

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

TV AND RADIO BROADCASTING OF PROCEEDINGS OF HOUSE AND ITS COMMITTEES

FIRST REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to present the first report of the special committee appointed to supervise the implementation of radio and television broadcasting of the proceedings of the House and its committees.

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Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. It is very seldom that I ever rise in my place—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Woolliams: —to complain about being cut off on what I consider to be a proper question. My question was directed to the Solicitor General and was: would he consent to have his two predecessors come before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs? I understand what is being talked about here because we talked yesterday about a cover-up. What I should have liked to ask him is if those two previous ministers would come before the standing committee and tell all they know, so that this cover-up could be brought to an end. That was my question, and with the greatest respect to Your Honour I feel it was in order, asking the Solicitor General whether he had gained their consent.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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Mr. Lawrence: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I wonder whether Your Honour would point out to the Prime Minister of Canada that you are the judge of when the question period ends, not the Prime Minister of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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Mr. Epp: Mr. Speaker, as you are well aware, I very seldom rise on a point of order, but I do so today for clarification. Your Honour mentioned that my supplementary question today was asking for an opinion. I have gone through the question I asked and, with all respect, I do not believe that is what I was seeking. There have been studies on the question of a guaranteed annual income, specifically in Manitoba, known as MINCOM, in which the whole purpose of the study was to find out, among other things, what effect the guaranteed annual income would have on the motivational factor. We know that some of those studies are in the hands of the Minister of National Health and Welfare. They are also in the hands of the minister of health of Manitoba. There is sharp disagreement within the cabinet on the results of that study, and specifically on the motivational effect that the guaranteed annual income has on work and productivity. It was for that reason that the question was asked.

Privilege—Mr. Cossitt

Mr. Speaker: I thought that the hon. member had two questions, both of which sought opinions as to the motivational factors involved. I do not see how at this point anybody could have anything but an opinion on it, but in any case I thought I gave the hon. member the benefit of the doubt of letting him get away with one question asking for an opinion, and I thought I should stop him on the second.

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Mr. Whiteway: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order which has to do with the answer given to me by the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I recognize her right to answer or not answer, but not to answer inaccurately. She said that she had made no such announcement of a guaranteed annual income. In point of fact, she did so in this very House, as reported at page 159 of *Hansard* for October 24, and again on November 7, as reported at page 635 of *Hansard*. There she said very clearly that the intention of the federal government is to implement a guaranteed annual income. Whether or not we on this side agree, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that she did state the intention of the government to proceed. My question was whether or not she intended to proceed with or without the consent of the provinces.

Mr. Speaker: Order. That was the question which I understood the minister answered.

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PRIVILEGE

MR. COSSITT—QUESTION TO PRIME MINISTER

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege having to do with an incident which took place in this Chamber just a few moments ago and which I think is of a very serious nature and bears directly on the privileges of the members of this House. The hon. member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton) was in the act of asking a question—

Some hon. Members: Sit down!

Mr. Cossitt: Mr. Speaker, I think I deserve the right to put my question of privilege without all this noise across the floor. The hon. member rose and was in the act of asking a question of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), who was standing at the back of the Chamber and who in effect waved a piece of cardboard at the House, as much as saying that we can all go to blazes, and then walked out. He showed disrespect for the House of Commons in the most disgraceful manner I have ever seen. I think, Mr. Speaker, it is time that this kind of thing stopped.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. MacEachen).

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I think it ought to be put on the record that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau)