

Inquiries of the Ministry

and whether any attempt was being made to apprehend him. Apparently, however, the minister takes the view that this information is not in the public interest. I think it is. I think it is necessary for the Canadian people to know this matter is being pursued.

Mr. Chevrier: I have indicated on two occasions now that I do not believe it is in the public interest to answer that question.

Mr. Woolliams: A supplementary question. Surely it is in the public interest to ask why Banks was not arrested.

Mr. Speaker: Order. It is not in order to argue with a minister who declines to answer a question.

Mr. Woolliams: I was not arguing. I am asking a supplementary question; why Banks was not arrested?

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Chevrier: Mr. Speaker, you have already declared that question out of order.

Mr. Woolliams: I rise on a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker. With the greatest respect, I should like to hear from the Chair why that question is out of order, except that the minister is hedging?

Mr. Speaker: I could take ten minutes to give detailed information to the hon. member, but I do not propose to hold up the house. If he would look at page 147, citation 171 of Beauchesne's fourth edition, he would find a complete and detailed answer.

[Later:]

Mr. Real Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question of the Minister of Justice. Would the minister know where Hal Banks is at this moment?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Wellington South.

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington South): I will leave my question until tomorrow, Mr. Speaker.

[Later:]

[Translation]

Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Justice?

Is it true that the government does not intend to give effect to the recommendations of the Norris report, because Mr. Banks is a friend of the Liberals at election time and a subscriber to their campaign funds?

[Text]

Mr. Speaker: Order. This question is obviously out of order.

[Translation]

Mr. Gilles Gregoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Justice?

Last Thursday the Minister of Justice stated that charges described as charges of assault, therefore criminal offences, would be laid against Hal Banks; how can the minister account for the fact that today it is not in the public interest to disclose whether a warrant for arrest was delivered against Hal Banks?

It is absolutely compulsory, when the Minister of Justice lodges a complaint for assault against an individual—

[Text]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This is repeating a similar question in another way, and is out of order.

REFUSAL OF U.S. WORKERS TO LOAD
CANADIAN SHIPS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Labour if he is in a position to give a report to the house respecting the picketing of the unloading of Canadian ships in Chicago over the week end; whether there has been any communication with Washington in the last couple of days in this regard, and also whether there is co-operation on the part of Washington in preventing this injustice to Canadian ships.

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I have not received a report directly with respect to this incident, which I shall attempt to have investigated as quickly as possible. With respect to representations to Washington, this is a matter for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Then I ask that minister whether in the last two days he has been in communication with the administration in Washington regarding the blocking of the unloading of two Canadian ships, the *Col. Robert R. McCormick* and the *Mondoc* at Chicago where longshoremen refused to cross a picket line.

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): I have been in touch with our embassy in Washington, and I am waiting for a report on this matter.