

of complaint that were made directly or indirectly involving these matters of improper conduct, violence and intimidation.

Mr. Sharp: I will undertake to do that. I should say that the Minister of Justice is trying to obtain up-to-date information in the hands of the provincial authorities on this question which would be available to the federal government. That would be considered a more reasonable way to go about the process rather than resurrect incidents from the past which may no longer be relevant.

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ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

JURISDICTION TO INVESTIGATE INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, through you I should like to direct a question to the Solicitor General. Yesterday the Solicitor General indicated it was not within the jurisdiction of the RCMP to investigate matters of violence. On that ground I wonder whether the minister could explain why his department and the RCMP have changed their approach when in fact in 1972 the RCMP did all the research and initiated the prosecution of Geza Matrai who assaulted Mr. Kosygin in the city of Ottawa. If that is a matter—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question seems clear and direct enough for the Solicitor General to reply.

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, it seems that that was a case involving a guest of this country and there were external affairs implications and so on. The RCMP had jurisdiction. I want to make clear to the House that I did not suggest that the RCMP didn't have jurisdiction over the violence aspect of this case. They decided that they did not have jurisdiction and I did not press the matter with them. With regard to the previous question, not once since I have been Solicitor General has anyone approached me in respect of any allegations against the SIU. Mr. Shulman knew where my office was and never once made any attempt to see me.

● (1440)

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I readily accept the minister's response that in the case of the attack on Mr. Kosygin there was certain national importance. Is it the view of the minister that this matter of violence on the waterfront by a union controlled under the legislation of this federal government is not a matter of national importance?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I am not the principal law-officer of the Crown, I have been advised where it is a case of violence between individuals, questions of assault and so on, this is a matter for the provincial attorneys general and they are very jealous of their jurisdiction.

An hon. Member: When it is dangerous you leave it to the provinces.

Oral Questions

LABOUR CONDITIONS

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—SUGGESTED COMMITTEE DETERMINATION OF NECESSITY FOR INQUIRY COMMISSION

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, the evidence that is going to be gathered by the police forces involved in the investigation both of violence and possible corruption, is going to be reviewed simply by one or two of the ministers. It seems to me that since the ministers may be directly involved that this matter of investigating these reports should be done more openly. I wonder whether consideration would be given, in the interest of doing this in the open, to having a parliamentary committee assess that evidence to determine whether a further inquiry commission is required rather than just letting the minister do that himself?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member failed to direct his question to any minister.

Mr. Yewchuk: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. The question was directed to the Acting Prime Minister.

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker, I do not think that would be a useful suggestion at the present time. I think we ought to have more facts and less gossip.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—EVIDENCE RECEIVED BY RCMP INVOLVING CABINET MINISTERS

Mr. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, my question for the Solicitor General arises from the exchange between him and the hon. member for Calgary North who asked for the names of ministers being investigated. The minister's response was that Dr. Shulman supplied no information on specific ministers. In light of the statement by Dr. Shulman as recorded in the Ontario *Hansard* as follows:

Roman Gralewicz, president of the SIU in September of 1974 when interviewed by police officers from two forces, boasted to them that they could do nothing to the SIU because he had a senior cabinet minister "in his pocket". He then named the minister. It was not Mr. Munro. It was not Mr. Allmand. In the course of the same statement, Gralewicz also spoke of the union's close connection with other members of the cabinet. The RCMP have a copy . . .

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Does the hon. member have a question for the Solicitor General?

Mr. Beatty: Yes, I have, Mr. Speaker. In light of this assertion by Dr. Shulman and the further assertion he makes that "The RCMP have a copy of Gralewicz's statement," can the minister state categorically that the RCMP have not received any such police report dealing with bragging by Gralewicz that he had a senior unnamed cabinet minister in his pocket?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the RCMP are also aware of this statement and they will visit and inquire from all persons named in the report and obtain what information they have. I am