

member for Winnipeg North Centre concerning the possibility of interrupting the debate on the constitution for important pieces of legislation.

I would ask the government House leader to consider Bill C-46, concerning the importation of meat, which is important legislation. I would point out also that the Standing Committee on Agriculture so far has not met this year. It is waiting patiently for legislation to be referred to it. I can assure the government House leader that if we can get on to second reading of Bill C-46 it would pass fairly quickly. The beef industry is important to all of Canada and it is going through a rather tumultuous time. It has seen a drop in live cattle prices. I hope the government House leader would consider Bill C-46 as the type of legislation in respect of which the debate on the constitution could be stopped in order to allow that bill go on to committee. As I said, the committee on agriculture has not met this year. That tells you something of the priorities which this government has put on agriculture so far.

**Mr. Pinard:** Madam Speaker, I will try to meet that request.

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### PRIVILEGE

#### MR. FULTON—ALLEGED MISLEADING MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Madam Speaker, my question of privilege arises from both false and misleading statements made to me by ministers of the Crown. I do not think there is any question now but that my privileges as a member of Parliament have been infringed upon and in that way the rights of every Member of Parliament in this House have been infringed upon.

My question of privilege arises first from a statement made to me yesterday by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Munro) that before any panel review hearing went ahead in relation to Amax at Alice Arm, British Columbia, I would have an opportunity today to meet with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. LeBlanc). That statement is confirmed in *Hansard* for January 22, 1981, at page 6452. In response to my question, the minister said:

If he finds that unsatisfactory as to a communicated vote to my colleague and myself, we will be prepared to consider some alterations for that type of panel—

I have also been misled on at least seven other occasions in this House of Commons, not only by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, but by the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen), by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and by the parliamentary secretary responding for the Deputy Prime Minister, as recently as February 10.

**Mr. Paproski:** Put your seat on the line and challenge him.

#### Privilege—Mr. Fulton

**Mr. Fulton:** I will briefly go through some of the blatant instances where I have been misled in this House, the most recent being January 22, again in response to me by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. At page 6452 of *Hansard* we find the following:

—might I say that a panel of experts has been set up to look into the matter, notice of which has been communicated to the Nishga Tribal Chief, Mr. Gosnell.

There are two totally false statements contained in the minister's answer, which directly affected my ability to carry on my duties as a Member of Parliament.

I raised the matter in a question of privilege which Your Honour has ruled on. During the response on the question of privilege, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development said at page 6507 of *Hansard* for January 23, 1981, the following:

I will endeavour to make a clarification on Monday.

The minister has made no attempt whatever. He has been present here in the House. I sent him notification that I would ask a question. The day before yesterday he asked that it be deferred. I met with the minister. He told me that I would meet with him and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans today. Instead, they announced a review process. They directly misled me as a Member of Parliament. I have been misled by the Prime Minister. There have been false statements and I challenge the minister to get up and to clarify the situation.

**Mr. Paproski:** If he is a liar, call him a liar.

**Mr. Fulton:** He is a liar, if you want me to put that on the record. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development—

**An hon. Member:** Withdraw!

**Madam Speaker:** I will have to ask the hon. member to withdraw that word because it is unparliamentary.

**Mr. Fulton:** In this situation, I will not withdraw that statement.

**An hon. Member:** Order!

**Madam Speaker:** I think the hon. member has been carried away by a suggestion made that he might use that expression. Because of the enthusiasm of the debate, he did use the expression. I am sure he did not mean to offend the minister but I am afraid I cannot accept that kind of language in the House. I would ask the hon. member to co-operate with the Chair and to withdraw the word he used.

**Mr. Paproski:** Let us hear the evidence.

**Mr. Fulton:** Madam Speaker, at this point I will withdraw it. However, I put on this caveat that at the end of my remarks I may want to reintroduce it.

**Some hon. Members:** Order!

**An hon. Member:** You better not.