

we may have enough to keep us going even longer if we introduce some bills in the Senate.

If we were to behave as though we were totally unaware of what is happening in the other place, we would lose credibility, but to react to it in such a way as to become infected with the same paralysis, I think, is unnecessary. We should proceed.

I point out for the record, since we have been talking about points of order here and elsewhere, it may appear to some observers that the same procedures apply here for the motion to adjourn, namely, it is not debatable. What have we been debating for the last half hour? In fact, we were not debating that motion; we were dealing with a series of questions that were asked and, therefore, in that purist sense, I would point out to Senator Macquarrie that we were in order.

**Hon. John M. Godfrey:** Cannot we, as senators, benefit from the experience of the other place to ensure that that kind of nonsense will not happen here, and refer the question to our Rules Committee? They can then consider the question and recommend a rule for adoption by the Senate to ensure that there is no possibility of this happening here in the future. I am quite prepared to refer it to the Rules Committee myself.

**Senator Frith:** Honourable senators, may I suggest that we reflect on that proposition over the weekend? We could add this matter to the other business that awaits us next week.

[*Translation*]

**Hon. Arthur Tremblay:** I have a question but I would first like to say a few words by way of introduction. Clearly, a

number of our colleagues could not resist using questions or points of order to get involved in a debate on the substance of what is happening in the other place. And now for my question.

This year, the House of Commons resumed sitting on January 25. Is that correct?

**Senator Frith:** Yes.

**Senator Tremblay:** The Senate came back a week later, and so, since the Senate is under no obligation to sit when the House of Commons is sitting, as far as the principle of simultaneous sittings of the House of Commons and the Senate is concerned, we already have the answer.

My question is, can the Senate sit when the House of Commons is not? If we have the answer to the first eventuality, the same answer applies to the second.

**Senator Frith:** Honourable senators, I believe that the question is a rhetorical one, since the answer has already been given. I cannot blame Senator Tremblay for adding a last touch of rhetoric to this debate, and I feel he has given a very clear analysis of the question whether or not both chambers must sit simultaneously.

The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, March 9, at 8 p.m.

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