Privilege-Hon. M. Lambert

talk about it. Well, I feel very strongly that the hypocrisy shown by the opposition, in attempting to restrict the average Canadian member of a political party from visiting the House of Commons and from using the House of Commons for political and social purposes, is a disgrace.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Surely hon. members are satisfied that I have heard adequate argument on this question of privilege from all sides of the House. I will reserve my judgment until later.

• (1602)

MR. RODRIGUEZ—QUESTION TO MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. It has to do with the question I asked today of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Horner). I recognize that there is at times some difficulty with the acoustics in the Chamber or with the sound system and it may be that the question was not heard.

I asked the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce the following question: can he tell the House if he has made any suggestions to the manufacturers in question to locate one of the plants in the Sudbury basin and, if he has not, will he undertake to do so, making them aware of the DREE program and other available incentives? In fact I was not making a representation to the minister but rather asking him if he had made a representation to the automotive industry with respect to locating one of the parts plants in the Sudbury basin. As Your Honour may be well aware, I am very concerned about positive measures being taken in the Sudbury basin in view of the impending lay-offs which are to take place on Monday.

I asked that question so as to obtain some information from the minister on the government's intentions with respect to diversifying the industry in the Sudbury basin. Unfortunately, the minister has left the chamber, but I hope that tomorrow you will catch my eye and I will then put the question again so we can get some answers from the minister.

Mr. Speaker: As the hon. member knows, I am as interested as he is in the proposition and in the answer and I hope the hon. member will pursue it privately, which I think will be more in order.

Mr. Jacques Olivier (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): Will you listen to me, Mr. Speaker? Will you listen to me now?

An hon. Member: Apologize.

An hon. Member: Watch your attitude.

[Translation]

Mr. Olivier: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. You may have been distracted by what was being said from both sides of the House, but for a few minutes I have been trying to be recognized on the question of privilege raised by the hon.

[Mr. Stollery.]

member for Edmonton West (Mr. Lambert). In any case, I hope it is not intentional on your part because I did rise well before other hon. members and I hope I will have the opportunity to give my views on the question of privilege before us. I think it would be a denial of justice not to let me express my point of view. You have recognized others. I am as much a member in the House as any others who are here, irrespective of the political party to which I belong. I think—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I have tried this afternoon to explain my position on arguments put forward by several hon. members from both sides of the House. For one hour I have listened very carefully to all arguments. I have also proposed to discuss again this subject with the hon. President of Privy Council and then with the leaders of all political parties. If that can settle the problem, so much the better! If not, later I am going to listen to all other members including the hon. member for Longueuil (Mr. Olivier).

[English]

MR. MURTA—PROCEEDINGS DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, my question of privilege pertains to the question period. I rose on a supplementary question following the question of the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Goodale), as you no doubt remember, sir. He had a question regarding the International Joint Commission in so far as Saskatchewan is concerned. My supplementary question pertained to the recommendations of IJC with regard to the province of Manitoba. You ruled that it was not a proper supplementary question.

In view of the fact that I will be away for the next three days, I wonder if I may be allowed to ask a question regarding the government's position vis-à-vis the Garrison diversion project on which a decision is being made by the IJC, and the government's position on the transfer of waters from the south to the north. Is it still the government's position to oppose any transfer of water from the Missouri system to the Hudson Bay system?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Of course it would be a totally unwarranted extension of the question period to permit the question to be put now. I had hoped the question period this afternoon would evolve in such a way as to permit me to recognize the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Murta) on a new question, not a supplementary question as he had tried to put it. It was certainly a relevant and important question. Unfortunately, as he knows, exposure in the question period this afternoon was limited, as often happens on Wednesdays.

MR. NIELSEN—DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATIONAL PACKAGE RESPECTING BILL C-25

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have a brief question of privilege which is directed to the President of Privy Council and government House leader (Mr. MacEachen). In his absence, perhaps the Secretary of State for External