

province of Quebec said. They asked for action, but they have been asking the government to take action for the last two years and the government has done nothing. The government has now secretly brought into force the War Measures Act.

I should like to quote the words of a man who was the kind of Liberal who used to sit as a member of the Liberal party. I shall read to the House what Mr. Power had to say, as recorded in *Hansard*, when in 1945 the government brought in a secret Order in Council, P.C.6444. The pertinent part of the order reads as follows:

The Acting Prime Minister or the Minister of Justice, if satisfied that with a view to preventing any particular person from communicating secret and confidential information to an agent of a foreign power or otherwise acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the safety of the state it is necessary so to do, may make an order that any such person be interrogated and/or detained in such place and under such conditions as he may from time to time determine.

Those words are part of an Order in Council passed exactly like the one last evening, by surprise. Mr. Power was one of the members of the executive. I have not heard one Liberal today take a stand against the establishment in the Liberal party, and I am disappointed. I would have thought one of them would have taken a different position from that of the government, but all of them have used the same argument and given the same support. The words of Mr. Power, I suggest, should be remembered tonight while we are debating this resolution.

The government has argued that it does not want to go after the FLQ. We want to be just as tough with the FLQ as the government. In fact, two years ago we wanted to get even tougher. But as William Pitt the Younger said, you can never cure one evil with a worse. This is what Mr. Power said:

As for me, brought up in an atmosphere wherein a framed photograph of Magna Carta was on almost every wall, accompanied with a warrant for the execution of Charles I, and steeped through my reading in the traditions of the martyrs of liberty and freedom, I cannot wish to turn back the pages of history seven hundred years and repeal Magna Carta. I cannot by my silence appear to approve even tacitly what I believe to have been a great mistake on the part of the government.

● (9:20 p.m.)

Our position is that this Order in Council, put into force in this fashion, constitutes a great mistake on the part of the government and that they could have achieved the same ends just as effectively with other methods. They could have returned law and order to the province of Quebec just as effectively by coming to Parliament and bringing about an amendment to the Criminal Code giving the necessary power to police officers to clean up the mess to which the government contributed. This could have been done even if it had been done by the cabinet.

Continuing the quotation, Mr. Power said:

If this is to be the funeral of liberalism I do not desire to be even an honorary pall-bearer at the funeral, and I do not wish by not taking part in this debate to give silent approval to the procedure which has taken place.

Invoking of War Measures Act

Those are the words of a Liberal at that time a secret Order in Council was passed in order to deal with a spy case. I know the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) recalls that matter, because he referred to it in his speech. Let us consider what Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King said when speaking in the House of Commons in 1934, as recorded at page 2342 of *Hansard* for that period. The House was dealing with the law at that time. He said that we are behind the traditions that are the foundation of law and order. These are the traditions on which law is based.

An hon. Member: Not to the Liberals.

Mr. Woolliams: It may not be to the Liberals. This is what he said:

Now let us come to another point which I wish particularly to stress. I refer to the right set out in Magna Carta that no man shall be dispossessed of his rights without the lawful judgment of his peers under the law of the land; not the law as made by the Governor in Council, not the law as made by some unnamed and as yet unexisting body, but the law of the land as known to everyone.

At six o'clock last night this law was not known to Canadians. At four o'clock this morning it was not known, but it became the law. That is what I meant when I said you are curing one ill by treating it with something worse. The law should not make its first appearance in the *Canada Gazette* through the power of the Governor in Council rather than that of Parliament. It should appear in the Statutes of Canada. The Minister of Justice said that we have really nothing to worry about because if they change the law through Order in Council, it will come back to Parliament for consideration. The Prime Minister this morning—this was confirmed by the Minister of Justice—left the impression that they had to act quickly. I have some sympathy for that position, but he left the impression that the government would prepare a proper bill to be brought before Parliament and put into the statute books. This would contain the powers they felt they needed to cope with the situation. I ask the Minister of Justice whether he will stand in his place and say that the government intends to bring in a bill which will give them the powers they feel they need to deal with this crisis, and that this bill will supplant the regulations passed early this morning. Is that the government's policy? Does silence indicate it will be? Of course it does not. This Order in Council is the law, and it will be the law for the next six or seven months.

Surely this means, if it means anything, that the Prime Minister in presenting that argument, as confirmed by the Minister of Justice, was handing soft soap to the opposition who were opposed to this kind of law, in order that it might be passed quickly. It would then be passed on to the public of Canada through the news media. I suggest if they meant what they said, they owe it to the Canadian people to keep their word. They should bring in a bill which would provide the kind of law needed to cope with the crisis which exists in Quebec. That is what this party is asking for, and I believe that is all that the opposition members who have spoken have been asking