have not yet been able to form an exact opinion about the