

Point of Order—Mr. Paproski

referral of the issue raised by the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton to the appropriate committee, and I shall give them time to negotiate this matter. Outside this proposal from the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton, the question of privilege remains entirely open. I am well aware that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre would not raise a question of privilege without very serious motives. His knowledge of parliamentary procedure is very extensive, and the House has often benefited from his interventions in this regard.

Because I am aware that his arguments are certainly very serious, I would like time to reflect on the issue and to examine further the arguments he has raised. I would like to take time to examine the blues, and I shall give my decision on this question of privilege some time later today.

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● (1250)

[English]

POINTS OF ORDER

MR. PAPROSKI—HUMAN RIGHTS—INQUIRY WHETHER ACTION TAKEN ON S.O. 43 MOTIONS

Hon. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton North): Madam Speaker. My point of order concerns two motions under Standing Order 43, one of which was passed on November 3, 1978. It was moved by the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville, now Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacGuigan), and was seconded by the hon. member for Saskatoon Biggar, now Saskatoon West, (Mr. Hnatyshyn), and concerned the release of Danylo Shumuk. That motion received the unanimous consent of this House in view of the fact that after 34 years Danylo Shumuk is still in prison in the Soviet Union for his defence of human rights.

The same motion under Standing Order 43 was presented on July 14 by the hon. member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert), seconded by the hon. member for Parkdale-High Park (Mr. Flis).

I believe this matter will come under the purview of the Chair. After all you, Madam Speaker, as the first commoner, may write to the Soviet embassy and ask them what they are doing about this particular case. You represent all of us in this chamber. This is a very serious matter. The man is dying in prison. We have not heard anything since November 3, 1978, when I believe Speaker Jerome wrote a letter. I do not know whether you, Madam Speaker, have had the opportunity to write a letter or to contact the ambassador from the Soviet Union.

On behalf of this gentleman and all of us in this chamber who have had a great deal of correspondence regarding this case, I think something should be sought from the Soviet ambassador. I sincerely hope that when you do receive such correspondence you would pass it on to all members of this chamber who are concerned in this matter. I think the Soviet

Union is taking its time on this. By the time we get an answer from them the man is likely to have died in prison.

I say sincerely, Madam Speaker, that I think this is a case within the purview of the Chair. I hope that we may receive an answer in the very near future.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member is right in saying that I often act for hon. members of this House.

I would have to look at the wording of the Standing Order 43, but depending on that wording the Chair or someone else would act, depending on what the resolution said. I do not know as I do not have it with me, but I shall look at it to see whether it would come under my purview or that of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacGuigan).

At any rate, I would not want to be found in neglect in my responsibilities. The hon. member has raised a very serious point of order and I shall look into it. If there is something that I was supposed to do and have not done, I will look into it immediately. I am not sure that it is really under my purview but I will look at it.

Mr. Paproski: There was unanimous consent—

Madam Speaker: I have not given the hon. member the floor. The right hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Clark: Madam Speaker, I do not want to cut off my colleague from Edmonton North (Mr. Paproski), but I think we accept your undertaking to look into the matter. I know that Your Honour shares the feeling of all members of this House that this is a matter of very real importance, that Your Honour or the Department of External Affairs will act with dispatch and that there will be a reply to the House.

MR. CLARK—IMMIGRATION—REQUEST FOR LIST OF MINISTERIAL PERMITS ISSUED

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order which relates to an exchange, reported at page 2799 and 2800 of *Hansard* for July 11, between myself and the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy). I think this is the first time we have both been back in the House since that exchange. I gave the minister written notice only a few minutes ago that I would be raising the matter again.

Madam Speaker, my point of order relates to an exchange regarding the Calamusa case. On July 11 when I asked him for the identity of persons making representations in the case, the minister indicated that I should seek them out. He also said that if I could secure their agreement to have their names published, that would probably proceed.

I raised with the minister the very practical difficulty that I cannot seek these people out until I know who they are. I raised the question of whether, on a private basis, he would make available to me the names of those individuals upon whose advice, in part, he had acted in this very important and