

Points of Order

Industry, Science and Technology, Issue No. 46, pages 25 and 30, that the property was purchased for \$125,000.

What we have been trying to get from the minister are the full facts about the government's relationship with this company. Yesterday for some reason, the minister—either because he was ignorant of the facts or because he no doubt inadvertently misled the House—

Mr. Speaker: Surely, this is a debate over facts that are on the floor of the House. Points of order are not supposed to be used to redebate a matter or redebate an exchange.

The hon. member can pursue it in another way, but I do not think it is a proper point of order.

If the hon. member has something further to add, I will hear him.

[*Translation*]

BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS—ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

I should like to remind the Chair that there is a group called the Bloc Québécois which, now and again, would like to have an opportunity to ask questions in the House and to hold the government responsible for its actions.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you to go over your list of the past few weeks to see to what extent the Bloc Québécois did not get its share of questions on the basis of its representation in this House. Worse still, Mr. Speaker, on each occasion we had time for only one question, which gave the government a chance to make a statement to which we could not respond.

Mr. Speaker, why should we be limited to half questions when other members of the opposition are entitled to a full question, plus a supplementary? We are not half members, we do not have half privileges, and we are not here for half measures, Mr. Speaker!

I should like to remind you that we represent as many constituents as any other member in this House, and we are beginning to be fed up with being treated as if we were charity cases!

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: I am going to respond to that. I do not need to hear further members. If members will consider carefully, and the public that is watching, this was a very

vigorous Question Period and we did not reach the usual number of members. I only have 45 minutes. I am sure that the hon. member can accept the fact that I have heard his representation and will try to do the very best I can tomorrow and on other days.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Speaker: I would ask hon. members to contain themselves and behave in this House. Many years ago hon. members stopped behaving that way because the public was sick and tired of it.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

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[*Translation*]

MOTION TO ADJOURN PURSUANT TO S. O. 52

INTEREST RATES

Mr. Benoît Tremblay (Rosemont): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 52, I ask for the adjournment of the House for the purpose of debating the utterly disastrous impact of high interest rates.

In a city like Montreal, Mr. Speaker, with a population the size of Manitoba's, we now have in the early stages of the recession an unemployment rate in excess of 14 per cent. We cannot accept—

SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: I hesitate to interrupt the hon. member but I read with some concern his request for an emergency debate. But after all this is an issue which could have been debated yesterday. It is a problem, it is a very important matter, but it would not be appropriate to hold such a debate today.

Mr. Louis Plamondon (Richelieu): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. With respect to your remark concerning the attitude of certain members of the Bloc Québécois who have been rather noisy, you said you had never seen anything like it in the House of Commons. I for one can tell you that I have never seen a group so deprived of its rights as is the Bloc Québécois when it comes to the question period, to its right to speak, and to all privileges which are normally extended to any group that represents the public. This is hardly acceptable.

Mr. Speaker, we are asking for a private meeting with you to solve this problem.