

Finally, I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, that if the member has such a complaint with the CRTC he should file an appeal with the Privacy Commissioner and indicate in his appeal that he believes, if such is the case, that the privacy of his constituent has been denied.

In either case, this is not a matter for the House to deal with.

**The Speaker:** My colleagues, I read some place over the holidays that I usually take some time to deliberate.

The hon. member did raise this point in November. At that time I invited him to come back with new information if he had it. I wonder if the House would again extend to me its patience. If necessary I will come back to the House on this matter of privilege.

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### POINTS OF ORDER

#### STATEMENT UNDER STANDING ORDER 31

**Mr. Jack Frazer (Saanich—Gulf Islands, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order in accordance with Beauchesne's sixth edition, page 111, citation 374. In a Standing Order 31 statement yesterday the member for Brant attributed to me comments which I assume were taken from a media report. The media report had taken me out of context and completely misrepresented my position.

It is one thing to have erroneous comments in the media, but it is quite another to have it read into the official record of the House of Commons. I respectfully request that the reference to me in that statement be withdrawn.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member gave me notice that he was going to raise a point of order. I would like to review not only the "blues" but also the television tapes so I can ascertain precisely what was said and in what context. I will return to the House if it is necessary.

[Translation]

#### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

**Mr. Gilles Duceppe (Laurier—Sainte-Marie, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, you refused a question from the member for Saint-Hubert during question period. This question pertained to a matter which I will state, and I would then ask you why you refused it. This question dealt in part with appointments made by the government, thus pertaining to the role of government, and secondly, with the possible reasons for these appointments, pertaining therefore to the ethics of this government and of this Parliament. The Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister alike are to serve as guardians on matters of ethics, as was emphasized at the very beginning of this session.

### Routine Proceedings

• (1510)

So we are curious to know why this question was refused since, it would seem, such appointments and ethics are issues of government.

**The Speaker:** May I remind the hon. member that the Speaker does not normally have to state his reason for refusing a question, but I may say that it seemed to me at that moment, as I indicated, that this question did not pertain to the specific responsibilities of this minister of the government. I made that decision in good faith and I hope you will accept it as such.

**Mr. Duceppe:** Mr. Speaker, would it be possible for us to meet so you might explain to us—

**The Speaker:** Certainly. If the hon. member or the hon. member who asked the question would like to discuss it with me, I will be pleased to meet with them in my chambers.

### ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

#### GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO PETITIONS

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the government's response to several petitions.

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[English]

#### COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

##### PROCEDURE AND HOUSE AFFAIRS

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the 58th report of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs regarding the membership of the Standing Committee on Government Operations.

If the House gives its consent, I intend to move concurrence in the 58th report later this day.

##### FISHERIES AND OCEANS

**Mr. Ron MacDonald (Dartmouth, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the second report of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans in relation to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation.