

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

plans of going to Expo. There is genuine interest in Expo '67, and people are talking about it everywhere, which means that the publicity has done a good job. But apparently publicity has been lacking on the particular point of accommodations.

I could have written directly to Expo's public relations officer but decided to use this occasion in the house because it might prove to be a more effective way of giving this very serious point its proper prominence. I gave the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Winters) written notice of my question at this time so that he might be able to take this opportunity to give his answer loud and clear, because I trust such is not the case and that accommodations will be possible. I had hoped the minister might take a page from the Minister of National Defence's book on public relations to make sure every corner in Canada and in the world will know that the metropolitan area of Montreal can accommodate all comers and that interested people everywhere can make definite plans to visit Expo '67 with all the confidence in the world.

Mrs. Margaret Rideout (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to pinch hit tonight for the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Trade and Commerce, and I thank the hon. member for Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes (Mr. Régimbal) for accepting me as a substitute. I am also very happy to give my hon. friend the assurance he is seeking, and I say this loud and clear.

The Expo corporation has set up a reservations department called Logexpo. It has already made 90,000 reservations covering some 370,000 hotel days. Logexpo is in a position to make reservations at reasonable prices for all inquirers at the present time, and invites any people who are concerned about accommodation to communicate with it.

[Translation]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE—SEARCH OF PRIVATE HOMES

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I should like to raise a matter today, about which I put a question two days ago and received no answer. My question was directed to the Solicitor General (Mr. Pennell) responsible for the R.C.M.P. I do not see him in the house tonight and I wonder who will answer. I even wonder whether there is somebody to answer. Ah, I see there is a substitute who will answer the question.

[Mr. Régimbal.]

Here is the case, Mr. Speaker. Last Thursday, that is on November 10, about 8 o'clock p.m., when Mr. Jean-Louis Denoncourt, 264 St. Charles St. West, Longueuil, had just left his residence, three police constables, one from the R.C.M.P., one from the Quebec provincial police and another from the Montreal municipal police, having search warrant No. 21947, entered into Mr. Denoncourt's house. These policemen were posted around his house, waiting for him to leave, in order to get in with the search warrant I just mentioned. On entering, they read it out rapidly to Denoncourt's young sister, a 17-year old, who could not quite make out what they were reading so fast. The policemen even refused to show her the document. According to Denoncourt's sister, the policemen were very rude to her as well as to her friend, Raymond Larouche who was at Denoncourt's home at this time.

I should like to mention at this point that Jean-Louis Denoncourt is the regional director of the Rassemblement pour l'indépendance nationale, which political party is legally recognized as such in the province of Quebec. It is not that this party advocates the independence of Quebec, for it is not the same party as the Ralliement national. In fact, they are competitors after a fashion. But that is not why I am bringing up the matter. I do so because I feel that the treatment inflicted upon a partisan of independence, where members of the R.C.M.P. were involved, should not recur. I believe in democracy and feel that the police should not interfere with political matters.

And so, the policemen asked to go into the house and more specifically to go into Jean-Louis Denoncourt's bedroom. They went in, pulled out the drawers and emptied them on the floor in a heap that begs description. In the meantime, they refused access to the apartment to everyone, and prevented—which they did not have the right to do—Denoncourt's sister from putting in a telephone call to one of her uncles, Dollard Dansereau, a very well known Montreal lawyer.

When Miss Denoncourt tried to make a phone call, one of the policemen put his hand on the phone so as to prevent her from using it, which is something completely irregular. This was repeated many times.

The policemen were especially looking for papers, files belonging to the executives of the organization for the Richelieu area of the Rassemblement pour l'indépendance nationale.