

VIOLENT DISTURBANCES

MONTREAL—BOMBING AT LOYOLA COLLEGE—
INCREASED CO-OPERATION BY RCMP

Mr. Warren Allmand (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Solicitor General who is Acting Prime Minister today. Considering the fact that last night in Montreal one of the largest bombs yet was set off at Loyola College while 500 students were at that institution, would the Acting Prime Minister today get in touch with the premier of the province of Quebec and the mayor of Montreal to see how the RCMP can co-operate in a more complete way to crack down on the group that is carrying out these bombings and also to prevent further bombings?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the prime responsibility under the law lies with the provincial authority. But having said that I want to emphasize very strongly that there is very close working co-operation between the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Quebec provincial police and the city of Montreal police in these matters, and in this particular instance there is, of course, that kind of co-operation.

I can assure the hon. member and other hon. members who must all be very concerned that there is the utmost co-operation as well in perfecting and improving ways of bringing about a satisfactory solution to these problems and the prevention of similar occurrences in the future is being pressed to the utmost.

Mr. Allmand: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that within the last few weeks Michel Chartrand announced in court, I believe, that if bill 63 was passed by the Quebec legislature there would be a new round of bombings directed at the English-speaking schools in Quebec, would the Acting Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice, who is supposed to be in the House today—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

An hon. Member: Disgraceful.

Another hon. Member: Shocking.

Mr. Allmand:—get in touch with the Attorney General of Quebec to see that Michel Chartrand's bail is terminated? Also, would they please get in touch with the mayor of Montreal—he did not answer my first question, Mr. Speaker.

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Inquiries of the Ministry

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, the co-operation in matters of this kind is working extremely well—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. McIlraith:—and is effected directly at the working level by the police authorities. If anything comes to my attention, or that I can ascertain from the police authorities, which requires communication by me with the Minister of Justice or Attorney General of Quebec, or the other provincial and civic authorities, that will be done. At the moment I am aware of nothing in connection with this particular bombing that would warrant that kind of communication, but I can assure the hon. member that if anything does occur to warrant it in the course of the investigation there will be such communication.

Mr. Allmand: As a further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Sock it to him.

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, this is a very serious matter and I wish the opposition would take it seriously too. It is not just the Loyola College bombing that is involved. Threats have been made against all English schools in Quebec.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION WITH MR. SAULNIER

Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Acting Prime Minister if next week, when Mr. Saulnier comes to Ottawa to testify before the Broadcasting Committee which is investigating the Company of Young Canadians, he will adopt the suggestion of the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce and discuss the matter with Mr. Saulnier at that time? Further, will he pay heed to the evidence that Mr. Saulnier will be giving about such activities in Montreal so that this problem will not develop in the serious way in which it appears to be heading at the moment?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I will be very willing to consider the hon. member's suggestion and the suggestions of other hon. members, but I must say I do not know what evidence Mr. Saulnier will be giving before the committee. I therefore cannot at this stage tell what action I will take as a result of the evidence given by him.