

Administration of Justice

is a judicial inquiry, complete charges must be made. That will be done then; the house is not the place for doing so. We were told there was no danger, there was nothing to fuss about, that it was looking for a needle in a haystack. Yet, Mr. Speaker, it becomes more and more obvious that an inquiry is a must.

We note that the R.C.M.P. have a file on Mrs. Munsinger, a file deemed important enough by the then Minister of Justice that he felt impelled to make an urgent call on the then prime minister. It is to be noted also that the Montreal Police have a file on the same person. Also, that the same person—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Is the hon. member now discussing the terms of reference?

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, like several members who thought well to speak on the judicial inquiry itself, I take the liberty of speaking on the inquiry and on the terms of reference and the question of privilege which are being discussed today.

Not only has she a record with the R.C.M.P. and the Montreal police department, but she is reported in the newspapers as having been refused entry into the United States many years ago already.

Mr. Speaker, surely there must be reasons for that. If there are any reasons, then why seek to hide them? If all this was hidden for a long time, why continue to hide it, when the person in question has just stated that high-ranking underworld figures would want to kill her. She has a record in the underworld, she has a record with the R.C.M.P., she has a record with the Montreal police department, she was refused entry into the United States and in spite of this, she had access to the highest governmental authorities of the country. She was even seated at the head table during a fund raising dinner given by the Conservative party, at which the Prime Minister was the guest speaker. Mr. Speaker, I admit—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Does the hon. member not feel that he is outside the scope of the terms of reference?

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, you will agree with me just the same that I am trying to prove that an investigation is essential. If, after all this, an investigation is not essential and when I see some members trying, by camouflage and devious means, to prevent this investigation, I feel duty bound to prove that such an investigation is necessary.

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Mr. Speaker, it was mentioned on many occasions that the respect of democratic traditions must be restored in this house. We agree with this. But first of all, some light will have to be thrown not only on some events outside this house, but also on certain events which took place in this house in the past two or three years.

I think that the inquiry which has been set up will allow to throw this light. Charges have been made. The main one deals with the part played by the former Prime Minister in a matter of security of the state. We must know the facts, and in full. This being done, about all the inquiries which have been requested—here I want to join the members for York South (Mr. Lewis) and for Medicine Hat (Mr. Olson), who mentioned it—we shall have to go back to the business of the house, to apply ourselves to legislate for the good of the Canadian people. Numerous pieces of legislation have to be passed, which have not yet been considered. This will have to be done and I believe that all the members must make it their duty to put an end to this as soon as possible, in order to go back to the business of the house. Mr. Speaker, may I call it ten o'clock.

[*English*]

Some hon. Members: Ten o'clock.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I might have the indulgence of the house for one minute to make an appeal that we get back to our normal course of work tomorrow and deal with some of the business on the order paper. This order in council which has been passed and which has set up the commission, which is comprehensive in its terms, which is meant to be reasonable and not provocative or offensive in its language, will, we believe, because this not a trial but an inquiry, make it possible by its terms of reference for the commission to get to the root of the matter, and we believe that the commissioner should be given an opportunity to get to work as quickly as possible and complete his work as quickly as possible. I have not time to make the statement I would like to have made and to explain what I had in mind in drafting the Order in Council in the terms and in a way which we hoped would have met the points raised by hon. gentlemen opposite as well as other members of this house—

Some hon. Members: Yes, you have the time.