

Privilege

and that if they fail to do that they would be subject to arrest.

I want to say very clearly that those regulations were news to me until they were brought to my attention by the media.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kamloops has indicated that the minister said that he was dishonest. I do not know whether those were exactly the words used but, in any event, the hon. member for Kamloops raises that and I suppose is asking that whatever it was the minister said, if that was the imputation, be withdrawn. That is the single point I am here to decide, not to reargue what has already been argued extensively.

If the hon. member has a record of the alleged statement I would want to hear that. Otherwise I might have to wait until the "blues" are available and ask hon. members to address me further on the matter.

That is the single point I need to know on this application.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your intervention and I will examine the "blues". Maybe there was some other term and perhaps "dishonest" was not the exact phrase. But the fact is that it reflects on my ability as a member of Parliament. That was the point on which I was rising in terms of what that would mean to my constituents if that were to go unchallenged.

I appreciate your point, Mr. Speaker. I will examine the "blues" and if that were the case I will certainly be asking my hon. friend and colleague, as House Leader, to withdraw this particular term.

Mr. Speaker: I appreciate the co-operation of the hon. member for Kamloops. I think that is the proper way to proceed. The hon. member for Annapolis Valley—Hants on a point of privilege.

DEMONSTRATION

Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley—Hants): Mr. Speaker, I tried to catch your eye during Question Period. I appreciate the difficulties involved in that. Also, I was not on any list, so that makes the difficulties even more difficult.

The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that if I had caught your eye I was going to ask a question of the House Leader about the present situation on this demonstration regulation that came out of the blue, as far as most members are concerned. If I go outside now and identify myself with some of those lined up ready-to-be political martyrs, am I also infringing on the rules and regulations of this House so that my effort as a member is impeded?

The question that I was going to ask the House Leader, Mr. Speaker, if I had caught your eye was to make sure, in view of the confusion and/or the misunderstanding about this regulation, that the House Leader took it upon himself as the House Leader can do to make sure that he instructs his officials not to implement that regulation any further until this matter is clarified.

That was the question I had wanted to ask, which I could not ask. Therefore I ask you, as the Speaker of this House, if I go outside am I infringing on the rules of this House and/or do I find myself in violation of something that I do not know anything about, and frankly did not make any contribution to?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): I will respond briefly, Mr. Speaker. Part of the question the hon. member was going to ask was whether I would ask my officials to stop something. My officials are not enforcing any regulation whatsoever. No officials of any minister are enforcing anything. The RCMP are enforcing regulations which were brought in at the request of the all-party Board of Internal Economy.

We have heard the discussion and the suggestion of the House Leader of the Liberal Party to have the Board of Internal Economy consider this matter again, which I agreed yesterday was the most appropriate, reasonable way. In the meantime, you may get on national television if you go out there and behave like those other members of Parliament.

Mr. Speaker: I am going to call on the hon. member for Saint—Denis in a moment, who usually makes a helpful contribution to this place.

It might be helpful, given the feeling that has been shown on this particular issue, especially given the suggestion that seems to come from the Official Opposi-