

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Nunziata:** Was there a search warrant? Yes or no?

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** The reality is that these are allegations that are being brought forward. That is quite different. Very adequate responses have been given by the Minister of Public Works. He has dealt with every specific question and, sitting here as an observer of what has transpired during Question Period, I can say that the Minister of Public Works has answered every one of the allegations put by the Opposition. They should get the facts before they ask another question.

## AWARDING OF SECURITY CONTRACT

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice may think that the answers given by the Minister of Public Works have been at an acceptable level, but I can say to the Minister that the people of Canada will not share that opinion one bit.

A Parliamentary Secretary, the Member for Argenteuil—Papineau, was quoted yesterday in a Montreal newspaper and today in a Toronto newspaper as saying that a tavern owner in her constituency was awarded a non-tendered contract for security reasons because of his services to the Conservative Party. Does the Prime Minister think that this is appropriate contract procedure and, if not, when will the Government clean up its act?

**Hon. Stewart McInnes (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, may I advise the Hon. Member that the person hired for this particular contract was a policeman who had worked for the Montreal Police Force for six or seven years. The contract was within the ambit of authority of the corporation.

**Mr. Broadbent:** The answer by the Minister is just totally unacceptable to the people of Canada. I say to the Minister that it was his Government that promised to clean up patronage, and the people of Canada did not want to replace old Liberal patronage with Conservative patronage. They wanted a change.

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT APPOINT INQUIRY INTO  
CONTRACT AWARDING PROCESSES

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister who has said about once a month, now, that it is time his Government did a little better in this area. This time the Member in question is a Parliamentary Secretary who is acknowledging that the person got the contract not because of police experience but because he was an organizer for the Conservative Party. Does the Prime Minister not think it is time to appoint a commission now, with a three-month mandate, to look into government contract processes, and to come back and make recommendations to Parliament for a change in all of this?

**Hon. Stewart McInnes (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, from time to time the Hon. Member has pointed to comments of the Auditor General. I suggest that he is the person in the best position, having reviewed the books and all

of the contracts of the corporation. As well, the special audit team went into a very thorough investigation. They have confirmed that all of the contracts received good value for the Government and they were done within Treasury Board guidelines and with the approval of the corporation.

*[Translation]*AWARDING OF CONTRACTS—REQUEST FOR INQUIRY—  
GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, my question is not about this particular subject. It is about something else. I will repeat my question for the Prime Minister. The Canadian people do not want a switch from grit to Tory patronage. They want honest government. That is the truth, and could the Prime Minister therefore consider ordering an investigation into the federal Government's contract procedures?

*[English]*

**Hon. Stewart McInnes (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, I believe that what the people of Canada want is the assurance that value for money has been received with respect to government contracts and that the contracts have been given according to established guidelines. This procedure has been confirmed by the Auditor General and the special audit team.

## REPORTED SEARCH OF MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT'S OFFICE

**Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston):** Mr. Speaker, my question which concerns the same subject is directed to the Prime Minister. He is the one who is ultimately responsible for the morality of the Government. Will he confirm, because he ought to know, that a search warrant pursuant to the Criminal Code of Canada was executed in order to search the office of a Member of Parliament? Would he not agree that a Member of Parliament should be judged using the same standards and laws as any other Canadian?

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, I simply reiterate the fact that an allegation was made, first by the Official Opposition critic on Justice and now by the Official Opposition critic on Solicitor General, linking search warrants with certain activities and certain investigations that are going on with respect to the Mirabel land transaction.

I already answered his colleague. I find it repulsive that they continue to ask the same question. I have denied the matter. If the Hon. Member cannot take no for an answer, maybe he could get someone else to ask a question.

**Mr. Nunziata:** One would have thought that they learned their lessons in the Sinc Stevens affair. Obviously they have not.