

*Introduction of Bills*

give some explanation. However, it is the Chair's view that this practice, historic as it is, originated to protect a Member who might be unpopular or was, for whatever reason, being precluded from speaking. In my opinion, that practice does not apply to the situation before us this afternoon. As a consequence, I rule that the motion moved by the Hon. Member for Burnaby is not applicable in these circumstances.

**Mr. Robinson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**Mr. Speaker:** I recognize the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski).

**Mr. Keeper:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I move, pursuant to Standing Order 9(4)(a):

That the House continue to sit beyond the ordinary hour of daily adjournment for the purpose of completing the Introduction of Bills.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Robinson:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Low-down trick if I ever saw one.

**Mr. Robinson:** Point of order.

**Mr. Manly:** Privilege.

**Mr. Keeper:** Privilege.

**Mr. Robinson:** Point of order. Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

**Mr. Keeper:** Mr. Speaker, question of privilege.

**Mr. Dick:** He'll get to you.

**Mr. Robinson:** Point of order.

**Mr. Andre:** You can leave the room. You don't need his permission.

● (1650)

**Mr. Robinson:** A point of order, Mr. Speaker. Point of order.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Burnaby on a point of order, and I thank him for his patience.

**Mr. Keeper:** Question of privilege.

**Mr. Robinson:** I yield to my friend with a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

**Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege following the comments made by the Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme). He said

something about Members of Parliament who are learning French at the expense of Canadian taxpayers.

[English]

He cast aspersions.

[Translation]

He has given the wrong impression.

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. With the greatest of respect, the Chair does not feel that this is a question of privilege.

**Mr. Nunziata:** Mr. Speaker, I listened very carefully to the comments made by my colleagues and to your ruling with respect to the opportunity afforded to Members of Parliament to explain how they would in effect have voted if they had been in their seats when a vote was called. I would like some direction from the Chair. There have been a number of votes today and, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to be present for a particular vote. I was on official duty.

I seek some direction from the Chair in terms of what the limitation period might be when a Member of Parliament does wish to explain his or her absence from the House and how he or she may have voted.

**Mr. Robinson:** Point of order.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would ask the Hon. Member to resume his seat. That is not a point of order. That is an invitation for a hypothetical discussion.

The Hon. Member for Burnaby on a point of order.

**Mr. Robinson:** Mr. Speaker, my point of order relates to the proceedings now before the House. I am not sure exactly what the proceedings are.

**An Hon. Member:** We know that.

**Mr. Robinson:** Your Honour recognized the Deputy Prime Minister when he stood in this House. My colleague, the Hon. Member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom) was attempting to seek Your Honour's recognition as well.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** That is a reflection on the Chair. Come on.

**Mr. Nowlan:** That's not a point of order and you know it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The Hon. Member for Burnaby rises on a point of order. If the Hon. Member would put his point of order, the Chair will deal with it.

**Mr. Robinson:** I am trying to put it, Mr. Speaker, but I am being interrupted over here.

**Mr. Nowlan:** You sure are.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!