

Privilege—Mr. Flis

Mr. Waddell: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I feel that you did not give us sufficient chance to make the point.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): They are trying to hijack Parliament, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Order. Hon. members create their own chance. If in the first sentences they indicate to me that they might have something which is the basis of a question of privilege, then they are allowed to continue the elaboration of that question of privilege. But when after three or four minutes there is nothing in the argumentation which allows me to think that there could be the basis of a question of privilege, then yes, indeed, they have ruined their chances.

Mr. Waddell: Madam Speaker, on a point of order, surely some of us who perhaps have had legal experience can see a point that you raised—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Such disrespect!

Madam Speaker: Order. The hon. member is suggesting that one would need legal experience in order to interpret the rules of the House. I would challenge that statement.

Mr. Waddell: Madam Speaker, on a point of order—

An hon. Member: Sit down.

Madam Speaker: I cannot hear the hon. member commenting any more on the ruling I have just made.

MR. FLIS—REMARKS OF MR. CROSBIE

Mr. Jesse P. Flis (Parkdale-High Park): Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege because a member of the House during today's question period discriminated against 400,000 Canadians of Polish descent and offended 35 million people in Poland. I refer to the words coming from the mouth of the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie):

Some hon. Members: Order, order!

Mr. Elzinga: Sit down.

Madam Speaker: I am afraid that is not a question of privilege either.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

WAYS AND MEANS

TABLING OF MOTION

Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of State (Finance)): Madam Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 60(1), I wish to table a notice of ways and means motion on the petroleum and gas revenue tax.

Madam Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 60(2), I also ask you to designate the order of the day necessary for the consideration of this ways and means motion and of ways and means motions Nos. 35, 36 and 38 as listed in the Order Paper and Notices.

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[*English*]

PETITIONS

MR. SHIELDS—EFFECT OF BUDGET ON CITIZENS OF FORT McMURRAY

Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca): Madam Speaker, I have the duty to present a petition on behalf of a number of constituents who live in the city of Fort McMurray in northeastern Alberta. The purpose of this petition signed by 8,285 citizens of the riding of Athabasca is to petition the government to recognize the unique role which Fort McMurray plays in the development of the Athabasca oil sands megaprojects and the devastating effect that the November budget will have on the residents of Fort McMurray who, because of the city's relative isolation, experience costs for goods and services 20 per cent higher than in Edmonton, 500 kilometres south.

The nature of the petition is to request that the government take action to reinstate tax exempt employee benefits used to attract workers to Fort McMurray, such as interest-free loans for home purchases, vehicle allowances, subsidized rents and utilities, etc. The petitioners hope, in Madam Speaker's examination of this petition, that you will find the petition in order, sense the urgency of their plea, and that you might use the discretionary powers vested in your office to allow discussion and referral of this petition to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs at the earliest possible moment.

MR. BRADLEY—POLAND—IMPOSITION OF MARTIAL LAW

Mr. Bud Bradley (Haldimand-Norfolk): Madam Speaker, I have the honour and duty to present a petition on behalf of my constituents. The purpose of this petition signed by some 349 citizens of the Dunnville area is to indicate to the government their great concern about the imposition of martial law in Poland. The nature of this petition is to ask our government's insistence that martial law imposed in Poland be rescinded immediately and that all arrested and detained members of