

We in this Government are creating jobs and giving hope for the future to young Canadians who had no hope whatsoever under that Government. We are continuing this, and if the Opposition are serious about getting on with the business of building Canada for young Canadians, they should get together and vote for the Budget and Main Estimates today so that we can get on with the business of building Canada for the young people of Canada.

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[Translation]

PRIVILEGE

ALLEGED SLUR AGAINST MEMBER FOR BOURASSA—RULING OF MR. SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker: Last Monday, March 3, the Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi) raised a question of privilege concerning certain remarks allegedly made by the Hon. Member for Nunatsiak (Mr. Suluk) during Question Period.

I checked the official report since then and was unable to find that any such remarks could be attributed to either Hon. Members.

[English]

First, I must say that there is no *prima facie* question of privilege raised by the Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi); there might have been, at the time of the alleged incident, a matter of order but as the alleged remarks are not in any way that I can find a part of the public record and would therefore appear to be a private conversation not heard by the Chair and the House as a whole, one can hardly claim that disorder occurred in the House as a result of the said remarks.

The basic principle behind a question of privilege or a point of order is that it must be related to a proceeding in the House of Commons. It would be difficult to find that a private conversation—Members know that hundreds occur here every day—of which the House is unaware constitutes a proceeding under the rules.

Mr. Rossi: He still said it.

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POINT OF ORDER

ERROR IN BILL INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, one of the Bills which I introduced yesterday has an error in law and the Law Clerk is drafting a replacement for it. I just wanted to give you notice.

I will be unavailable to reintroduce the Bill for a couple of days but at the appropriate moment I will provide the proper drafting for the Bill regarding political rights for public employees.

Privilege—Mr. Rossi

Mr. Speaker: Order. I take it the Hon. Member is saying that his Bill appears to be out of order.

Mr. Fulton: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: My dilemma is that I must know whether it is, in his view or the Law Clerk's view, a substantive matter or typographical matter. Perhaps he could advise me later.

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PRIVILEGE

ALLEGED SLUR AGAINST MEMBER FOR BOURASSA

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier): Mr. Speaker, following your decision on the question of privilege, I simply want to remind you of some incidents which can occur and do occur in the House occasionally when the media overhears conversations. I am thinking of the Hon. Member for Hamilton East (Ms. Copps) and the day a Minister made a comment which was not heard by you or recorded by *Hansard* but was heard by the press and it became a question of privilege about slandering a Member of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Guilbault (Saint-Jacques): He said it in the public, in the press.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Chair has indicated, as best it can, what the Chair has been able to find as evidence.

Mr. Gauthier: On record.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The Chair has ruled. If the Hon. Member wishes the Chair to consider some other matter or some other way of coping with this matter, it welcomes his representatino for future application.

Mr. Rossi: He still said it.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Rossi: We won't stand for that. The Italian community won't stand for that.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi) will come to order immediately. Let it be clear that the Chair in no way condones unparliamentary language but it must deal with these matters on the basis of what it has before it. That is all the Chair can do.

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton) is rising to continue his point of order—order, please.

Mr. Rossi: I am just trying to say something to Joe.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Bourassa will please, with respect, come to order.

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker—