

Inquiries of the Ministry

Ontario, post offices of hate literature, and in particular anti-Jewish pamphlets and literature. The Prime Minister was kind enough finally to state that the matter would be investigated. However, Sir, in the past 24 hours Members of the House of Commons have received through the mail, from the same address in Vancouver, hate literature more vicious, more damning, more anti-Canadian than even that which I was able to produce for the Postmaster General yesterday afternoon.

In view of the fact that this abuse is now being extended to Members of the House of Commons, who are receiving most vicious hate literature attacking the Jewish people, I would ask whether we can have a reply from the Postmaster General, who I know has already been looking into it this morning, and whether this abuse of mailing privileges will be stopped. I would ask the Postmaster General whether there is any way in which the Government can bring to a halt this un-Canadian, unjust activity. And, sir, as a third question I would ask is there any way in which the Government can find out who are the big financial backers of this hate literature which is now becoming far too prevalent in Canada?

[Translation]

Hon. René Tremblay (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I should like first of all to thank the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. Winch) who, on behalf of members of the house, has welcomed me back after the few days of rest I had to take for reasons of health.

I should also like to thank the hon. member for having brought to the attention of the house, of the acting Postmaster General, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (Mr. Nicholson), and of my parliamentary secretary (Mr. Caron) this particular case of hate literature which occurred during the past few days, the sources of which were already known to the department but in which the matter had not yet been obtained.

I think that all members of the house will be happy to learn that, like my predecessor, I am very much concerned about the use which is being made of the Canadian mails by various foreign or Canadian groups for the distribution of this hate literature.

I was very happy to see that Mr. Justice Wells had confirmed a decision made by my colleague, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, while he was postmaster general, because the decision of Judge Wells will

[Mr. Winch.]

be of a great help to us in the elimination and prohibition of this hate literature which is distributed in the country.

Therefore I thank the hon. member for calling my attention to this matter and I would ask all members of the House of Commons that each time they receive, through their voters or directly, indications that groups in this country or abroad are using the mails to distribute this hate literature, to give me their co-operation.

In the specific case mentioned by the hon. member for Vancouver East, I must say that this very morning I had a meeting with the officials of my department and that at this time we are investigating, while receiving the support of the Department of Justice. I can assure the hon. member that as soon as I have all the necessary information and the investigation is completed, I will not hesitate, as the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration did, to take the necessary steps to put an end to that extremely condemnable activity.

[Text]

Mr. Winch: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I understood the Minister to say that he had known of the distribution of this literature before from this address, but that he had not been able to obtain the kind of literature which could be considered as being of this type. I would therefore like to ask a supplementary question. Does not the Postmaster General think action should be taken when Members of the House of Commons get this type of literature about one of the most respected men in Canada—I repeat, one of the most respected men in Canada—and I refer to Rabbi Feinberg of Toronto, which says:

The Red Rabbi.

The startling story of Abraham Feinberg, arch anti-Christian, master pro-Communist and leading "ban the bomber".

The Red Rabbi is a sensational new booklet by David Stanley, unmasking Canada's number one fellow traveller and Jewish racist.

Devastating revelations. Red subversion uncovered. Damning facts exposed. The whole ugly truth.

If that is not sufficient evidence, plus the newspaper which says that some of the greatest men in the world are conspiring for the establishment of Red dictatorship, just how much more is required before action can be taken by the Postmaster General?

Mr. Valade: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker—