

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, June 30, 1971

The House met at 10 a.m.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

TABLING OF EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS OF INTERNAL ECONOMY, JUNE 29, 1971

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to lay upon the table an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Commissioners of Internal Economy of the House of Commons held on Tuesday, June 29, 1971.

PRESENCE IN SPEAKER'S GALLERY OF SPEAKER OF GERMAN BUNDESTAG

**Mr. Speaker:** May I bring to the attention of hon. members the presence in the Speaker's gallery of the Speaker of the German Bundestag, Mr. Kai-Uwe von Hassel.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** After spending a few days in western Canada, Mr. Speaker von Hassel is visiting Ottawa at the invitation of the Canadian parliament. He has asked me to transmit to this House in his own name and on behalf of his parliamentary colleagues a message of friendship and good will.

[Translation]

On behalf of the House of Commons, I wish to extend to our most distinguished visitor the heartiest welcome to Canada and to our Canadian Parliament.

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## PRIVILEGE

MR. GODIN—DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE—SALARY INEQUALITY BETWEEN QUEBEC AND TORONTO EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of National Health and—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. Would the hon. member be seated?

The hon. member indicated to the Chair that he wanted to raise the question of privilege and he was recognized for this purpose. If he has no question of privilege to raise, he will obviously have the opportunity to address his question later.

**Mr. Roland Godin (Portneuf):** Mr. Speaker, as I pointed out, I rise on a question of privilege concerning the Minister of National Health and Welfare and I hope he will be able to give a more intelligent reply than his Parliamentary Secretary could, having given a meaningless reply to a question I already put to him in the absence of the hon. minister in connection with grievances expressed by employees of the family allowance branch to the effect that for doing the same work civil servants located in the Toronto office receive \$1,900 more per year than those of Quebec City because of the minister's method of classification.

The reply to a question I had on the order paper informed me that three classification officers made an inquiry on 65 grievances submitted by the Quebec City employees but that reports on these inquiries are confidential and unavailable both to members and to the public.

So, my question is the following: Does the Department of National Health and Welfare apprehend a scandal if hon. members had access to the investigation reports on grievances—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The hon. member may have a question to put, but I will suggest to him that there is no substance to his question of privilege. In fact, I cannot see how his parliamentary privileges have been affected, in the circumstances which he has just brought to the attention of the House.

● (10:10 a.m.)

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Fifth report of Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development—Mr. Watson.

### PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Sixth report of Standing Committee on Public Accounts—Mr. Hales.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]