Statements by Ministers

• (1510)

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I just want to point out on the last point of order that the former Prime Minister—

Some Hon. Members: Order, order!

Mr. Pinard: —looked as bright today as he looked four years ago.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Petitions.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order.

Mr. Lawrence: A point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members cannot have it two ways; it either was a statement or it was not. The Chair has treated it as a statement and we are proceeding to the next item of business.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair does not intend to hear further discussion regarding a matter that is not being treated as a point of order. We are proceeding to petitions. The Hon. Member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen).

Mr. Nielsen: Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, the Chair would be disposed to hear a quotation from Beauchesne which has some significance—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: On what basis is the Hon. Member seeking to be recognized?

Mr. Nielsen: If you hear me you will find out.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it a point of order or a statement? Order, please. The Chair has called "Statements by Ministers". The Chair has heard a statement from the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and a comment of equal length in time by the Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead. As far as the Chair is concerned, that disposes of the matter. Is the Hon. Member rising on another point? This matter, as far as the Chair is concerned, was not order and has been treated as a statement by a Minister. A comment has been made by the Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead and the Chair wants to proceed to the next item of business.

The Chair will not recognize the Hon. Member for Yukon on a matter that has been decided. The matter has been decided by the Chair but if he raises another matter, that is a different thing. On this matter the Chair has made a decision.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I insist, as the House Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, that the Chair is required to extend to me the courtesy to be heard.

Mr. Collenette: Rubbish!

Mr. Nielsen: I know the Government-

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. Courtesy after a decision of the Chair is not courtesy. The Chair has made a decision. The Chair appeals to the Hon. Member for Yukon, an experienced member of the House of some years standing.

An Hon. Member: He is supposed to be.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair has made a decision in the matter and the Chair would like to proceed to petitions.

Mr. Nielsen: That experience tells me that I have a right to be heard.

Mr. Chrétien: Have you got a petition?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is most irregular for the Hon. Member to insist on being heard on a matter that has been decided by the Chair.

An Hon. Member: You heard Pinard.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Petitions.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, I rise to cite Beauchesne.

Mr. Olivier: Sit down.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member cannot rise to speak to a point of order that has been decided by the Chair.

An Hon. Member: He can.

An Hon. Member: He will.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The point of order has been decided by the Chair. If the Hon. Member has another point of order, yes; but the Hon. Member is aware that the Chair has decided that this was a statement by a Minister and has allowed a reply. That disposes of the matter as far as the Chair is concerned. Petitions.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker-

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member cannot comment on a decision of the Chair. He cannot reflect on a decision of the Chair. I repeat, the Hon. Member cannot reflect on a decision of the Chair. I am asking the Hon. Member on what basis he is seeking to be recognized.

Mr. Nielsen: Well-

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the Hon. Member being recognized on a point of order? Is that what he seeks? The Hon. Member has to decide the basis on which he seeks to be recognized. Petitions. The Hon. Member for Humboldt-Lake Centre (Mr. Althouse).

* * *

PETITIONS

MR. ALTHOUSE—SPLITTING OF PRODUCERS' CARS

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker-