

the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Cardin), whom I do not see present. But let me say this to the right hon. Minister of Justice, that after having sat in this house since 1921, I believe that some of the most distinguished Conservatives who can be found in this country are sitting on the government front benches.

I am opposed to any contraction in the liberty of the subject. The same speeches and the preaching of such doctrines, of which the hon. member has been complaining, are being heard almost every day in the British House of Commons from the communists. If the government want to do something to stop communism, let them go to work as a government and eliminate abuses, social and domestic, in Canada. They have not done very much this session—so little that our friends in another house, having taken three weeks' holiday, decided to take another three weeks. They have not this famous bill of mine to amend the Post Office Act, commonly known as the newspaper bill, but they might have had this Bill No. 4, introduced by the hon. member for Quebec-Montmorency (Mr. Lacroix).

The hon. gentleman wants to do something to stop communism. When I was chairman of the Toronto police commission, its members included Colonel Denison, the late Judge Winchester, and Lieutenant-Colonel Chief Grasset, a very good chief and for thirty-four years the head, who had served in and commanded the Royal Grenadiers in the Northwest Rebellion. His father was rector of St. James cathedral, having succeeded the late Bishop Strachan, the first Bishop of Toronto. When this communistic propaganda first started in Toronto, "It would be far better," said Colonel Denison, "to let these people get up and make some speeches, the way they do in Hyde Park—probably nobody will pay an awful lot of attention to them—than to have them meet privately in secret and do damage." That was the policy then. When this movement started, few belonged. That policy was reversed, and I do not say, wrongly, because concerted efforts had been made by a section of the people to attack the institutions of this country and preach subversive doctrines. I do not know all the circumstances, because I have not been a member of the police commission since 1921, and I do not wish in any sense to criticize the later commission who did their duty. They were dealing with a different time, a different state of affairs, and a different set of facts; they were faced with unrest in the country; their action may have been right or wrong. But I will say this, that under the British constitution we are

supposed to have free parliaments, a free press, the rights of free speech and free assembly, and the blessings of Magna Charta. None of these things, in my opinion, exists in Canada to-day. Does Magna Charta exist in Canada to-day with imprisonment for debt; people imprisoned because they cannot find work; rights of property abolished; and youth cast into gaol because they go about the country seeking work, whose only fault is that they cannot find it? Yet we sit here and do nothing about the matter. What we should do is to remove the principal cause of communism, namely, unemployment and cure our social and domestic disorders in the state. Tens of thousands of our Canadian people are suffering untold hardships, many of them suffering privation such as has not been known since the failure of the potato crop in Ireland. Within almost a stone's throw from this building such conditions of unemployment and want exist around us. Why does parliament not do something, instead of discussing a long list of bills and motions to change flags, to change the British North America Act, and to make it impossible for efficiency in the civil service to function by providing that one man shall speak English here, another man French there, German and Danish somewhere else and all that sort of thing, instead of selecting men from the standpoint of efficiency. These are the bills that are brought down in the name of Liberalism in this country, instead of measures to solve the problem of unemployment. I suggest that the government should do something tangible to put a stop to communism, and the first thing for them to do is to remove the evils that create communism, those forces from within and from without. If they do that, I guarantee that there will be no more communism or little of it in Canada.

I am not here to support or justify communism; in fact, communists have run against me many times. In my humble opinion, if the Postmaster General (Mr. McLarty) wants to pass regulations he should pass regulations to put a stop to the flood of United States magazines such as *Scribner's* coming in with slanderous articles against the king of this country. Let him put a stop to the inroads of United States papers; let him pay some attention to the radio speeches that are being made attacking British institutions. There have been attacks against the Chamberlain government and the Munich pact for some time in the United States. Hardly a United States newspaper supported the Munich pact apart from the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* and a few others. They denounced Chamberlain