

*Privilege—Mr. Anguish*

**Mr. Anguish:** The question of privilege, if I only have the opportunity to raise one, is the fact that we should not have set-up questions in this House, even though the Conservatives obviously agree with that by what the members here are saying. I disagree with that. It impedes my ability to act as a member of Parliament in the interests of my constituents on statements that should be made as ministerial statements.

Set-up questions by the Liberal government impede my ability to act as a member of Parliament and respond to a very important concern whereby people are being affected by a tax remittance. This remission is only effective to the end of 1980. What happens then to these taxable benefits? The oil companies which many of these people work for had profits in excess of 108 per cent in the first quarter compared to what they had last year.

**Madam Speaker:** Order. I know the rule of relevancy is not often invoked in this chamber, but I am afraid I must invoke it at this point. Has the hon. member completed his question of privilege? If so, I am ready to rule on it.

The hon. member is discussing a grievance he has regarding what happened earlier in the question period. I would say to the hon. member that the member for Thunder Bay-Nipigon (Mr. Masters) is not the only member who reads his questions. That is acceptable in this House. I found the question acceptable. It is not unparliamentary. On the contrary, it is a custom which is prevalent in many parliaments, including this Parliament, whereby members give prior notice of a question to a minister. I do not know whether prior notice had been given in this case. However, that is not unparliamentary; it is quite acceptable.

The hon. member himself may do that if he wishes in order to receive a more complete answer to one of his questions. He could give notice to a minister of a question that he wants to ask. I do not see how the privileges of the hon. member have been breached by this. It is perfectly acceptable procedure during question period.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I do not think it is a matter of the notice from the hon. member to the minister of the question that is going to be asked. It is the growing suspicion in this House that there is notice by a minister to a member to ask a question.

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. I have just ruled on this question of privilege, and, therefore, cannot allow the hon. member to comment on it.

**Mr. Cossitt:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order arising from what was said at one point yesterday by the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Collenette) when, as he does each day, he announces the order paper questions to be answered. On Wednesdays he announces—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. Since the hon. member is referring to something that took place yesterday, I would require notice in order to entertain his question of privilege.

**Mr. Cossitt:** The reason I could not give you notice, Madam Speaker, is that the gentleman he mentioned—

**Madam Speaker:** The hon. member might—

**Mr. Cossitt:** I think I should have the privilege of explaining while I am on my feet and then you could rule.

**Madam Speaker:** The hon. member might have a lot of good reasons for not giving notice, but I must apply the rules. I require notice if the hon. member wants me to entertain a question of privilege on something that happened yesterday.

**Mr. Cossitt:** May I ask you to clarify, Madam Speaker. I may have mentioned something, but if something occurs right now across the floor of the House, why can I not raise it as a point of order? The situation did not exist yesterday. It began yesterday but the entire situation exists right now. The two members are here. I feel I have a perfect right to proceed on a point of order.

**Madam Speaker:** If the hon. member is speaking of something which flows from the deliberations of today, I can entertain his point of order.

**Mr. Siddon:** Madam Speaker, I just want to make a brief comment on the previous point of order relating to the—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. I made a ruling on the previous points of order raised in this chamber and I cannot entertain further comments on them. I do not know what is wrong with members this afternoon.

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

**Madam Speaker:** I have not yet had a chance to go outside to see what the weather is like, but it must be the weather! I would ask hon. members to restrain themselves and raise only legitimate points of order, if they have any.

**Mr. Siddon:** Madam Speaker, it is a point of order relating to a reply that the deputy House leader gave with respect to the answers given by the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Lamontagne) during question period. It is not a matter on which Your Honour made a ruling.

**Madam Speaker:** Order. I believe the hon. member is referring to something on which I have ruled. That was his introductory statement. I have to take it that he wishes to comment on a ruling I have just made. Therefore, I cannot give him the floor.