

them; he was more anxious to be with them than to remain here in Canada. The government's position is this, that anyone who has shown that spirit and that sort of attitude deserves to have his naturalization revoked, and these people are having their naturalization revoked for that reason.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): I am sorry I disagree with the Prime Minister. He assumes, as did the Minister of Labour and others, that because the signers of these repatriation requests put their names to these forms, they were all disloyal. That is a *non sequitur*. It does not necessarily follow because, despite statements made to the effect that coercion was not used, I say coercion was used.

Mr. MITCHELL: Let me state—

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): Wait until I have finished. Coercion is not a matter of sticks or bludgeons or clubs.

Mr. CHEVRIER: You are using sticks and bludgeons now.

Mr. MITCHELL: I say without equivocation—

Mr. REID: Say it strongly, too.

Mr. MITCHELL: I am an old country man like my hon. friend, and proud of it, and I know something of the traditions of our people. To say that coercion was used is not a statement of fact, and I say that with all the emphasis of which I am capable. As a matter of fact, the whole thing was looked over by the International Red Cross, which vindicated the position that the Canadian government took. I do not know of any better agency than that. What I get a little tired of is some people trotting out their consciences like a lavalier worn around a woman's neck. I do not take second place to my hon. friend or anybody else in acting decently toward other people, irrespective of their race or colour or creed. May I say this to my hon. friend—

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): If you are asking a question, all right. If you are making a speech, I have the floor.

Mr. MITCHELL: Well, I am just about fed up with—

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): You will be more fed up after I am through with you.

Mr. MITCHELL: Let me put it clearly to my hon. friend as I did to the hon. member for Kootenay East. When a nation has its back to the wall—

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, is the hon. gentleman asking a question or not?

The CHAIRMAN: I understood that he was to put a question, but if the hon. member for Winnipeg North does not desire a question to be put, he has the floor.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): I am willing to have a question asked, but not to have the minister make a speech in the midst of mine.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Winnipeg North.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): I have here the Winnipeg *Free Press*, which is not notoriously unsympathetic to this government, and on the 19th of September of this year it had an editorial headed "We will regret Racialism". The editorial says in part:

A government spokesman has said that if it can be shown that a Japanese Canadian refuses to move out of British Columbia this may be counted against him.

What is that but mental coercion? There is more than one kind of coercion, I should like the hon. gentleman to understand.

We have had several policies in this matter in the last few years, two or three of them deplorable. We had the policy of the Prime Minister of the 4th of August last year; we had the policy of the Minister of Veterans Affairs last September, which was iniquitous; we had the policy of the Minister of Labour some time ago; and now we have certain amendments made by the Prime Minister to that policy to-night. I assume that the orders in council tabled fit in pretty well with a statement which was in the *Ottawa Citizen* of November 24, in a story by Mr. H. R. Hardy that Arthur MacNamara, deputy minister of labour, stated the previous day that preparations to expatriate ten thousand Japanese were being rushed just as fast as possible. The Prime Minister now comes to the conclusion that these people were enemies of the country, but when he spoke on this matter on August 4 of last year he had to admit that not one of them had committed an act of sabotage against Canada.

Mr. GIBSON (Comox-Alberni): They did not get the chance.

Mr. STEWART (Winnipeg North): They had plenty of chances. I should like to know why it is that the Japanese are being singled out, why the same action is not being taken against the Germans and against the Italians.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: May I say to my hon. friend that if there was a naturalized