

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Fraser:** Mr. Speaker, I have a further supplementary for the Minister of Justice. Could the minister tell the House whether the charges against the president and the vice-president of the union are being brought under the Criminal Code or whether these are contempt proceedings under the back-to-work legislation passed a few weeks ago in the House of Commons.

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, perhaps I might clarify what the Minister of Labour said. We are planning to proceed with contempt proceedings arising out of the order of the Chief Justice made following proceedings under the special bill passed. That will go forward at once. There is in addition the matter of charging individuals for contravention of the special law in which cases charges will be laid under the Criminal Code. The same facts relate to sections of the Canada Labour Code. Some five individuals are involved in the immediate charges today.

**Mr. Fraser:** Mr. Speaker, for clarification may I ask the minister, when he said there are contempt charges being laid now in connection with the refusal to obey an order involving the Quebec courts several weeks ago, could he tell the House now exactly how many people are involved in those particular proceedings. He mentioned the number five, and I am not sure whether he was referring to these particular proceedings when he mentioned that number.

**Mr. Lang:** The proceedings which came before Chief Justice Deschênes are against the union organizations as such and not against individuals.

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## PRIVILEGE

## MR. DIEFENBAKER AND MR. TRUDEAU—DATE OF RULING

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Before recognizing the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby, may I take a second to say something I intended to say at the commencement of today's proceedings. With respect to the outstanding questions of privilege, I thought it might be possible to make my ruling today. I find I would prefer to make it tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock.

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## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ALLEGED STATEMENT OF SERGEANT LEDUC IMPLICATING  
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN DRUG TRAFFICKING—  
GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General. I should like to ask the minister whether a certain Sergeant John Leduc of the RCMP drug squad was acting with his knowledge or with his approval when he made certain statements to the press which implicate directly some 60 government employees and indirectly many more in the Montreal area concerning charges of illicit trading in drugs.

[Mr. Munro (Hamilton East).]

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** No, Mr. Speaker, he was not, nor was he acting with the authority or knowledge of the commissioner or even of his commanding officer. As a matter of fact, we are not too sure whether the particular officers mentioned in the article did in fact make those statements because they are presently out of the country on a drug investigation. But it is being checked at present.

**Mr. Broadbent:** What steps is the minister taking concerning these very serious allegations? Does he intend to inform the House of the nature of the investigation that is taking place? I am asking the question knowing full well that the minister may not be able to give all the details if an investigation is underway, but I am concerned and the House is concerned not only about the potentially guilty people involved but also about the substantially greater number of innocent people who have been implicated by the revelation of this kind of information.

**Mr. Allmand:** I agree with the hon. member on that point. That is why we never say that an investigation is underway while it is still underway. I am meeting with the commissioner this afternoon and we will discuss this further. All we can say at present is that there has been an investigation into certain allegations of activities at the airport. I just cannot give any more information at the moment, but I will be ready to report further tomorrow.

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## NATIONAL REVENUE

ALLEGED RCMP REPORT CONTAINING ALLEGATIONS  
AGAINST EMPLOYEES AT MONTREAL AIRPORT—  
GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** I have a supplementary question for the Minister of National Revenue. Could he inform the House on whether an RCMP report—which I am informed was made to his department more than a year ago, that is prior to the time the present minister became minister of his department—was brought to his attention concerning certain allegations made about employees in his department at the Montreal airport and, if so, what action he has taken since he became minister to deal with that report?

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, as indicated by the Solicitor General, it is very difficult to comment on inquiries of this nature. In so far as the Department of National Revenue is concerned, we have co-operated fully with the RCMP in any investigations at that port in order to apprehend anyone who might be in violation of the law.