

Supply—Justice

they conducted themselves in a most commendable way under most difficult circumstances.

I do believe that when the situation became so tense that further reinforcements were required—I am going to have to differ with the minister here—they should have been sent forward at that time. When the minister says he was informed by the inspector in Newfoundland that these reinforcements were not required to protect the personnel already there, I think that is a fair statement.

Yesterday the minister explained his position in that regard, and I am quite willing to accept his explanation except for the fact that the feeling is abroad that this was a major reason why the R.C.M.P. enforcements were not sent. As my friend the hon. member for Trinity-Conception has explained, a serious situation developed when members of the Newfoundland constabulary were taken from the city St. John's and sent out to the troubled area, leaving St. John's without the necessary police force that it requires. I think this was a serious thing, and would not have been required if the necessary R.C.M.P. reinforcements had been sent to Newfoundland when they were requested.

It was also suggested yesterday afternoon that the R.C.M.P. were required in Newfoundland in order to evict a union from the province. No such thing, of course, is true. These men were required to go to Newfoundland in order to preserve law and order, and were not concerned in the dispute that happened to be going on there at that time. I am sure nobody knowing the facts would accept the statement that they were required to be sent to Newfoundland to evict a union.

I am also wondering whether, in making his decision, the Minister of Justice really entered into sufficient discussion with the officials of the Newfoundland government to determine exactly what the position was. There are many today who feel that this decision was not the right one and they are wondering now, if in the future such an emergency were again to arise, what protection they could hope to get if they were living outside the city of St. John's, which is the only centre that has any provincial force in any numbers. The result is that there are many in Newfoundland today who feel that the decision made in this regard was the wrong one and it has left grave doubts in their minds.

Mr. Carter: Mr. Chairman, I should like to take just two or three minutes in which to reply to some of the remarks made this morning by the hon. member for Port Arthur. It will be remembered that the hon. member for Port Arthur was having a number of exchanges with the Minister of Justice on the

topic of subversive activities, and in the course of these exchanges asked the minister to provide a definition of "subversion". He also pressed the minister to divulge the names of organizations that might be considered subversive; and when he was not getting from the minister a suitable answer he went on to imply that there was no menace. "Where is the menace?" he asked. Then to prove his point he referred to the decrease in the votes which the Labour Progressive party had received in recent elections.

I think it is dangerous to allow that argument to remain on *Hansard* unanswered, because that is one of the favourite means employed by the communist party to lull us into a false sense of security. In order to prove how worthless that argument is I should like to inform the house that in Berlin last May Mr. John McGovern, a British member of parliament belonging to the Labour party, while in Berlin at the request of Mayor Brandt, made the statement that among the members of parliament of the Socialist party in Britain there were 26 who were actually undercover agents, and there were another 70 members who were fellow travellers. That statement by Mr. McGovern caused quite a bit of trouble in his party and Mr. Morgan Phillips, secretary of the Labour party in Britain, asked him to recant. He has steadfastly refused to do so because he says it is the truth and he has never made false statements even against his opponents.

Mr. Regier: And you believe it?

Mr. Carter: I certainly do.

Mr. Regier: Have you any evidence?

The Deputy Chairman: Order.

Mr. Carter: You produce your evidence when your turn comes. The difficulty of defining "subversion" is obvious, because the most insidious subversive activities occur in the realms of thought and ideas. The aims and objects of the communist party are to undermine our confidence in our institutions, our values and our leaders. All that, of course, involves the use and the planting of ideas and the breaking down of our values.

This is done in many ways. It is done by broadcasts, films and plays. One of the most fruitful sources of this activity, of course, is in our universities. We know that most universities have communist agents planted on their staffs for that very purpose, and it is reasonable to assume that the same thing is happening here in Canada. Surely we cannot expect the Minister of Justice to divulge to the house what people or what universities are concerned or what activities are going on in this field.