

today, I raise a matter completely outside the present discussion but as a member I think I am entitled to do so under the provisions of the Standing Order relating to questions of privilege.

For instance, we could read this morning in *Le Devoir* and I quote:

Pots-de-vin: Caouette reste coi . . .

And in an English newspaper:

[English]

"Hill reporters take bribes"

[Translation]

And in another English newspaper . . .

[English]

"Name no names Caouette won't detail bribery accusations"

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, as I will have to be absent tomorrow, I trust you will allow me to explain to some extent what I said in this House, what I said outside its walls, and even what I did not say outside the House.

I notice, for instance, that there are fewer reporters in the gallery this evening than there were two days ago. Mr. Speaker, I would like one thing to be clear, following the question of privilege of the hon. member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle) yesterday to the effect that the hon. member for Témiscamingue had made accusations against all hon. members in this House: that was simply not the case. I wish to say that after two or three days, and after having seen the photograph of the hon. member for Joliette in the newspapers, I asked myself whether perhaps he himself had not helped to pay for the cost of his personal publicity in some of the newspapers of the province, whether it be French or English newspapers.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, I read this morning the statement of a fellow from the French network of the CBC, a Mr. Daigneault, I believe. I do not know him or if I do, I have no recollection of him. He said he was convinced I had lied. So, for Mr. Daigneault's guidance, I say to the House that the first one to be implicated in the whole thing is not the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Stanfield), nor the hon. member for Bonaventure-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (Mr. Béchard), but the hon. member for Témiscamingue.

I myself paid \$20 to a reporter to have a decent article published in a specific newspaper in the province of Quebec.

Some hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Yes, indeed. In addition to that, I paid \$50 in cash, and that for three months, to get more publicity over the French network of the CBC. I say that for the guidance of Mr. Daigneault and company.

● (2120)

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that is what you would you call bribery. When someone does you a service and you give him \$10, whoever he may be, I hardly think that it should create a scandal.

Health and the Environment

However, when I rose in the House two days ago, I knew what I was talking about. I was aware of the problem and today the CBC employee to whom I referred is in Montreal. I will not name him because he could lose his job. Still I do not think what he did was so wrong because he was following the rules of the CBC, despite what Mr. Daigneault may think, the idiot who made the statement yesterday. That individual is entitled to live and I will respect him to that extent, but I mentioned it to show how far things have gone.

Two days ago I said that reporters could be in collusion with political organizations and not merely accept gifts. Miss Larivière said: A former Social Credit member sent me a \$10 bill. Perhaps that was not enough. If he had sent her \$50 she would probably have accepted it and shut up. Any how I saw her last night on television, Miss Fay LaRivière. Mr. Speaker, nobody will make me believe that those guardian angels sitting in the gallery watching the members of this House ready to attack everybody, are beyond reproach. In addition to the small, petty amounts they may be given to buy a lollipop, there are a good many things more important. For example, when the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) make a trip to Australia, Africa or any other country, a selection is made among press members—

Mr. Béchard: She is there!

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): I do not know whether she is there. In any case, if she is, she will know what I think of her.

Mr. Speaker, those people are invited, after selection, to take a trip to India, Iran, or some other country. I could give here—

Mr. Béchard: One cannot help laughing.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): Yes, one cannot help laughing.

Names could be given of good French Canadians who at a given time are here in Ottawa and who find themselves in South Africa the night after. They are quite happy. Who is paying? With the taxpayers' money, not by *La Presse*, *Le Droit*, *Le Devoir*, or *Le Jour*. They are paid out of CBC funds voted by Parliament.

Mr. Speaker, I want to be quite clear on this; they may say what they want about me outside, I will not name names so they will not lose their jobs, but I went through those channels. I gave \$20 to a fellow, and I gave \$150 to another. I had better results than when I did not give anything.

Mr. Speaker, let it be made clear, I will not point out anyone in the papers because I do not want them to lose their jobs. Let the hon. member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle) or Miss LaRivière feel offended—

An hon. Member: She tears up \$10 bills.

Mr. Caouette (Témiscamingue): She did not tear up the \$10, I am sure of that. Let her name the member, that does not bother me because there are Liberals and Progressive Conservatives who offer them the same thing, or do not, but who give them \$10 or \$20. They keep their