

Mr. Rodriguez: You have not heard him.

Mr. Speaker: What is the Hon. Member's point of order, briefly?

DENIAL BY MR. SPEAKER OF TWO QUESTIONS

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Very briefly, Mr. Speaker, you mentioned that Question Period is a session for ministerial accountability. I wish to know why my two questions were refused of a prime ministerial accountability—

Mr. Speaker: That is not a point of order. If the Hon. Member wants to come and talk to me about it, please come and do so. It is not a point of order.

Mr. Marchi: Why do I have to talk to you in your office if I can't talk to you now?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Because it is not a point of order.

Mr. Marchi: You won't even—

Mr. Towers: Sit down!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The rules stipulate that the Speaker is entirely in charge of what can be put and what—order, please. Will the Hon. President of the Privy Council (Mr. Hnatyshyn) and the Hon. Member for York West (Mr. Marchi) please come to order?

Mr. Marchi: Mr. Speaker, for God's sake allow me to finish the point of order and then declare it out of order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the Hon. Member for York West please resume his seat?

Mr. Marchi: When can we ask the question of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) about the integrity of his Government?

Mr. Speaker: Will the Hon. Member please resume his seat? The Hon. Member knows full well that the questions which can be put in Question Period are entirely within the discretion of the Chair.

Mr. Marchi: You are not allowing answers, Mr. Speaker, in this Chamber today, absolutely.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member asked my opinion and I am prepared to give it to him. If he checks the rules he will find that the question of what is in order and what is not in order in Question Period is entirely at the discretion of the Chair.

Mr. Marchi: Would you allow me to finish, though?

Mr. Speaker: Order. Therefore, no question of order can be raised on whether a question is put or not. That is the point.

Mr. Marchi: But we have got to listen to you—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Petitions

Mr. Marchi: You can't even have the decency to allow a Member to finish his point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Some Hon. Members: Order!

Mr. Speaker: Presenting reports from Standing and Special Committees. Tabling of documents. Statements by Ministers. Petitions.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

PETITIONS

POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF CN MONCTON SHOPS

Mr. Fernand Robichaud (Westmorland-Kent): Mr. Speaker, today it is again my duty to table in the House a petition from people in the Moncton area and in my riding, who are still very concerned about the uncertain fate of the CN shops in Moncton.

No assurances have been received from the Minister that jobs will be protected, and they are asking this House to use its influence to obtain guarantees from the Government regarding the jobs at the CN shops.

[*English*]

EFFECT ON PENSIONERS OF CHANGES TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

Mr. Aurèle Gervais (Timmins-Chapleau): Mr. Speaker, it is my duty to present a petition on behalf of 101 pensioners, former employees of Abitibi Price in Iroquois Falls, and 253 of their fellow employees in the plant. The petition deals with changes to the Unemployment Insurance Act as it affects pensioners. They ask that all changes affecting the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits be grandfathered. They ask that, in cases where a pension renders pensioners ineligible for benefits, they be relieved from paying premiums. As well, they ask the Government to set aside a special fund to entice people to take early retirement to make way for younger people.

FUNDING FOR THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS

Mr. Paul Gagnon (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by constituents of Calgary North who request that funding for therapeutic abortions be stopped and procurement of a miscarriage be a criminal offence.

● (1530)

Mr. Speaker: Prior to proceeding to Questions on the Order Paper, I should inform the House for the record that the Chair