

conduct an investigation into the internal affairs of the union and to send the complainant off to the police?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I think the answer I must give is that under the circumstances prevailing at that time the Minister of Labour acted very well, indeed.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, is it therefore the view of the Acting Prime Minister, and the policy of the government, that when a complaint like this in connection with a union over which the federal government has general jurisdiction is received, the government should not conduct any further investigations itself but simply wash its hands of the whole affair?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, I think it greatly depends upon the circumstances. The Leader of the Opposition has asked a question about general policy. I should think that in each particular case it would be necessary to make a judgment, and I think that the Minister of Labour and his department exercised good judgment in the circumstances. I have heard nothing to the contrary.

**Mr. Baldwin:** We challenge that judgment. We think it was very bad.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE IN RESPECT OF INVESTIGATION

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, arising out of the answer of the Minister of Labour, I should like to put a question to the Solicitor General regarding the investigation and the statement of the Deputy Prime Minister yesterday that "the RCMP have been invited to investigate and are investigating allegations that affect the reputation of federal officials or ministers". In precise and concise terms will the Solicitor General tell us what instructions were given to the RCMP in respect of the investigation and what were they to investigate; violence on the waterfront, the SIU, the reputation of government ministers or senior officials—just what were the instructions and who gave them to the RCMP?

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, I did not give any instructions. Following an approach by the Minister of Labour I asked the RCMP to investigate the allegations made by Mr. Shulman of the Ontario legislature. They came back to me later and said that these investigations covered some matters that were not under their jurisdiction, but they would investigate fully all allegations relating to misconduct on the part of federal officials or elected members of parliament and ministers. That is what they are investigating. They said the aspects relating to violence between individuals were matters for the Ontario Attorney General and the police of the province.

Oral Questions

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—REQUEST FOR NAMES OF MINISTERS INVESTIGATED

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for his answer. Will he now tell the House in plain, concise and precise terms the names of the ministers of the government who were subject to any investigation by the RCMP?

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, there were no ministers named. I asked the RCMP to check into the allegations by Mr. Shulman. His allegations have been very vague. I think one of the members on this side said yesterday that he revealed part of the allegations day by day, like taking a rabbit out of a hat, and then there was no rabbit. His allegations were very vague. He recently mentioned my name and the name of the Minister of Labour. I tried to deal with that and said there was nothing there, but there has been no allegation made by Mr. Shulman directly involving members of the cabinet or officials of the government.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might follow that up with just one further question? In view of the minister's answer, and having seen the report of the RCMP which was discussed yesterday in the House, what ministers were investigated in reference to the allegation of this Mr. Shulman and the waterfront coverup?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Allmand:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Labour requested that the RCMP investigate the allegations of Mr. Shulman and the deputy minister did the same thing in writing to the Commissioner of the RCMP. As a result of that request the RCMP visited Mr. Shulman to get from him whatever evidence he may have. While he told them his story he did not give them any documents, transcripts, tapes or anything whatsoever. The RCMP then went to the provincial authorities of Ontario and the Toronto Metropolitan Police and obtained certain material. They gave me the interim report and are still continuing their investigation.

● (1430)

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION—REQUEST FOR INDUSTRIAL INQUIRY COMMISSION

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour. It is based on the clear precedent of 1962 when, in the light of continuing trouble on the waterfront, an industrial inquiry commission was established under section 56 of the Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigation Act, which provision now is section 159 of the Canada Labour Code. In order that this whole matter of corruption on the waterfront, charges of violence and all the other charges might be thoroughly investigated on a broad basis, is the Minister of Labour now prepared under section 159 of the Canada Labour Code to establish an industrial inquiry commission?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, as I indicated on several occasions in this House, I would be prepared to consider such an inquiry at a later stage but at the moment the matter is under investigation