

*Reported Statement by Member for Lapointe*

**Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke):** I listened very carefully to the observations made on the question of privilege raised by the hon. member for Mercier (Mr. Boulanger). I submit this is not a question of privilege. The hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Grégoire) told a public gathering his impressions of his work here, in the House of Commons and in parliamentary committees.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Allard:** This goes to show how incompetent some hon. members are, Mr. Speaker; they do not know parliamentary procedure and do not remain quiet when an hon. member has the floor.

The hon. member for Lapointe voiced an opinion, in his capacity as member of a democracy. He has a right to his opinions, and I would even go so far as to say here that I agree with him when he says that the hon. member for Saint-Antoine-Westmount and the hon. member for St. Lawrence-St. George (Messrs. Drury and Turner) are exceptions in this respect. I believe they are competent, hard-working men.

As to the hon. member for Mount-Royal (Mr. Trudeau), I have often voiced my disapproval of the opinions he voices outside the house. I submit he does not speak for the province of Quebec, and is in no position to voice the aspirations of Quebec and French Canada in this house.

Mr. Speaker, I wish the hon. Liberal members from Quebec would keep quiet. There is no question of privilege but merely a question of opinion which the hon. member for Lapointe has expressed and which millions of Quebec citizens share.

**Mr. Auguste Choquette (Lotbinière):** Mr. Speaker, while admitting that the statements made by the member for Lapointe are false, I wish to thank him for having implicitly recognized the extreme competence of the members of the Quebec area.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Gérald Laniel (Beauharnois-Salaberry):** Mr. Speaker, although I feel the remarks of the hon. member for Lapointe are not directed against me, I should like to say a few words about the question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker, I can well understand the feelings of the members from the island of Montreal, and I agree with the hon. member for Mercier (Mr. Boulanger) when he says that those statements are gratuitous and erroneous.

[Mr. Loisele.]

Still, for the guidance of the hon. members, allow me to make the following suggestion: the best way to deal with people like the member for Lapointe is simply to ignore them, because the member for Lapointe does not serve the interests of the province of Quebec in this house but only his own personal interests. I, therefore, suggest that the members ignore him and continue their work toward the development of our country.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

[*English*]

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, may I say a small word on the question of privilege. My colleagues say I should speak "en français", but if I do nobody will understand me.

**An hon. Member:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Howard:** It seems passing strange that there should be all this fuss and furore about the comments of an individual who deliberately has placed himself in the most insignificant location in the house—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Howard:**—who by his own declaration, should not even be recognized as a member of it and who, by his own design, never intends to return.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe):** Mr. Speaker, I merely wish to ask that other statements be added to those which should be studied by the committee on privileges and elections, namely that of the member for Hochelaga (Mr. Pelletier) in which he called the Liberal members from Montreal "garbage dregs".

I would also ask that the statement made by the president of the royal commission on bilingualism and biculturalism, Mr. André Laurendeau, who called the 75 Liberal members of the last election "75 nouilles", be referred to the committee on privileges and elections. This could also be placed on record. There would be quite a few people to appear before the committee.

Mr. Speaker, before resuming my seat, I merely wish to add that I said that the members of parliament from Montreal, with the exception of a few, seemed to be incompetent. As seen today, those who felt they were aluded to rose—