

I am sorry that I perhaps was led to make these statements because these dinners are supposed to be rather confidential. It is not the first time that comment has been made on conversations taking place there. I repeat, I feel all the more confident in repeating my assertion that, as the Minister of Transport has indicated, Mr. Pawley is on record as wanting some form of change.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker, I heard the Prime Minister. If he is now prepared to say, in contrast to what he said some time ago when he made the flat assertion that Premier Pawley and the other western Premiers—and I understand that, too, is incorrect—but with reference only to Premier Pawley, if he is now saying that he might be mistaken, then I am prepared to withdraw my remark. Is the Prime Minister prepared to say he might be mistaken in his recollection?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, one can always be mistaken. In this particular case I do not think that was the case. I remember we had a discussion on various aspects of federal policy in areas where it ran into difficulties in the Provinces. I remember that basically the sentiment of that meeting—and not everyone spoke—was that, including the Premier who is of interest to the Hon. Member, was that the federal Government was correct in proceeding with some policy relating to western transportation and the Crow.

**Some Hon. Members:** And the Crow.

**Mr. Trudeau:** And the Crow. Mr. Speaker, the subject came up over the Crow and I asked one Premier present: Why don't you support the Crow more publicly? And the answer was, well, you know, it is not good politics.

**Mr. Broadbent:** What Premier?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Well, Mr. Speaker, one Premier who was there. So the Hon. Member can make what he wants of—

**An Hon. Member:** You are evading.

**Mr. Trudeau:** No, I am not evading, Mr. Speaker. There is obviously no written record of the meeting. If Premier Pawley were across the aisle and we were exchanging recollections, Mr. Speaker, I would be more inclined to take his statement of what he said than when it comes to the Hon. Member in a phone call, which was probably on a yes or no basis. I can only suggest that if the Hon. Member wants to carry on this debate and not lose an Opposition day, I would be happy to settle the matter with Premier Pawley. If, in his view and that of the other Premiers present, there is some misunderstanding on my part, I am prepared to say that. But I am not prepared to say it now without talking to Premier Pawley or without having the views of the other Premiers present.

### *Committee Reports*

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker, we have just witnessed a historical first. For the first time the Prime Minister of this country has publicly admitted that he might have misinformed someone. On those grounds I will categorically and completely withdraw my comment.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Presenting reports from Standing and Special—

**Mr. Trudeau:** I think—

**Mr. Nielsen:** Don't screw it up.

**Mr. Trudeau:** I think the Hon. Member would have been a little more gracious if he had withdrawn his remark without saying that I admitted that I had publicly misinformed—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Trudeau:** Mr. Speaker, I stand by what I said. There was no misinformation. The exchange occurred the way I put it to the House.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Presenting Reports from Standing and Special Committees. The Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme).

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE

#### PRESENTATION OF SIXTEENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

**Mr. Marcel Prud'homme (Saint-Denis):** Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to have to interrupt this lively exchange among Parliamentarians, but I have very good news for the House. The Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, which I have the honour of chairing, is tabling its Sixteenth Report which deals with an order of reference received from the House to consider and receive testimony by parliamentary delegations. Last Friday, the Committee on External Affairs and National Defence considered a report by the parliamentary delegation which attended a meeting of the International Parliamentary Union held in Rome last September. This is a first, and we intend to pursue consideration of reports from various delegations on their meetings abroad.

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