

Points of Order

Is the hon. parliamentary secretary seeking the floor?

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I think it is very important that there not be left an impression that it is unusual for House leaders of any party to approach the Chair, to discuss what is going on in the House, and to make arguments about procedures. I think to leave that impression on the floor would leave an impression that is both false and misleading.

Mr. Speaker: A very brief reply.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that not only House leaders but hon. members approach the Chair. The question is: what was the purpose in the case that I mentioned of the government House leader and what was he saying? The purpose can be divined from the words, the tone, and the entire context.

I say that what we have here is a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege, because the Speaker of this House is the servant of all the members of this House and not of the government House leader or the government.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, if you find a *prima facie* case of privilege I am certainly prepared to move the necessary motion.

SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: I am going to deal with this as best I can.

First, whatever the hon. government House leader said, it had no influence whatsoever on me and that is also very clear from the tape.

Second, there are times in this place when not just the government House leader, but other members on both sides of the House are given to express themselves in—

Mr. Bosley: Strong language.

Mr. Speaker: I accept the help of a former Speaker of this House when he says strong language. That happens.

All I can say in this matter, and it is clear if one wants to look at the tape, that whatever the hon. House Leader said did not make any difference in the way I conducted the exchange between the hon. member for LaSalle—

Émard and the minister. I think that the hon. member would agree with that.

I am sorry. These things happen, but I can tell you I was not influenced in any way that would diminish the dignity of this place or which would have touched on my handling of that particular exchange. After that, I do not think there is anything more than I can say.

The hon. member for Athabasca.

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MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

Mr. Jack Shields (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, you have very appropriately commended Mr. Stan Darling on his 50th wedding anniversary.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Darling, but also, with unanimous consent of the House, I think that we should recommend her for sainthood.

Mr. Speaker: It may be procedurally out of order, but we probably would get consent. I think we can say to Mona that we think he is a wonderful guy, but we think that most of the reason for that is because of her.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear!

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POINTS OF ORDER

REMARKS BY MEMBERS

Mrs. Coline Campbell (South West Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have sat in the House during Question Period and I would like a point of clarification from the Chair.

Each time members on our side, or perhaps even in the NDP, have talked about the interpretation of the recently made appointment of the eight senators in the other place, you have stood up and said that they were putting an allegation forth as to how they were appointed.

• (1210)

It seems to me that when there are cases before the court in Canada, when many legal opinions—and you and I are both lawyers and we perhaps have different