

That the allegations in the *Montreal Gazette* on March 10, March 11 and March 12 of 1983 that the Hon. Member for Lincoln owned 109609 Company Canada Limited and, through that company, while being a Member of the House of Commons, was a paid lobbyist, be referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Madam Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the said motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North): Madam Speaker, we have now had an opportunity to hear Your Honour's ruling, and I am sure the House will appreciate the fact that when this matter was first raised by the Hon. Member for Lincoln (Mr. Mackasey), our Leader in the House indicated his concerns as a Member of this House with respect to all the obligations falling upon this House to treat an Hon. Member fairly. I can assure you, Madam Speaker, that people on this side of the House want this matter to be dealt with fairly.

In the interests of seeing that what the Hon. Member wants done is done, I would suggest to the House and to my colleagues, the House Leaders for the Government side and for the New Democratic Party, that before we proceed into debate we should have a 24-hour moratorium on debate so that we can get together and discuss the terms of reference of the motion, the rounding out of the motion.

Quite frankly, in reviewing the motion prior to today, we wondered whether in fact the motion did all that the Hon. Member wanted it to do in terms of clearing his name of the charges the *Gazette* alleges. I point out to the House that in my own case, after study of three articles, I found some ten instances giving me cause for concern as to whether a motion such as that which the Hon. Member has presented to the House would in fact do what he wants it to do. Therefore, from that standpoint I say to the Government House Leader that if the House wants to clear the Hon. Member's name—that is obviously the object of the exercise in speaking to the motion—we feel that the motion should be broad enough to do that in a way which is fair to the Hon. Member and, I would also suggest, fair to the members of the Committee. It seems to us, after reviewing the precedents, that the Committee would be delving into some new ground. We feel that if this is so, it should delve into that new ground with a motion which does what the Hon. Member wants and with terms of reference which do what the House wants, which is to clear the air.

Madam Speaker: I am in the hands of the House. If the House unanimously agrees to the suggestion of the Hon. Member for Simcoe North, I can entertain the suggestion; otherwise, of course, the only other choice of the Chair would be to open debate on this particular motion and to entertain such amendments as Hon. Members deem necessary.

Does the House unanimously agree to the suggestion of the Hon. Member for Simcoe North that there be a delay of 24 hours before debate on this particular motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Privilege—Mr. Mackasey

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, I do not want to inject my personal views into this matter, as I did not anticipate it would be raised. However, I would be interested in hearing the views of the Hon. Member for Lincoln (Mr. Mackasey) as to whether or not he feels the motion which he has moved, which affects his privilege, is one which he would like to see held over and discussed among House Leaders before the debate ensued. I have no particular objection to waiting until tomorrow or another day for the debate to take place, and I am sure that none of my colleagues do, either. However, I think that since the matter is very much one which ought to concern the Hon. Member for Lincoln, perhaps he would like to tell us what he would like to see.

Madam Speaker: If the Hon. Member for Lincoln starts debating this question—

Mr. Deans: No.

Madam Speaker: If he is telling us whether he likes the motion or not, he will be debating the question.

Mr. Deans: On a point of order—

Madam Speaker: Just one moment. I am simply warning the House against beginning the debate before dealing with the suggestion of the Hon. Member for Simcoe North. Since that seems to be the wish of the House, I will allow the Hon. Member for Lincoln to make a very brief statement with regard to the question posed by the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain.

Mr. Mackasey: Madam Speaker, you would agree that your statement was quite logically lengthy, and legalistic, as it should be, and very important to all Members. I specifically rose from my seat a week ago—this is not debate—and at that time pointed out what I thought to be the allegations which, to me, were libellous. I specified them and Your Honour read them out. If any Hon. Members of the House think that I am guilty of anything beyond those two points which have been raised, they are perfectly free to rise in the House and refer any allegations which may occur to them, beyond those set out in the motion, to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections. I welcome them, if Hon. Members are prepared to do so. It is an entirely different issue. I want that motion to be read before the House today, as Your Honour has suggested is my right.

I repeat that this in no way prevents any Hon. Member opposite who wants to widen the matter from rising tomorrow to say anything which bothers them about the Hon. Member for Lincoln.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Andre: You're blowing it.

Madam Speaker: This point having been made, does the House unanimously consent that there be a 24-hour delay?

Some Hon. Members: No.