

With regard to the question of deportation, I suggest that the government ought to tell us what is proposed in this matter. I have recently read an interesting book on the Doukhobors, and I recall the efforts that were made some time about 1933 to deport one Peter Verigin from Canada. I remember the legal proceedings that took place, and how the efforts of the government of the day were halted by writ of habeas corpus based on the decision of the late Mr. Justice Mellish of Nova Scotia and subsequently reversed in the Supreme Court of Canada when it was too late.

I would ask the government to give us now, if they will—perhaps they are not prepared to do so—some of the considerations which have impelled them to include this in the order of reference. What is the government's proposal? They must have a policy in this regard. Surely these two important matters will not be left to the committee without any guiding government policy. In the final analysis the government must take the responsibility for a policy on both these points and I should like to know what their suggestions are.

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance): May I say a word about the matters of naturalization and deportation. The references to naturalization and deportation come as a result of the report of the committee last year, and that part finds its place in the report in consequence of a request of certain members of the committee, of whom the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Green) was most prominent, according to my recollection. He will correct me if I am wrong, but, as I remember, he requested that the report contain a recommendation that the matters of naturalization and deportation be referred to the next committee that was set up.

There was some discussion of naturalization last year. The head of the branch relating to naturalization came before the committee. Instances were mentioned of certificates having been recommended by county court judges and granted by the Secretary of State in some doubtful cases. One case in particular, I remember, was discussed at length in the committee, but I do not think the committee had any clear idea of what it wished to do or intended to do about either naturalization or deportation.

In the minds of some members, perhaps one member, the hon. member for Vancouver South—he is the one I remember distinctly—

Mr. GREEN: You give me too much credit.

Mr. ILSLEY: —these were important subjects that should be considered by the committee. So far as I know, the government has no proposals to place before the committee in reference to either subject.

Mr. A. W. NEILL (Comox-Alberni): I did not gather the full import of the remarks of the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart (Mr. Coldwell), owing to the distance that separates us, and the bad acoustics; and my hearing is also poor. Moreover, I have had experience of that hon. gentleman in my own riding from the point of view of the accuracy of his recollections of what took place in this house, which convinces me that I need not waste much time in listening to him here. But I gather from the remarks made in reply by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe) that the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart had some serious complaint about the manner in which the minister had fulfilled his duties in connection with the War Measures Act with respect to people making subversive statements. If this was so, and evidently it was, I also have a complaint against the Minister of Justice in that regard, and that is that he does not go far enough—and I have the proof before me.

A year ago a logger—he may have been a labourer—was half-shot, which means in British Columbia that he had had a few drinks; not an improper quantity; he was just mellow. He made some nasty remark about the war. I forget exactly what he said. I cannot remember whether it was that a man was a d— fool who enlisted or whether he said, "To h— with the war." At any rate, popular sentiment was running high and he was promptly arrested. This was an ignorant man addressing half a dozen others like himself, and he was haled into court and sharply punished. He was given a considerable fine, but I forget whether he went to gaol or not. He was rather harshly treated. But let me give the other side of the picture. As I say, this was only an illiterate man talking to a few half-drunk chums. I used the word "logger," and those who come from British Columbia will bear me out when I say that the loggers in that province are as loyal as any class in Canada. You can trust them to subscribe liberally to anything that is intended to forward the war.

The other side of the picture presents itself in this way. A few weeks ago, I believe it was early in February, the local member for one of the districts which I represent in this house, the district of Comox, called a meeting of his constituents in the city of Courtenay, which meeting he said was for the purpose of advising them of his actions in the legislative assembly in the session just passed, and generally with regard to matters political. The