

## PRIVILEGE

MR. HNATYSHYN—ENERGY—STATEMENT ON  
SELF-SUFFICIENCY BY 1990

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West):** Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege on a matter which arose during the course of the question period in answers given by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde). By way of background, I want to point out that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources during the course of the election campaigning for this Parliament made statements to the effect that I, in the course of committee proceedings, had indicated that we would not attain energy self-sufficiency by 1990 and that we would be some 250,000 barrels short.

That particular proposition, as the minister knows full well, is incorrect and false. In the course of the discussions in that committee report it is clear that I indicated that, on the basis of existing policies, without natural gas substitution and conservation methods we would in fact be short by that number of barrels according to the best estimates of the department.

The minister has brought forward this particular proposition and statement and repeated it again and in my estimation he is misleading the House. This matter was independently reviewed by the press which, after reviewing the record, repudiated the position taken by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. If the minister persists in repeating these untruths, he will gain the reputation of being the Pinocchio of Canadian politics.

**Mr. Nielsen:** He almost is now.

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Madam Speaker, the hon. member has made his case. I will be very happy to table in the House the transcript of the committee session where the statement made by the hon. member is recorded. The statement speaks for itself and I will not engage in a debate on its interpretation.

I would also like to say to my hon. colleague and friend from Dartmouth that he and I are far from being arrogant and are well known for our respective humility as well as our great interest and concern for eastern Canada. I hope that I will have his support in any measures which I bring forward to help the development and growth of eastern Canada, as we are all trying to do.

[Translation]

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. It is obvious that the point raised by the hon. member for Saskatoon West (Mr. Hnatyshyn) was a good subject for a debate. It was a matter of opinion, so I do not think I can consider it as a question of privilege.

## Privilege—Mr. Knowles

[English]

MR. KNOWLES—OFFICIAL REPORT—ARTICLE IN THE OTTAWA  
JOURNAL

**Hon. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege in accordance with a notice which I sent to Your Honour this morning under the provisions of Standing Order 17(2). My question of privilege relates to an article in today's issue of *The Ottawa Journal* which, in my view, in an unwarranted attack on the editor and staff of the *Hansard* of the House of Commons.

There seems to be an attempt in this article to indulge in a certain amount of humour, but it starts off by saying:

*Hansard* lies.

Half way through the article it describes something that appeared in *Hansard* and then says:

Pack of lies.

Then toward the end the article contends that *Hansard* is:

—fooling with the facts—

It ends by saying that an effort should be made to:

—make it more accurate—

I am not rising to defend members in former Parliaments—it has not happened in this one—who may have tried to get changes in *Hansard* beyond genuine corrections. That is not the point. I am rising to defend the dedication and the hard work of our *Hansard* staff.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Knowles:** We all know that they work under trying circumstances, especially during question period when there is a great deal of calling back and forth. It must be awfully hard for the reporters to get as much as they do. We know that they make a serious effort to turn out each day a *Hansard* that is an accurate report of what went on in this House of Commons.

I feel it is most unfair that these people, who work so hard for us and have no chance to defend themselves, are attacked in this way. I rise on behalf of all hon. members to defend the editor and staff of *Hansard*. Perhaps Your Honour might consider inviting the writer of this article to call upon the editor of *Hansard* who, I am sure, would be glad to show that writer the whole process.

**Madam Speaker:** I am sure that the remarks of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) will be a comfort to the staff of *Hansard* who work under considerable pressure to give us these reports on time. I will pursue the suggestion of the hon. member.