

opinions on that act—that in the House we should be able to talk about those appointments without being stopped and calling it an allegation as to how the Prime Minister made the appointments.

I would just like clarification. Am I wrong in how I have interpreted your opinion at the time?

SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: I want to respond to the hon. member or South West Nova.

Of course, perhaps she should check the record. I have not stopped questions on the legality or otherwise on the question of legal opinions with respect to the nomination to the other place of eight senators. There has been extensive discussion of that in Question Period.

If the hon. member has got some specific instance where, again as I said yesterday, she feels that I may have erred, then I will discuss it and, if it is important enough, I would give her the chance to raise it as a point of order.

But there has been extensive discussion about whether or not there are legal opinions and who wrote them and where are they. I have not ruled those questions out of order.

Mrs. Campbell (South West Nova): I would just like to clarify one point.

I thought that each time somebody made a reference as to how they were appointed by the Prime Minister in the other place, under that section there was a censure, but maybe I am wrong. I will go back and look at each time where the Chair intervened before bringing it up.

Mr. Speaker: I want to say to the hon. member for South West Nova, who has been here for a good many years and is a long-time colleague of mine, that I would ask her to look at the record carefully.

But certainly there has been extensive questioning and responses to the issue of whether or not as to the legality or otherwise of those appointments. As far as I can remember, I have not put any block in the way of those opinions being asked.

[*Translation*]

PRESENCE IN GALLERY

Mr. Alex Kindy (Calgary—Northeast): Mr. Speaker, my point of order is related to the presence in the Speaker's gallery yesterday of a guest of Canada's

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Ukrainian community, travelling on a Soviet diplomatic passport, and I am referring to Mr. Viatcheslav Tchornovil, a member of the Parliament of the Ukrainian Republic and President of the Executive Committee of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Lviv.

Mr. Tchornovil is a well-known dissident who spent 15 years of his life in Soviet prisons because he defended democratic principles.

[*English*]

SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: This is no doubt an important matter and a very distinguished person but I am having difficulty seeing how it is a point of order. I do not think it is a point of order. On the same point, the hon. member.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Alex Kindy (Calgary—Northeast): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: On the same point of order?

Mr. Kindy: On the same point of order. I had not finished, Mr. Speaker!

The fact that he was not introduced to the House, Mr. Speaker is a breach of parliamentary tradition. I hope that this omission.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: I am not accepting that. I have been trying to make it clear that in a Question Period of 45 minutes, with the competition for time that faces us all, but especially the Chair, I will do the best I can with introductions but they will come at three o'clock or afterward.

That is no disrespect to any distinguished visitor, but my first obligation is to all members of this place. If there was not a recognition, it was because the events of this place were more important. This is the House of Commons of Canada. My obligation is to all members and that comes before polite, courteous, and no doubt very happy occasions when we can introduce distinguished people in the Chamber.

But there are only 45 minutes. This is not a question any more. Members and the public have got to understand this. It is not just the government, Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, and the other loyal opposition party, the New Democratic Party. There are independents