

Mr. Cossitt: With respect to this matter of bells, I think there is another—

Some hon. Members: Order, order!

Madam Speaker: Order!

Mr. Cossitt: There is another factor which has not—

Madam Speaker: Order, please!

Mr. Cossitt: Well, Madam Speaker—

Madam Speaker: Order, please!

Mr. Cossitt: On a further—

Madam Speaker: Order! I said that the point of order has been disposed of. I think it is quite clear to any hon. member who can understand my English that it has been disposed of. The hon. member said he was rising on a new point of order. It was not a new point of order. He spoke again about the bells. I will not hear him.

Mr. Cossitt: Madam Speaker, it is a further point of order. How do you know, if you have not heard it, Madam Speaker?

An hon. Member: She did not recognize you.

Mr. Cossitt: I have a further point of order. How can Your Honour say you cannot hear me unless you—

Madam Speaker: Order. I have recognized the hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor). The hon. member said he had a new point of order. It was not new. He was talking about the bells. I will now recognize the hon. member for Bow River.

Mr. Cossitt: Madam Speaker, I was not permitted to elaborate on what my point of order was.

An hon. Member: That is because she can only take one at a time. Wait your turn.

Mr. Cossitt: I will wait my turn. That is right.

MR. TAYLOR—INACCURACY IN "HANSARD" IN RECORDED TIME OF SITTING

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Madam Speaker, I want to refer to the point of order in regard to the record in *Hansard*. In *Hansard* it is reported that we start at eight o'clock every evening. That is not accurate. Future generations, when they read that, will say, "They are certainly accurate in the House of Commons." However, as a matter of fact, I have been keeping tab on time for several weeks. Last week, on Monday, March 23, we started at six minutes after eight o'clock. On March 24, we started at seven minutes after eight o'clock.

An hon. Member: It is because the Tories were not here!

Mr. Taylor: On March 26, we started at 8 p.m. sharp. The first time and the only time—

Point of Order—Mr. Taylor

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Taylor: Hold your clapping for just a moment. That was the first time and the only time since this session started that we did start at eight o'clock. There have been occasions when I waited for 12 minutes or 13 minutes for the government to get a quorum, yet the next day in *Hansard* it was recorded that we started at eight o'clock. This is not accurate. The only place where I find time is kept accurately is at the Table, and the Clerk at the Table has these times.

So when we start six minutes, seven minutes or ten minutes after 8 p.m., we encourage hon. members to be late, because one old-time hon. member said to me when I raised this point, that this has grown through practice because some hon. members are farther away and they must have a reasonable amount of time to arrive here, equal to other hon. members of the House of Commons.

I do not know what the history is; but I know that *Hansard* is not accurate. I have been keeping time since the beginning of this session, and I know that the only occasion on which we started at eight o'clock was the other night; and that was a fast one that the Liberals tried to pull, and it backfired on them.

• (2030)

Madam Speaker: *Hansard* does not say that debate resumed at eight o'clock—"the House resumed at 8 p.m." It does not say debate started at eight o'clock. That is point number one.

The other point is that the bells start ringing but Standing Orders say nothing about ringing the bells. We could resume the House at eight without ringing the bells. If that is what hon. members want, they can let me know and we will stop ringing the bells. I am in the hands of the House. This is the custom. The bell rings at eight o'clock.

We start when there is a quorum but the Standing Orders say nothing of a quorum either. The practice has been that we wait until there is a quorum for the very good reason that any member could get up in his place and call for a quorum, so we may as well wait for it. And we usually get it at 8.03, 8.04 or 8.05 p.m.

At any rate, the hon. member says that the the only time that the House began its sitting at eight o'clock was that other night. I have to tell him that every time I have been sitting in the chair at eight o'clock, I have been here at eight o'clock sharp.

Mr. Taylor: A point of order, Madam Speaker.

An hon. Member: What point of order?

Mr. Taylor: I did not mention bells at all. I could not care whether they ring or not; that is the least of my worries, but when *Hansard* next day said we started at eight o'clock when it was six minutes after eight, ten minutes after eight, we are not putting—