

ties which perhaps exceed or perhaps do not exceed the attitude, the rights and the responsibilities of the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton. However, they affect me, they affect my public responsibility, and they are a continuing responsibility. I know of no way to determine the end of an oath or a special oath in that respect as yet, so far as my practice of law is concerned.

As well, I have taken another oath. I have taken an oath as a member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada. That was referred to earlier. I suggest to you that that is a lifetime oath. It will always be with me unless this House sees fit to strip me of it in a very peculiar and unique way. That duty and that responsibility which I took is upon me, and it certainly affects me. It may also affect the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton but, by golly, it affects me. I have a very sincere and high regard, not only for that right, but also for the responsibilities imposed upon me.

I would like to make another point which I know the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton cannot claim, but I do. In the province of Ontario there is a very special regulatory and licensing body for those who are qualified to practise law in the province of Ontario. It is called by the quaint old name which you will recognize: the Law Society of Upper Canada. That is the licensing and regulatory body of the people who are qualified to practise law in the province of Ontario.

There is another quaint term, Madam Speaker. The people who guide the fortunes and who guide the administrative policies of the Law Society of Upper Canada and, who are therefore, the people who set the regulations and licensing provisions for those who are qualified to practise law in this province have another quaint name. They are not called the directors, they are not called the board, they are called the benchers of the Law Society of Upper Canada. They also form a disciplinary body so far as people who practise law are concerned.

Madam Speaker, I am a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada, an *ex officio* one, but nevertheless, a bencher of that august body. I have an extra responsibility so far as the code of ethics is concerned, so far as the regulatory provisions are concerned, and so far as the disciplinary regulations of that body are concerned. I therefore have an extra responsibility to this House as well as to the people of this country and to my constituents in particular.

As well, Madam Speaker—and this was dwelt on very briefly by the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton—his membership and my membership in the Canadian Bar Association which also has a code of ethics—

Mr. McRae: What is being argued here, Madam Speaker, is that one Member of Parliament, because he is a member of the bar, has special privileges or special encumbrances which the rest of us do not have.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. McRae: I cannot accept that. I believe that that kind of argument is out of order.

Privilege—Mr. Lawrence

Madam Speaker: Order. I pointed that out to the House a minute ago in my ruling.

An hon. Member: Yeah, wake up!

Madam Speaker: I will hear the hon. member for Durham-Northumberland now. However, he is repeating the arguments brought forward by the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton. I would ask him to conclude because he has been taking quite a lot of time. I have asked hon. members to co-operate with the Chair and to try to expose their points of privilege inside of five minutes, if it is at all possible—

An hon. Member: He has exposed himself long enough.

Madam Speaker: —because of the great number of questions of privilege.

Mr. Lawrence: Madam Speaker, I hope you are not penalizing any of us as individual members of this House—and I mean this most sincerely—simply because of the stupid and arrogant attitude of the government which is attempting to ram something through this Parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lawrence: I am not the cause of my standing up today to speak to you about my privileges and my rights in this House!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: Order. Nor is the Chair. Let us discuss these questions of privilege calmly so that we can get through with the business before us. It includes questions of privilege and many other matters. So the Chair is not responsible for the situation in which Parliament finds itself at the present time. I am patiently listening to all of your arguments. I am only asking hon. members to co-operate. If hon. members do not want to co-operate and try to accept what I am suggesting as a normal schedule to deal with the business we have before us, that is up to them of course. I am just appealing to them.

● (1700)

Mr. Lawrence: Madam Speaker, with all deference I point out to you that if the rights and privileges of any single member of this House of Commons are abridged in any way; if you find that there is a *prima facie* case, then certainly in your mind and certainly in your predecessor's mind and I hope in the mind of any successor in the high office that you hold, this would certainly take priority and paramountcy as far as the normal business is concerned, or what might be termed the normal business of any government, no matter what its political complexion.

The question of a personal right to raise a question of privilege concerning the very high office that we all have in this House, is a very, very important one. I am not being frivolous. Believe me, I hold very sincerely and very deeply the responsibility I have, not only as a Member of Parliament but