

some experience in criminal courts; I have perhaps pleaded for more communists than anybody else, and I know they have always had a fair trial, even those who were deported, because no man can be deported from this country without the benefit of habeas corpus if he wants it, and being brought before a judge. My experience as a lawyer is that they always want to avoid a judge. Examples have been quoted in this house by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre of men who have been here for twenty years and without becoming naturalized, and were suddenly surprised to find themselves deported. I just wonder what they did during the twenty years in Canada when they did not have time to be naturalized. And I am very much surprised at the hatred they displayed of the idea of going back to their home country. If Russia is that perfect earthly paradise that it is represented to be, they should be delighted to go back—a free trip. But not at all. But it is said: "Oh, they cannot plead." Even in Halifax they or anybody can ask for habeas corpus. They can even be taken back and brought before a judge in Calgary or Winnipeg, but it is very curious how they always avoid that procedure. Not more than three months ago I was consulted by a young lawyer in Quebec who said: "It is extraordinary, but some of these men being deported have a huge amount of money; would you act as counsel?" I said: "I do not see why I should not; a man is entitled to a trial, to habeas corpus." "Oh," they say, "they do not want that; they are willing to pay anything as long as they do not go before a judge." "Well," I said, "I am afraid they are going to go back home." He said: "They are afraid of that also."

I repeat—I may be wrong—that Mr. George Williams of Saskatchewan is closely connected with the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation—

Some hon. MEMBERS: You are right.

Mr. LAVERGNE: If he is not the organizer he is one of the leaders. I say in this house without fear of contradiction that he is a bolshevist, a Moscow paid agent.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Mr. Speaker, it is quite easy to say "without fear of contradiction" when I am not permitted to contradict. Were I permitted I would say that I believe that is absolutely erroneous, and I know Mr. Williams quite well.

Mr. LAVERGNE: Well, I will say two things. My hon. friend from Winnipeg North Centre knows or he does not know. If he does not know, he should not speak about it;

if he knows, his denial comes two weeks after I stated that in the house. I repeat—and it is public knowledge; the hon. member for Melville (Mr. Motherwell) knows it—that Mr. George Williams has been the organizer of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation party in this country. After all, Mr. Speaker, a wink is as good as a nod, sometimes it is better. And the hon. gentlemen are given forty winks. Either they are asleep at the switch or their eye is very much open.

Have we heard one earthly reason in law or common sense or otherwise for this section 98 disappearing from our criminal code? Who has suffered from it? Who is the Canadian born citizen or the not freshly imported citizen or the law abiding citizen or the one who is respectful of British institutions—I will go further, of Christian institutions—in this country, who has been worried or bothered by section 98 of the criminal code? My hon. friend from Winnipeg North Centre said that according to this article a man can be arrested on suspicion, sentenced on suspicion. Never a man has been sentenced by British justice on suspicion. To my knowledge men always have been arrested on suspicion, but they were presumed to be innocent until they were proven guilty. And I know of no other way of arresting the guilty party than arresting him on suspicion. He cannot be arrested on certitude, he necessarily must be arrested on suspicion. All the items of section 98 are contained in the criminal code; search warrant, suspicion, being found in possession—of literature. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre said a man might be arrested for being in possession of a Bible. Well, I know a good many of my own faith in this house, and a few of old Scotch Covenanter descent, who must have a Bible in their house, and for one hundred and seventy years, since this country has been British, I know of no one who has been arrested for having a Bible in his possession. But this is the kind of stuff which is given to the people of this country to work slowly in their minds and make them believe that there is something rotten in the state of Denmark. I am willing to admit, as anybody will, that capitalists in this country as well as in the rest of the world have not played the game. Everybody knows that. I think it is only to-day that we are beginning to realize what the Master of men meant two thousand years ago when he said: Woe unto the rich; not because it is a sin to possess wealth, but because it entails such great responsibilities. But should we preach hatred of the rich by the poor, or go back to the teaching of my childhood,