

Privilege

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chartrand: Of all the Prime Ministers of Canada, he may be the one who has made the most sustained efforts for maintaining national harmony and Quebec's full participation in the common destiny of Canada.

Finally, I fear that the Bloc Québécois is becoming a subsidiary of the Parti Québécois. That worries me even more because two respected commissioners of the Bélanger-Campeau Commission, Mr. Béland and Jacques Proulx, said recently that the Parti Québécois places its partisan interests above the interests of the Quebec community.

I was not elected a member of a great Parliament to become a puppet of a provincial party.

Mr. Speaker, I inform you today that I have spoken with the chairman of the caucus and we agreed that I can return to the political party for which I was elected.

In conclusion, the only question I want to leave with all Quebec families is the question families really ask: Will I just act instinctively or will I really think before destroying it?

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

OFFICE OF THE MEMBER FOR RICHELIEU

Mr. Louis Plamondon (Richelieu): Mr. Speaker, when I rose yesterday on a question of privilege—it had to do with my rights and privileges as a member of Parliament—you answered rather briefly that it was a matter of administration. It is indeed, Mr. Speaker.

Nonetheless, I would like to take a minute or two to clarify this administrative matter. You will recall that members complained a number of times about things like the bus schedule. That was a matter of administration, but you settled it by talking to the management in an effort to help preserve the rights and privileges of the members.

Let me remind you, Mr. Speaker, with regard to my office being moved in my absence and without my staff being present or notified, that I had written you on March 5 to advise you that there were people lurking around my office. Your secretary told me I would be receiving a letter from you stating your position since I was asking you to intervene to make sure that the

assignment of offices to members of Parliament would be processed in an unbiased fashion.

You told me it was a matter of administration. Let me remind you that Mr. Riedel wrote me on April 7 informing me that the authorization to move on Sunday morning, without my consent, came from the Chair.

My question of privilege—and I would like you to answer my question, Mr. Speaker, not necessarily today but perhaps at a private meeting where we could clarify the matter—was this: when you gave by phone the go ahead to Mr. Riedel to move my office, did you also authorize him to open it without permission and without a warrant, while the RCMP cannot even do that?

In my assigned office, I found my papers and confidential letters in envelopes such as these with a plastic tab on them. I brought two or three to show you. I found in boxes the entire contents of my own office which had been moved in my absence.

That is what I am concerned about, Mr. Speaker. I know it is a matter of administration, but I am asking the Speaker of the House to protect me against administrative decisions that affect my rights and privileges as a member of Parliament and give people access to my office without my permission, without a warrant, tamper with my computer system—they did—disconnect my telephone lines, take away my desk, open—I was even handed a new set of keys for my drawers after moving all that was under lock and key in my office. The locks were changed and I got the new keys only the following day. It is unacceptable to do that on a Sunday without notifying me. It is in that context that I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to look into this problem so that no other member ever has to go through the same ordeal. Never in the history of this country has a member of Parliament been insulted in this way. I trust your fairness, Mr. Speaker, in settling this matter when we meet so I can regain my full privileges as a member of Parliament even if I do not sit with a party with a whip— You, why don't you shut your face!

• (1510)

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Richelieu raised this matter yesterday and, as he correctly states, I felt it was not a question of privilege but a question of administration.