

Point of Order—Mr. Murphy

Mr. Murphy: At least that Minister is not fenced in.

WITHDRAWAL OF COMMENT

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to withdraw a word I used in Statements earlier today with respect to the Minister for Grains and Oilseeds (Mr. Mayer). I said he was acting in a manner which was treason to Manitoba. I certainly withdraw that word.

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PRIVILEGE

THE GLOBE AND MAIL—MORNING EDITIONS

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege which affects all Members of Parliament as well as some 17,000 subscribers to *The Globe and Mail* in the National Capital Region. For the past several years *The Globe and Mail* has printed its second national edition here in Ottawa and has distributed that edition to the House of Commons as well as to other people in Ottawa. Political and other events taking place up until 10 p.m. eastern time and 7 p.m. Pacific Time were covered in that edition.

This spring *The Globe and Mail* changed that practice and began to supply to this House copies of its first national edition which is trucked from Toronto and which has a deadline of only 3 p.m. Pacific Time and 6 p.m. eastern time. That means that when this Parliament sits in the evening, as we did on tax reform and other issues last week, or when a federal leader meets the press in the afternoon in Vancouver, no news of those events appears in copies of Canada's national newspaper that is available to parliamentarians.

I have checked and this applies very specifically in the Parliamentary Reading Room, in the Centre Block, as well as the copies of *The Globe and Mail* which are reviewed for inclusion in the press digest, which we know as *Quorum* and which is read by all Members of Parliament. To add insult to injury, that late national edition with the 10 p.m. deadline is still printed in Ottawa but only for distribution in Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, and in the United States. That means that on Pennsylvania Avenue or Wall Street, New York financiers, Mr. Reagan and Members of Congress, receive a better service from Canada's national newspaper in terms of the news it covers than Members of Parliament or other people here in the Ottawa area.

I would hesitate to suggest this is a precursor of free trade, but I would ask you, Mr. Speaker, to lend your weight to ensure that *The Globe and Mail* stops giving second-class service to the people of Ottawa, particularly to Canada's national Parliament, or it should stop calling itself "Canada's national newspaper".

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member has raised this as a question of privilege. I have some difficulty in being able to

bring the complaint within that particular forum. However, I am sure *The Globe and Mail* will be properly impressed with the need of all Hon. Members to be promptly informed of national events. I have no doubt that the Hon. Member's intervention will be noticed by the paper in question and might even get in the first edition.

Continuing debate.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE
AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Crosbie (St. John's West) that Bill C-130, an Act to implement the free trade agreement between Canada and the United States of America, be read the third time and passed.

Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Winnipeg—Fort Garry): Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your recognition and would say it is an honour for me to open debate on third reading on behalf of my Party. I think Canadians expect from Members of Parliament on this serious and, for many of us, solemn occasion, a level of debate and expression that is commensurate to the subject at hand. For that reason, I am very thankful we had a two-hour break between now and the time the Minister for International Trade (Mr. Crosbie) spoke so we could clear away the somewhat putrid atmosphere of the House. After listening to the Minister, one of my colleagues noted that following the Minister for International Trade is like trying to track a skunk downwind. All one gets is the odour, not the tracks. I prefer to think of it more as coming into a small kitchen after a grease fire. All that is left is voluminous clouds of black smoke with no real content.

● (1520)

If I may continue the metaphor, the good thing about a grease fire is it just takes one shot of good clean cool water to clear away all the obscurity and all the fog that is created. All that it would take in this debate would be one clean cool shot of logic and common sense to dissipate the smoke and fog left after that quite miserable treatment, which was more reminiscent of a bar room brawl than it was of a serious and important exchange of different points of view.

I have been acting as trade critic for about three years. It has been a strange odyssey, but one that has taken me into the byways and highways of the country to talk to thousands of people, both by way of speech and by way of listening, as well as attending task forces. I have gone through three trade Ministers in my tenure. Watching their antics at times has been similar to watching an old movie of the Marx brothers. I can reminisce about the famous statement made by the Prime