Privilege

PRIVILEGE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr. Len Hopkins (Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke): Mr. Speaker, I was attempting to gain the floor in order to extend my thanks and those of the other members named on the occasion of their 25 years in this House. I want to thank those who spoke on our behalf.

It is very true that the motion just put by the Deputy Prime Minister and adopted by this House shows that there is a great deal of the human factor left in this institution. I want to say how proud I am to serve with the members who are in the House. We have some great talent here. I think they will have a very successful future in Canadian politics.

Mr. Speaker, I would be very remiss if I did not thank my constituents up the Ottawa Valley in Renfrew, Nipissing, Pembroke and the other boundary divisions prior to that for their loyalty over the years and for giving me the opportunity to sit in this House and represent them. I consider that a great privilege and a great honour. It is indeed an honour for all of us here in this House to try to represent Canadians and to represent Canada on the international scene.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, there are people in this business who are sometimes left out and seldom get recognition. I am talking about my wife and family. I want to extend a very sincere thank you to Lois, to Sherri and to Doug for their tremendous loyalty and patience over the years, to all my personal friends, to those people in our individual parties at home who support us and stick with us and do some of the dredging in the trenches for us from time to time. We all owe them a great debt.

In thanking all those people, I want to once again say to all members of the House that there is nothing that we cannot overcome by way of challenges facing Canada today, be it national unity or whatever, if we all have the sincere will and the desire to overcome it together. Let us work together. We have a great nation. Yes, we have challenges, but we must have the will and the desire to do it. We must continue to build this great nation of Canada into what the Fathers of Confederation and others who sat in this place before us wished us to do, so that we will be leaving a great past for others to build on in the future.

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I believe the hon. member rose on a question of privilege. If ever there were a prima facie case made, I am sure that was the one.

While I am on my feet, I have three different motions that I need to bring before the House. On the first one there have been consultations and there is unanimous consent for this motion:

That, the report sur les circonstances ayant entrainé la réquisition des forces armées canadiennes pour venir en aide au pouvoir civil, which I am now tabling, be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and the Solicitor General.

Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands): Mr. Speaker, in the spirit of co-operation that is prevailing at the moment, we are delighted to consent to this motion.

However, I would like to have the parliamentary secretary clarify for the House the fact—and perhaps he can speak to this briefly—that there are two Notices of Motions for Production of Papers on the Order Paper, one in the name of the hon. member for Ottawa—Vanier which asks for copies of all papers and correspondence exchanged between the governments of Canada and Quebec concerning the deployment of Canadian forces in Kahnawake and Kanesatake. I believe that is what this report is about.

There is another one in my name requesting copies of records and the tabling of the total cost of deployment of Canadian forces at Oka, Quebec, which are required under the National Defence Act to be filed with the government in any event.

I also note that my other Notice of Motion calls for a copy of the report by the Quebec attorney general to the Secretary of State of Canada setting out the circumstances behind the calling of the Canadian forces to Oka, which I assume this report is.

It appears that the parliamentary secretary has inadvertently answered by this tabling one of my Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers, which again leads me to wonder why we did not agree to it on Wednesday.

In any event I wonder where the document is. Has it been tabled in this House? If so, when? It appears to be referring a document that has been tabled and I have not seen it tabled. I wonder if the parliamentary secretary could enlighten us on that point.