

Point of Order—Mr. McKinnon

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a few brief words with regard to the matter raised by the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Stanfield). In effect, I rise to register a caveat. I believe a Liberal member who is not present in the Chamber today had planned, if Your Honour ruled against the hon. member for Halifax, to raise a question of privilege based on the invitation issued to the House of Commons by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) at a press conference, to pronounce itself on the issue of surveillance of members of parliament by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. I believe the hon. member to whom I have referred will do that when he returns. In case he does not, I enter a caveat indicating that I should like to raise the issue in that form.

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POINT OF ORDER

MR. MCKINNON—ANSWER GIVEN BY MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, a few minutes ago the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Danson) either attempted to or did mislead the House in answer to one of my questions. My question concerned the position on nuclear weapons in conjunction with Canadian forces. In answer to my supplementary question, the minister claimed that the previous minister of national defence, Mr. Richardson, had never answered clearly in the House of Commons on this.

I should like to refer Your Honour to *Hansard* dated March 27, 1974, at page 908, where I directed a similar question to the then minister of national defence. He replied as follows:

Mr. Speaker, none of our aircraft are equipped with nuclear missiles, but we do have in storage, and this has been public knowledge for several years—nuclear missiles at Comox and at the other bases from which our interceptor squadrons take off.

I do not think the minister deliberately misled the House. I think it was done through ignorance, as it was through ignorance that he misled the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin) last week. It is through ignorance that he attempted to get away with it again today. The former minister of national defence stated that nuclear missiles were on our soil and, for all we can determine, they still are.

Hon. Norman A. Cafik (Minister of State (Multiculturalism)): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Danson) is not present in the House at this particular moment, I simply enter a caveat indicating that he may want an opportunity to respond to the allegation or suggestion of the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member raises what is essentially a disagreement in the interpretation which can be placed upon a minister's response. In any event, it does not constitute privilege. Rather, it constitutes a disagreement which may be contributed to at some other time.

[Mr. Speaker.]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

INCOME TAX ACT**MEASURE TO AMEND**

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Finance) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-56, to amend the statute law relating to income tax and to authorize payments related to provincial sales tax reductions.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

[English]

PUBLIC OPINION POLLS ACT**MEASURE TO REGULATE POLLS DURING ELECTION CAMPAIGNS**

Mr. Dean Whiteway (Selkirk) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-455, respecting public opinion polls.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Whiteway: Mr. Speaker, my bill would not disallow public opinion polls during the time of a writ period, but simply make certain requirements, namely, stating who took a poll, the sampling and the results of the poll, in order that Canadians are able to ascertain whether the poll was an adequate one and not simply one done by a political party with no real basis of sampling.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Speaker, I believe agreement has been reached in respect of granting leave through an order of the House to revert briefly to the tabling of documents at 8 p.m. tonight to permit the tabling of the report of the Royal Commission on Corporate Concentration.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I gather that has something to do with the market. That is agreeable.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Agreed, and so ordered.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)