

## SIU

one commissioner involved or will there be two as suggested by the act?

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** There will be officials of the Department of Labour and Mr. M. C. Carson, industry specialist, conciliation and arbitration branch. In addition, the deputy minister and the assistant deputy minister, Mr. W. B. Kelly, will be available at all times to provide support and additional resources as may be required, and I might say also that officials of the justice department will be available to co-operate with the RCMP in carrying out this further investigation.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Alexander:** The minister's answer to that last question of mine amazes me, because I can only come to the conclusion that this will be a complete whitewash. Did the minister not consider the advisability of appointing one or two independent persons as did the Minister of Transport, I believe, who brought in a third party not associated with his department or with the Minister of Justice? I am not imputing—

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** Oh, no.

**Mr. Alexander:** I think it is up to me at least to speak on behalf of the Canadian people. The minister has just said that there will be members of his own department investigating, when there has been a cry across this land that there has been slowness on the part of the minister. Did he consider the appointment of one or two independent persons who could do this job, thereby giving us on this side the opportunity of saying that the minister is certainly on the right track? At this time we do not think so. Did the minister consider this, and what was the reason he did not pursue the appointment of independent inquiry commissioners?

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** First, the Minister of Justice indicated that he felt, on the basis of information he had received and non the basis of initiatives taken by the federal government to obtain that information—information which was never turned over to us from the province—that an inquiry of that nature was not warranted. So we acted on our own in order to determine whether something should be done. The Minister of Justice then referred it to me on April 29. I considered the information and came to the conclusion that there were allegations contained therein which would warrant an investigation into the whole industrial relations aspect of this entire affair under the Canada Labour Code. I might add that it was something asked for by the Ontario government some months ago, but they never forwarded any information to us to back it up. On the basis of information we received on April 29, I decided to take action.

In answer to the hon. member's question, I think, with all respect, he is casting aspersions on certain public servants in the labour department.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Alexander:** Mr. Speaker—  
[Mr. Alexander.]

**Mr. Clark (Rocky Mountain):** They are responsible to you; you can shut them up.

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** The hon. member for Hamilton West talked about my interrupting him. He gave me a lecture on the impropriety of interruption, and now he proceeds to do it himself.

**Mr. Alexander:** I am sorry, sir.

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** I think that the integrity of the officials of the Ministry of Labour is above reproach. If the hon. member was not imputing motives, I will accept that; but in case there should be any question with respect to the impartiality of the investigation to be conducted, the officials are merely to help and assist the RCMP if required—and surely no member of this House, particularly the hon. member for Hamilton West, I take it, is questioning the entirely independent approach and thoroughness of the RCMP.

**Mr. MacKay:** Mr. Speaker, I have a couple of very brief questions for the minister. I gave certain information to the minister last December involving some individuals in Montreal—I think their names were Baldo, Diamond and McGuire—who were apparently associated with the SIU and had criminal records. I also made information available about a couple of Toronto private detectives, Max Chofosky and Terry O'Reilly, shadowing SIU members. None of this information was incorrect, as far as I know, or ever denied. I wonder whether the minister did any investigating into this and whether he proposes, as the parliamentary secretary indicated last December, to consider making changes implicit in the grievance procedure in part V of the Canada Labour Code so there would be quicker and better remedies available to SIU members if they wished to bring grievances to the attention of the authorities, including the minister.

● (1540)

**Mr. Munro (Hamilton East):** Mr. Speaker, to answer the latter part of the hon. member's question first, I would indicate to him that I have already become convinced, and indicated so in the House several months ago, that when we have the next group of amendments to the Canada Labour Code it will include, hopefully, amendments correcting the potential abuses—they are all too potential—in the hiring hall type of system. I have come to that conclusion independent of these actions being taken now. The tendency may or may not be to verify and emphasize that type of action. We committed ourselves to action in this sense, in any event.

In respect of the other question, I think it was the Minister of Justice who indicated, in answer to a question asked in the House, that he would have these allegations investigated. This is his function, not mine. I can only assume, on the basis of the investigation that was conducted by the Minister of Justice, that this was taken into account. This is a confidential report which was turned over to me, and now I feel that further investigation is required under the Canada Labour Code.

**Mr. MacKay:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the minister for taking this step. I should like to ask him if, within