

Privilege—Mr. S. J. Robinson

second report was being prepared, and I am not certain that I said so, but I indicated, as the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce (Mr. Allmand) quoted, that more information would be coming to my attention.

In any event the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce has quoted me as saying that if more information comes out or more allegations are substantiated to my satisfaction and in a way which justifies taking further action, that action would be taken. That information has come. It has now been made public. I have had the opportunity in the last hour or so to read the details of that report. I feel that the findings of this inquiry are definitive. I would like to take another look at all of the facts. I would like to discuss this with members of the Correctional Service of Canada. In fact the only reason I did not read the report last weekend was that I knew I would be seeing, at my regular meeting, officials of the correctional service of Canada later this week, and I did not see the urgency of reading the report at the precise time it was handed to me.

Mr. Beatty: This is a sad admission.

Mr. Kaplan: I felt I would be doing my job if I devoted myself to preparing for matters which would be arising today, tomorrow and Wednesday, and doing the things necessary to prepare for Thursday afternoon somewhat later during the week. I think the hon. member who just made an observation would know, as a former minister, that that is a very sensible way to organize the use of one's time.

Mr. Collenette: He wasn't a minister long enough.

Mr. Kaplan: I would like to indicate to the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce that I do not automatically believe everything I am told by officials. I do try to establish alternative lines of communication so that when incidents occur I do not have just an official version but that I also have other versions. This was illustrated by the way I handled the Dorchester incident. I called the correctional investigator and asked him to do his own investigation. He is an official whose position was established by Parliament. He is not accountable to the correctional service of Canada. It was intended that he conduct investigations, I called upon him to undertake one, and I had two meetings with him at which we discussed what he had found when he went there and interviewed witnesses.

Mr. Lawrence: But only you see the report.

Mr. Kaplan: I have tried to establish a direct relationship with the inspector general, who conducts these investigations. I do not feel he should report to the commissioner and that the commissioner should report to me. I have been a member of this House for many years, and I have seen the problems which can arise in one way or another. I am well aware of them, and I take this into account and try to have alternative means of obtaining information. I travel to institutions and speak to people on-site. I have spoken to warden Corbett. I spoke to him following the incident on at least two occasions.

From what I can see, I think he is a good warden. I think he is a sensitive individual who is very conscious of all the human problems as well as the security problems involved with running a prison. I look forward to continuing to work with him as the warden of Dorchester.

As I understand it, this matter of privilege is before us so that whether there is validity can be determined. I stand by the substance of what I said in the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. Nothing in this report challenges that. No revenge torture took place. It does appear that there was rough treatment following the release of the hostages but, as the report says, that rough treatment was not considered in general, except in the case of Enman's treatment, to be excessive.

At an early opportunity, perhaps in the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, I will indicate the ways in which the recommendations made by the coroner's inquest, in this report and in the first report, are being implemented.

[Translation]

Madam Speaker: That second question of privilege is obviously related to the first one. I shall also take it as notice and I shall render my decision on both of them on the same day.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

REGULATIONS AND OTHER STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

SIXTH REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the Sixth Report of the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments. This is our report on Bill C-42, the Canada Post Crown corporation bill.

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

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 1,013, 1,496 and 1,695.

I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.