

the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), we contend that if we wait too long before reaching a decision in that respect, it will allow some ministers who would foresee that controversial matters could be raised to be absent from the house, thus preventing hon. members from discussing the question.

But in the opinion of the members of the Ralliement Cr ditiste, the proposal of the hon. member for York South to have the minister back in the house as soon as possible is an excellent one, and we support it.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are obviously going to get into a debate over the matter. I suggest that it would be very unfair and unwise to proceed in this way. It is certainly not within the responsibility of the Chair to call for the attendance of individual members in the circumstances. If hon. members agree between themselves, and if there is agreement among the house leaders, that we resume discussion of the proposed motion of the hon. member for Calgary North, of course the Speaker is the servant of the house and I will be here at that time, every moment of the day, to hear the matter if it is taken up later in the day.

Mr. Horner: On that point of order, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Calgary North asked two pertinent questions. He asked whether this matter was pre-taped on television; whether a video tape was made.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Horner: If the ministers were brought in—

Some hon. Members: Sit down.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have made my ruling. The hon. member is obviously trying to have a debate. I have just said there cannot be a debate at this time. The hon. member says that questions have been asked. The hon. member may wish to have the right to ask questions. If the hon. member, outside of this question of privilege, wants to ask supplementary questions of the Prime Minister, that of course is a different matter. But in so far as the proposed motion and question of privilege is concerned, the matter has been allowed to stand.

Mr. Horner: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the pertinent fact is that we do not know whether there was a cabinet leak. But if the Prime Minister would bring his ministers here—

Inquiries of the Ministry

An hon. Member: Ask him.

Mr. Horner: The hon. member for Calgary North did ask the Prime Minister. He said he did not know. If the Prime Minister would bring his ministers into the house later this day, the whole question may be cleared up immediately. Therefore I think it is very important that we have these ministers before us today.

Mr. Trudeau: Ask me.

Mr. Horner: We did.

Mr. Baldwin: None of you know anything.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for York South.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

STUDENT UNREST

MCGILL UNIVERSITY—ASSISTANCE IN THE EVENT OF DISTURBANCE

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I gather that you have ruled that the subject we have been dealing with has ended. May I now direct a question to the Solicitor General. In view of the denial reportedly made by the Prime Minister of Quebec that any authority of that government had requested assistance from any federal authority in connection with the widely publicized march on McGill University today, would the Solicitor General inform the house what the situation is with respect to this matter, particularly as it concerns the Royal Canadian Mounted Police?

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I understand the hon. member really to be asking me whether a request for assistance was made by the authorities in Quebec, the Attorney General or the Prime Minister. No such request has been made.

Mr. Lewis: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, for clarification. I was unfortunately out of the house yesterday, in another city. However, I understand that the Minister of Justice said that such a request had been made. Is the Solicitor General saying it was not made to his department, or was not made to any authority in the federal government?

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, the question and answer given in the House of Commons yesterday appear in *Hansard*. I do not think they should be paraphrased in the way it has