

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Baldwin:** Mr. Speaker, ignoring for the moment the question of criminal investigation and charges on the issue of public morality and conflict of interest, as laid down in the guidelines brought down from on high by the President of the Privy Council two and a half years ago dealing with members of parliament, is it the Prime Minister's view, in the light of facts disclosed and in his possession, that the time has now come for the government to take action?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member talks about facts in my possession. I assure him I have no more facts than are printed in the newspaper, and considerably less. As to action, I am not certain what the hon. member is implying, but I assure him that as far as I am concerned, and it is the position on this side but apparently not on the other side, in this country a man is innocent until he is proved guilty.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Baldwin:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Is this, then, the position of the Prime Minister and government on the question of conflict of interest and public morality: that not until criminal charges are laid and a conviction is obtained will this government intend to take any action?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member takes the trouble to look at the guidelines, he will see how they apply to himself.

**Mr. Baldwin:** I have looked at them.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Read them. The hon. member will see the position of the government. It is not just a matter of relying on criminal charges. If he wants to make a specific allegation about any particular member of parliament, any member in this House or the other who broke the guidelines, I should like to hear him make the charge.

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

**Mr. Baldwin:** Where is your sense of humour?

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### ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

#### SKY SHOPS AND MIRABEL INVESTIGATIONS—DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF INVESTIGATIONS—INQUIRY WHETHER SEPARATE INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Solicitor General which arises from the answer the minister gave on October 28, as reported on page 8609 of *Hansard*. On being asked by the hon. member for Joliette a question concerning an investigation into the alleged \$60 million fraud at Mirabel, he answered to the effect that no investigation is going on at the present time. In the hope of clarifying the answer of October 28, I ask the Solicitor General to confirm that five days before the hon. member for Central Nova tabled his petition regarding this matter, no RCMP investigation was being conducted into the Sky Shops affair and related matters, and into the Mirabel matter as well.

[Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton).]

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, there were several incidents and they should not be confused. There was an investigation into the Sky Shops affair and there were also allegations with respect to the construction at Mirabel. But there was no question about Mirabel until that allegation had been made to the RCMP. They were evaluating the allegations, to see if an investigation should proceed. With respect to construction at Mirabel, I will have to check with the RCMP again, to see if that investigation is now under way.

**Mr. Woolliams:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the Solicitor General make clear if there is any relationship between the investigations concerning Sky Shops and the Mirabel projects, generally? Is the same investigation being undertaken with reference to the two projects, or interrelated projects?

**Mr. Allmand:** Mr. Speaker, as I said in answer to an earlier question, we do not make public the details of police investigations in the House of Commons or elsewhere.

**Mr. Woolliams:** A final supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I am not asking for details. I merely seek clarification. The minister has already admitted that an investigation is going on. Does the investigation cover the Mirabel projects, as well as Sky Shops? Is this being done under the same investigation? I am not asking for details.

**Mr. Allmand:** Mr. Speaker, on that point alone, I will have to check with the RCMP.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Don't give him the answer.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Covering up, eh?

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### CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

#### REASON FOR BROADCASTING LATE NEWS FROM VANCOUVER TO NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—REPETITION OF PROGRAMS

**Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State. Is any direct attempt being made by the federal government to destroy natural trading links between Alberta and the Northwest Territories, by forcing on the territories television from Vancouver? As well, will the people of the north be given the privilege of listening to the late night news on time, as now it is heard after midnight in the Northwest Territories.

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, there is no conspiracy, but I will look at the question more carefully.

**Mr. Malone:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. How can the minister explain the rationale for duplicating in the Northwest Territories three hours of television? The three afternoon programs are shown again in the evening, much to the discontent of the people in the community.

**Mr. Faulkner:** Mr. Speaker, that particular problem is now under investigation by the CBC.