

Speaker's Rulings and Statements – (Continued)*Privilege, Question of:*

- Question of privilege raised by Mr. La Salle regarding allegations by Mr. Caouette (Temiscamingue) of members bribing Press Gallery reporters and motion referring matter to Privileges and Elections Committee. Mr. Speaker ruled matter had twice been deferred to allow Mr. Caouette to comment on motion and under the circumstances the motion should be put to the House, 228.
- Question of privilege raised by Mr. Watson re Air Canada's request that employees not communicate with Members of Parliament. Mr. Speaker ruled that the matter was a legitimate grievance of a serious nature but precedent had established that a member's privilege did not extend beyond the precincts of the House. He further ruled that this type of matter should be brought before the Minister responsible and that House might explore means of doing this not included in present procedure, 307-9.
- Question of privilege raised by Mr. Trudel re Unemployment Insurance Office refusal to provide service in both official languages. Mr. Speaker ruled that matter was a legitimate grievance of a serious nature but precedent had established that a member's privilege did not extend beyond precincts of the House. He further ruled that this type of matter should be brought before Minister responsible, 308-9.
- Question of privilege having been raised by Mr. Reid concerning attendance of members before Senate Committees, Mr. Speaker deferred his decision, 313. Mr. Speaker ruled that there was no precedent restricting members from attending Senate Committees but that the practice could lead to a breach of S.O. 35 prohibiting reflection upon a decision of the House and should not be encouraged, 321-2.
- Question of privilege raised by Mr. Stevens concerning conduct of Committee Chairman in allegedly obstructing a vote and subsequent question of privilege raised by Mr. Kaplan concerning remarks as to his conduct as Chairman. Mr. Speaker ruled matter should be resolved in committee as neither Chair nor another committee should sit in appeal of decisions taken in standing committee, 569-70.
- Question of privilege raised by Mr. Diefenbaker concerning alleged slanderous and libellous remarks of Prime Minister. Mr. Speaker defined parliamentary privilege and ruled that the complaint was not in the form of a specific charge and that the remarks in question could not be interpreted as casting aspersions, therefore, there existed a dispute as to facts which constituted a matter for debate rather than a question of privilege, 599-601.
- Question of privilege raised by Mr. Cossitt to effect, that statements made by senior government official interfered with his rights and duties as a Member of Parliament. Mr. Speaker ruled that no distinction could be made between the official's statement re conduct and performance and member's right to speak, therefore this was not a question of privilege, 645.
- Questions of privilege raised by Messrs. Reid, Stevens and Broadbent re Montreal *Gazette* allegations against Mr. Reid concerning budget leak; Mr. Speaker ruled that motions of Messrs. Stevens and Broadbent were not in order as a motion concerning a member's conduct must contain a specific charge. He further ruled that Mr. Reid's motion sought to examine a national newspaper in falsely accusing him of abusing his privileges as a member, therefore there was a *prima facie* breach of privilege, 742.
- Question of privilege having been raised by Mr. O'Connell re unauthorized publication of draft report of Immigration Policy Committee, Mr. Speaker deferred his decision, 787. Mr. Speaker ruled that the motion sought the investigation of a *prima facie* case of privilege without a specific accusation, and therefore there was no breach of privilege. He also stated that proceedings of the committee should be settled in the committee and not by another committee, 791-2.
- Question of privilege having been raised by Mr. Sharp that certain words spoken by Mr. Stevens in reference to cabinet ministers were unparliamentary, Mr. Speaker deferred his decision, 1133. Mr. Speaker citing precedents ruled that the word "illegal" as used in the narrow context by Mr. Stevens was unparliamentary and the statement should be withdrawn or qualified, 1135-7.
- Question of privilege raised by Mr. Yewchuk re remarks of Mrs. Holt and journalist Eric Malling. Mr. Speaker stated that questions of privilege involving committee proceedings should be resolved in committee without investigation by another committee. With respect to language used by journalists and citizens, the right to criticize should be resolved in favour of the public and the protection afforded every citizen ought to be sufficient for members. He ruled there was no obstruction of members rights and privileges therefore there was no *prima facie* breach of privilege, 1207-9.
- Question of privilege having been raised by Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton) re alleged accusation outside House that members had received bribes, Mr. Speaker ruled a *prima facie* case of privilege had been established, 1275.