

Moving over to the director—

Mr. Rae: I rise on a point of order, Madam Speaker. I realize that the definition of filibuster is reading from a telephone book, but I wonder whether it might not be in keeping with parliamentary practice and courtesy, if the hon. member has a point which he wishes to address concerning the practices of certain Members of Parliament, to give notice to those members. This would allow them to be in the House when he raises a question.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta.

Mr. Friesen: Madam Speaker, I would direct the hon. member for Broadview-Greenwood to the fact that I was just going to the telephone directory for the city of Winnipeg. I see that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) is here. At page 437 of the Winnipeg telephone directory, under "New Democratic Party", there appears "Winnipeg North Centre, 1036 Notre Dame", with the telephone No. 722-5795. Or is it 6795?

Mr. Knowles: It is 775-1019.

Mr. Friesen: As I cross-reference I find that he is also listed under his name at 1036—

Madam Speaker: Order, please. I have to interrupt the hon. member. He has not even mentioned the word "privilege" yet. From what he has said until now, I think this is obviously a question that has to be dealt with in other circumstances. This is not a question for the Chair to decide as Speaker of this House. This has to do with the rules which are policed by members themselves through the competence of the Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services. If the hon. member is not satisfied with the way these rules are being applied or with the way the rules are set down, then he can submit his case to the particular committee and hon. members can correct whatever he feels is not done properly. I cannot hear him along the line of his argument and the facts he has advanced up until now. Unless the hon. member now goes directly to a question of privilege very well framed, I will have to disallow his question.

● (1620)

Mr. Friesen: Madam Speaker, I began by saying that I was rising on a question of privilege. My question of privilege arises from the regulations and the rules established by this House that constituency offices may not be used as electoral campaign committees and may not be located in political party headquarters. I was going through the references which indicate—

Madam Speaker: Order. These rules are not established by the House. They are established by the members and pertain to their constituency function. These are not rules of the House.

Privilege—Mr. Friesen

Mr. Elzinga: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. It has always been my understanding that this committee reports directly to you. The ultimate decision and the ultimate responsibility for carrying out these regulations pertaining to the House of Commons falls under your jurisdiction.

In my humble opinion, Your Honour, in all fairness to the hon. member, he should have an opportunity to present his case, and after hearing his case I think you will be in a better position to give a fair judgment as to whether or not he does have a question of privilege.

Madam Speaker: I have been listening to the hon. member's case now for about ten minutes, and after hearing his case for this period of time I feel this matter should be brought before the Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services.

That committee does not report to me. It advises me. I appear before it on occasion when members want to transmit to me some of the things they might want. The Speaker then gets authority through discussions with the Commissioners of Internal Economy. That point has to be quite clear. I do not think the hon. member is dealing with a question that should be dealt with here in this House.

The hon. member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta.

Mr. Knowles: Madam Speaker, I have a question of privilege.

Madam Speaker: Order, please. I am already hearing a question of privilege. I could entertain a point of order, but as I am seized with a question of privilege, I have to deal with it before I can hear another one.

Mr. Knowles: Madam Speaker, I have a question of personal privilege arising out of what the hon. member said in his reference to me.

Madam Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta.

Mr. Friesen: Madam Speaker, in the debate on the question of privilege preceding this one, one of the long and serious arguments which you heard was that each of the offices had to establish its own independence. I remember members of the New Democratic Party arguing this very point, that the government ought not to use tax dollars to establish offices that are separate from those of Members of Parliament.

It seems to me that if we find that tax dollars are being used to help political parties, we have to have recourse somewhere, and I appeal to you, Madam Speaker, to hear this question of privilege.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member's recourse is to the Standing Committee on Management and Members' Services. Therefore, I have to rule out that question for consideration as a question of privilege.