

Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise a question of privilege arising from the Adjournment Debate last evening in which the Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) interjected remarks into the debate which I feel impugned my veracity. The exchange is reported at page 14356 of yesterday's *Hansard*.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) has raised the same question of privilege; but I have a feeling the Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) wishes to rise to respond.

Mr. Gauthier: I have the floor.

Mr. Speaker: I have to deal with the Hon. Member's question of privilege first.

Mr. Gauthier: On the same question—

Mr. Speaker: I know. I appreciate fully that the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier has given me notice of a similar question of privilege, but I do not think I can deal with two at once.

Does the Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway wish to say something?

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, I would like to withdraw the remarks but I would like to explain why—

Some Hon. Members: No!

Mr. Waddell: Surely I am entitled to explain—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member will know that what in fact has happened is that the Chair has had raised with it, not a question of privilege but a point of order. The point of order had to do with unparliamentary language used during a time when points of order are not normally raised. They are normally brought at this time. The Chair would have to find that unparliamentary language was used, and I take it that the Hon. Member has withdrawn and that ends it.

Mr. Waddell: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. First, is this the proper time for Your Honour to deal with it, or should it have been dealt with by the Chair last night? I am in your hands on this matter, and I would like a ruling on it. I can then respond to it, if Your Honour would give us a ruling on it. Are not unparliamentary matters supposed to be raised when they happen?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member knows that last night the Chair was faced with the matter being raised at the time. The Chair indicated that in the Chair's view at that time the matter should be raised now. Perhaps I should say to the House that unparliamentary language should be raised and withdrawn at the time. However, once the Chair had indicated that in the Chair's view the matter should be raised today, the Chair has no choice but to allow it to be dealt with today. That

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does not change the Chair's view that the matter must be withdrawn.

Mr. Waddell: Mr. Speaker, given that Your Honour has ruled that way and that I have had a chance to look at the transcript of last night, I raised the point that the Government had revoked Ursula Franklin's—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member knows that the Chair is simply saying that the language that was used was unparliamentary and that the Hon. Member must unequivocally withdraw. The Chair cannot allow anything more than an unequivocal withdrawal. The Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway.

Mr. Waddell: Mr. Speaker, I simply want to indicate why the language was used—

Some Hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think the Chair is being very clear. The Hon. Member has used unparliamentary language. He must unequivocally withdraw it or the Chair will be given no other choice.

Mr. Waddell: Mr. Speaker, given that the Government lied about Ursula Franklin's appointment, I will not withdraw—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member knows that the issue is what one may say or may not say, no matter what one thinks. The Hon. Member has used certain language and it is on the record. It was raised at the time and the Chair indicated that the Chair thought that the time to deal with it was now. I suggest to the Hon. Member, with respect, he knows our practices, and I invite him one more time to simply and unequivocally withdraw unparliamentary language.

Mr. Waddell: Mr. Speaker—

Some Hon. Members: Withdraw.

Mr. Waddell: I will withdraw the matter out of respect for you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the Hon. Member please resume his seat. The Hon. Member knows that the Chair has no option but to require an unequivocal withdrawal and nothing else is appropriate. I must ask the Hon. Member to unequivocally withdraw the statement.

Mr. Waddell: Mr. Speaker, I unequivocally withdraw the statement because there was a misunderstanding last night and I will deal with the Parliamentary Secretary personally on the matter. However, I do withdraw the statement because I do not want to be unparliamentary in the House.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I take it that that should dispose of the question of privilege to be raised by the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier.