

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I have no correction to make to the statement made by the Minister of Labour. The situation was canvassed many times in cabinet. What the Minister of Labour said was fully justified.

**Mr. Fraser:** Yesterday the Hon. John Clement said in a statement, and I quote:

All the information provided in this House by the hon. member from High Park on November 19 was forwarded to senior federal officials on December 10. Information related to charges made under the Criminal Code is in the public domain and has been freely available to federal authorities since last May.

In view of that statement, how can the government say today that the province of Ontario did not co-operate with the federal government? Can the Acting Prime Minister give us an explanation in view of that specific denial yesterday?

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Speaker, this question was raised on many occasions. The Minister of Labour and the Minister of Justice sought information that would justify the kind of inquiry the government of Ontario had been demanding. The information we received came very reluctantly. It was not very full. As a result, we had to wait to make our decision to see what the basis was for the charges that were being made. I am sure the hon. member would agree that in matters like this, one must proceed on the basis of having as much information as possible. I support what the Minister of Labour said, namely that the information was scanty and it was slow in coming. I think the Minister of Labour was fully justified in the statement he made.

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

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF DOCUMENTS TO SUPPORT  
ALLEGATION ONTARIO UNHELPFUL REGARDING CHARGES  
AGAINST SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION

**Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South):** Will the Acting Prime Minister undertake today to give to this House details and minutes of the requests, communications and exchanges by telephone calls or otherwise between the federal government and the government of the province of Ontario to justify the allegations made by the Minister of Labour on Wednesday and reiterated by the Acting Prime Minister in this House today?

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the government authorized the Minister of Labour to make an investigation. This investigation will go forward. Whether it would be advisable under these circumstances to comply with this request, I am not quite sure. At any rate, I can assure the hon. member that the information provided by Ontario was of the kind that had been described by the Minister of Labour. I am very happy that now at last an inquiry is under way.

Oral Questions

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

REQUEST FOR NAMES OF DONORS OF SWIMMING POOL

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert):** Mr. Speaker, a moment ago the Acting Prime Minister referred to swimming pools. I would ask him this. The Prime Minister stated he had no knowledge as to the donors—and unfortunately I was not in the House yesterday afternoon—but a few days ago it was stated that the Department of National Revenue had this information. I ask him whether on Monday he would produce the names of these so-called philanthropists who made the contribution totalling \$200,000 for a swimming pool in the Prime Minister's home yard and who, before they made the contribution, sought and secured the consent of the Department of National Revenue that whatever they contributed could be deducted from their income taxes. In other words, the people of Canada would pay for the pool? Since the Prime Minister has told the House that he does not have this information but that the Department of National Revenue has it, can this information be made available so that the sham endeavoured to be perpetrated on the Canadian people that the pool is a gift when, in fact, it will be paid for ultimately by the Canadian people may be exposed?

● (1130)

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

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** The right hon. member knows very well that one of the kinds of information which is not made available at any time concerns the tax returns of any individual. This applies when gifts are made to the Crown. Many gifts are made to the Crown; many people were ready to make contributions, for instance, to the residence of the Leader of the Official Opposition. Those details were not revealed at the time. No one raised questions of this niggling kind about the generosity of Canadians who wanted to contribute to our parliamentary system by providing a house for the Leader of the Opposition, and I am surprised that the right hon. gentleman should now be so concerned about a matter in which he showed so little interest some time ago.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Subterfuge answers like that get one nowhere. The people of Canada have a right to know who these individuals are so that they will be able to see, whether, later on, some of them are appointed senators.

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

**An hon. Member:** Or get more dredging contracts.

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PUBLIC SERVICE

REQUEST SEVENTEEN NURSES BE RETURNED TO WORK AT  
OTTAWA MEDICAL CENTRE OR ISSUED SEPARATION  
CERTIFICATES

**Mr. Lloyd Francis (Ottawa West):** Mr. Speaker, I had intended to put a question to the Minister of National Defence, but in his absence I will direct it to the President of the Treasury Board. Can the minister inform the House when the 17 nurses locked out for the last two weeks by