

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 31, 1966

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

### BANKRUPTCY ACT

AMENDMENTS TO CORRECT ABUSES AND FOR  
ORDERLY PAYMENT OF DEBTS

**Hon. G. J. McIlraith (for Mr. Cardin)** moved leave to introduce Bill No. S-17 (from the Senate), to amend the Bankruptcy Act.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

• (2:40 p.m.)

### NATIONAL SECURITY

QUEBEC—STATEMENT RESPECTING PROVIN-  
CIAL POLICE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

On the orders of the day:

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): the Opposition:** I address this question to the Prime Minister. It has to do with press articles today to the effect that Arthur Vachon, president of the Quebec provincial police association, is a security risk.

I ask the Prime Minister this. Did his government forward to Quebec security information on this matter, and are security files now being made available outside the ambit of federal authority so they may be used against people in this way?

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** I should like to take the right hon. gentleman's question as notice.

[Later:]

[Translation]

**Hon. Théogène Ricard (Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the hon. Solicitor General?

Following the accusations made by the premier of the province of Quebec against the former policeman Mr. Vachon, is it the intention of the minister to hold an inquiry in order to invalidate or support the said accusations?

[English]

**Hon. L. T. Pennell (Solicitor General):** Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister has taken notice of a question along similar lines, and I will await the Prime Minister's reply.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I should like to ask the Solicitor General whether there has been any change in government policy in that security files are being bandied about and made available in this way to those outside parliament.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. This is a question of general policy.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** It is argumentative and perhaps hypothetical.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

**Mr. Herridge:** Mr. Speaker, supplementary—

**Mr. Speaker:** The right hon. Leader of the Opposition on a point of order.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Speaker, I was asking a particular question and one which, unless answered, affects the public conscience.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister in his capacity as head of security in Canada. Does he agree with the statement of Premier Lesage that Mr. Arthur Vachon is a security risk?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. gentleman's question is out of order.

[Later:]

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of National Defence. I can see he is just waiting to answer. In view of the fact that members of the armed forces may be disturbed by the announcement made by Premier Lesage with respect to the dismissal of Quebec provincial policeman Arthur Vachon, can the minister inform the house why this man was enlisted by the air force if he was considered a security risk, and why he was later given an honourable discharge.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The question is not in order.