

*House of Commons*

that consent was forthcoming from this party. I wonder if the New Democratic Party could give an indication whether that consent is forthcoming from them.

**Mr. Deans:** Madam Speaker, I did not realize that I was entitled to take questions. Of course, unanimous consent is given.

**Madam Speaker:** Does the House give its unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

[Translation]

**Mr. Pinard:** In view of the fact that the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen), with the unanimous consent of the House, will be making his statement at four o'clock, it obviously follows that there will be no private members' hour today.

[English]

**Madam Speaker:** Is it agreed that the Minister of Finance should table the document later this day and that there be no private members' hour?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Madam Speaker, it is, of course, clearly understood that it will be considered a statement on motions and that there will be the appropriate responses from both opposition parties?

**Mr. Deans:** Madam Speaker, I just want to be sure that when the statement is made it is understood that it is a statement on motions and that there will be an opportunity for questions.

[Translation]

**Mr. Pinard:** Madam Speaker, I am now able to inform the House that the Minister of Finance will not take up the entire hour he has been given, thus enabling members to ask a few questions if they should wish to do so. Therefore members of the opposition will have an opportunity to ask questions before the House adjourns at five o'clock.

\* \* \*

[English]

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

### STAFFING OF ENGLISH DEBATES REPORTERS

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege concerning a matter which could potentially affect the ability of all Members of Parliament in this House to carry out their responsibilities. It relates to a matter of administration, some might say. It is a question of a decision which was announced to the English language *Hansard* reporters in this House yesterday informing them, I am told without any prior consultation with that group, that a

vacancy in that particular area of administration will not be filled. I am drawing this matter to the attention of—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. That is a matter of administration. I will be glad to discuss it with the hon. member, who wanted to see me just before question period but I had a series of meetings that led me up to the hour of the question period. It is a matter of administration. I can assure the hon. member that consultations have taken place and we are hopeful that the decisions taken will not affect the services of *Hansard* in this House. But I will be glad to discuss the matter with the hon. member.

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## POINT OF ORDER

MR. MALONE—SUGGESTED CORRECTION TO QUESTION ASKED BY MR. NYSTROM

**Mr. Arnold Malone (Crowfoot):** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I wonder if the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) might want to take the opportunity to make a correction to the record. I believe he inadvertently misled the House today when he put a question to the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen) about tax as it relates to small farms. In making a distinction between small farms and cattle ranches, he implied that it was not needed when he knows full well that—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. I am afraid that is not a point of order. It is a matter of debate or interpretation. If the hon. member wants to correct any statement in the House, he may do that himself. Hon. members may not ask other hon. members to correct their statements.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE

#### PRESENTATION OF SEVENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

**Mr. Maurice Harquail (Restigouche):** Madam Speaker, as chairman of the subcommittee on Armed Forces Reserves, and in the name of the chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, I have the honour and great privilege to present what I understand is the first report on the subject of the reserves as contained in the seventh report of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, in both official languages.

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