

## The Bishops and the Strike

[...]

Montréal-Matin, daily newspaper that supports the Duplessis Government, published an article a few days after the end of the strike at Asbestos. It was written several days after the settlement was reached, which means it was [not] written hastily but only mature reflection [sic]. In it appears these words "... one might wish that those who have great authority at their command by reason of the posts they hold and the sacred character of their functions do not abuse that influence by complicating more than they are the relationships existing between different social classes". This sentence appears to mean that Montréal-Matin is referring to the bishops and priests. If certain bishops intervened in the strike it was to obtain justice for the strikers and to ameliorate the lot of their families. They had no other object. During that most painful conflict, no bishop abused the sacred function he held. To the contrary, all of them placed their undoubted authority in the service of justice and of charity.

Source: *Montreal Daily Star*, July 14, 1949, p. 10 quoting in translation an editorial of *Notre Temps* (Montreal) in its section on the French-Canadian Press.

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