

Point of Order

government has an equity position and will use that leverage in an appropriate way.

As the hon. member should know, in Windsor through the past five fiscal years an unprecedented number of jobs have been created as a result of the policies of this government. We are going to continue to pursue those policies. When it comes to Varsity Corporation in particular, we will do everything we can to help.

Mr. Speaker: I should advise the House that continuing on a matter that was raised some days ago the hon. member for Scarborough—Agincourt wishes to speak on a question of privilege.

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PRIVILEGE

DISTURBANCE IN GALLERIES

Mr. Jim Karygiannis (Scarborough—Agincourt): Mr. Speaker, during the last sitting of the House before Easter recess on April 11 it was suggested that I had some prior knowledge of a disturbance in the gallery after the recording of the GST vote on April 10.

To clarify this matter, I would like to say that passes were handed out by my office but that neither I nor my staff had any prior knowledge of what the two young men had planned to do.

While I may understand their frustration with the GST, the way in which they expressed their dissatisfaction is totally unacceptable to me. I do not condone and totally dissociate myself from this kind of action.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: I want to thank the hon. member and I think that the response to this statement indicates the appreciation of the House.

The hon. member for Essex—Windsor has a point of order rising, I think, out of the Question Period.

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POINT OF ORDER

COMMENTS DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Yes, Mr. Speaker. In the course of responses back and forth with the Minister of Finance, the suggestion was made that

the quotation which I presented to the House from him yesterday was somehow incorrect.

I wanted to quote what I quoted yesterday as coming from the Minister of Finance, the then opposition finance critic in 1982.

The inflation rate is between 5 per cent and 6 per cent. The current interest rate at 13 per cent or 14 per cent is simply too high.

I have also the original—

Mr. Speaker: I know the hon. member would like to keep the record straight but it is getting into debate and I think it is perhaps going beyond the usual very brief point of order. I think it is a point of debate. I think I will have to leave it here.

I would like the hon. member to avail himself of Question Period or the “late show”. I think there are other ways to settle the matter.

Mr. Langdon: Mr. Speaker, I had just one final point to make. Yesterday during Question Period I had sent to the minister the exact quote from *Hansard* in which he had made those statements.

Mr. Speaker: I think perhaps that is where it will have to be left. I am sure the minister and the member can discuss the matter further if necessary, at another place and at another time. Statements by Ministers.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Solicitor General.

The point I have to raise with the Chair is that around 9.30 this morning, the Official Opposition was notified of two different ministerial statements. We did think that the time was rather short, but more importantly, Mr. Speaker, I bring the following matter to your attention. After receiving notification that there were to be two statements from two different ministers, hon. members began preparing themselves to respond. Less than half an hour ago one of the two ministers announced that he had changed his mind concerning his presentation of that particular statement.

I think, and the House will appreciate, that that does cause some serious inconvenience for a number of members in the House. I would hope that the Speaker could assist the House in determining what the proper procedure should be in such cases where ministers give,