

*Supply—Justice*

who have had a great deal to do with ridding Canadian trade unionism of communist or foreign influences. He happens to belong to a trade union with which I am familiar and which succeeded some time ago in ridding itself of these influences. I happen to know that he is actively associated with the group in that union that succeeded in doing that. Part of the record of Canadian labour, which has a very low degree of communist infiltration, is due to the painstaking and hard-working efforts of people like the hon. member for Timiskaming.

**Mr. Fulton:** Mr. Chairman, I used an example. I must confess that I probably should have known but you see that we do not keep very complete files in the R.C.M.P. I did not know of the hon. gentleman's background. I used an example in that case because I do know the hon. gentleman's name and I know it is quite a usual name in Canada. That is the only reason I say it might well be that at the border there are files on other people with the same name. That was the only reason I gave that example. Perhaps I should have used the name "Smith", but then there are some members in the house by that name and I might have offended them.

**Mr. Cameron:** Would the minister answer this question? Does the Royal Canadian Mounted Police undertake an investigation of any Canadian citizen at the instigation of a foreign power?

**Mr. Fulton:** I think the answer to that is that we would exercise our judgment as to whether it was a proper request, whether there was any proper interest established, either on their part or ours, which would justify us in carrying out such an investigation.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** In discussing the exchange of information a few moments ago the minister said that it was not the endeavour of the Canadian authorities to assess the meaning of information but rather just to give the F.B.I., for example, factual information obtained as the result of an investigation in this country. It seems to me that one of the matters that should be considered, in the review of these procedures which I hope the minister will undertake, is the fact that in another country the assessment made of facts that are understood in the Canadian context might be quite unfair.

I think, for example, of some of the organizations that we may have had in our Canadian colleges and universities in the past. Some of the names that apply to organizations of various kinds in Canada mean one thing

[Mr. Macdonald (Vancouver-Kingsway).]

to us and mean something else to the authorities in another country. I think that consideration might be given whether there should not sometimes go with the facts an assessment or evaluation as to the real meaning of these connections if the information is given at all. I agree with Professor Lower that we should lean the other way and be very careful about exchanging this information at all.

There are two questions I should like to ask the minister while I am on my feet. First of all, I should like to ask him if all the files of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are open to him as Minister of Justice at any time?

**Mr. Fulton:** The answer is yes.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** I am very glad to hear that. This is my other question. Has the Minister of Justice received from the Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration a request that he, as Minister of Justice, review the procedures of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in the investigation of prospective immigrants. If the Minister of Justice has received such a request from the Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration has the Minister of Justice assured the Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration that he will meet that request?

**Mr. Fulton:** The Minister of Justice and the Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration do not go through the involved process described by the hon. gentleman. The Minister of Justice authorizes the commissioner of the R.C.M.P. to meet with the Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and to discuss with him and review thoroughly the processes by which the investigations to which the hon. gentleman has just referred are carried on and also to review with him all related problems which arise when reports are received as the result of these investigations involving prospective immigrants, and the Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and the commissioner carry on these discussions directly.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** I am very pleased to hear that. When these gentlemen meet, will it be over two cups of tea or three?

**Mr. Fulton:** I will probably have a parliamentary assistant with me so it will be three.

**Mr. Fisher:** Since the files of the R.C.M.P. are open to the minister, does that mean that a member of parliament, through his right to place questions on the order paper, can discover statistically some of the facts about these files? I do not mean the contents but