

Inquiries of the Ministry
**CANADIAN BROADCASTING
 CORPORATION**

REPORTED COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF
 FRENCH NETWORK

On the orders of the day:

Mr. MacInnis: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: Is this question of privilege an attempt to make a statement or is it really a question of privilege? The Chair is trying to help the hon. member, but there is a limit.

Mr. MacInnis: My question of privilege is intended to establish once and for all responsibility for the location of this plant, and to deny the claim made by the Minister of Transport by the words of the minister responsible, the Minister of Industry. In order to clear up this matter it will be necessary for me to quote the responsible minister, the Minister of Industry.

Mr. Speaker: Do I understand that the hon. member wishes to attribute the success of this venture to one minister rather than to another?

Mr. MacInnis: I think it is my privilege to know what the Chair has ruled, but I failed to hear the ruling because of the noise from the other side of the house. If Your Honour would repeat your question I would attempt to answer it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member can read it in *Hansard*. I still do not know what the question of privilege is.

Mr. MacInnis: It involves myself. It is a personal question. I wish to clarify the statement of the Minister of Transport in regard to the question I asked, in reply to which the Minister of Transport made a complete denial of what was said by his own colleague, the Minister of Industry. There is a conflict here between two ministers, and I think it is the duty of the Chair and of the two ministers concerned to clear it up to the satisfaction of the house and to my personal satisfaction. The Minister of Transport wishes to maintain credit for the establishment of this plant—

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member is making a complaint, surely, not raising a question of privilege. If he wants a detailed answer, let him put his question on the order paper. I am sure he would then get a detailed answer.

Mr. MacInnis: I am not looking for a detailed answer. I am looking for a truthful one.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Heward Graffey (Brome-Missisquoi): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice.

Since his recent statement, has Mr. Arsenault, a member of the Quebec provincial government, given to the R.C.M.P. the names of those he claims are communists in the C.B.C., or has he presented evidence of communist activity in the C.B.C.? Or, to use the English expression—

[*Text*]

I would simply like to ask, have the mounted police asked Mr. Arsenault to put up or shut up in this regard?

Hon. Guy Favreau (Minister of Justice): I will take this as a suggestion, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Graffey: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a supplementary question.

Did the R.C.M.P. ask Mr. Arsenault to supply them with a list of the supposed communists or with evidence of communist activities within the C.B.C.?

Mr. Balcer: The Liberal federation?

Mr. Favreau: Mr. Speaker, I am evidently not in a position to answer that question. All I can say is that, to my great satisfaction, whenever an investigation must be made in the public interest of Canada, it is always conducted in an efficient manner. However, I may add that if it is in the interest of the house to know the answer to that question, I can inquire.

[*Text*]

Mr. Diefenbaker: Not according to Mr. Arsenault.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

Inasmuch as the answer given by the Minister of Justice is rather vague and that charges were proffered by a member of the Quebec government, I believe that the minister should at least tell us if the R.C.M.P. is conducting an investigation, following the statement made by Mr. Arsenault to the effect that the C.B.C. would be harbouring communists. Is the R.C.M.P. conducting an investigation in this matter?