

*Privilege—Mr. Waddell*

the hon. member refers. It involved not only the hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre) who is not here today, but also the reputation and the standing of the hon. member for Capilano (Mr. Huntington).

I respect the right of the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) to rise on a question of privilege, even though he may be wrong on both counts with respect to both members. But I think it would be adding discourtesy upon discourtesy if the member were allowed to proceed in the absence of the members who were involved by name last night in those remarks. I think it might be appropriate if we allowed the matter to rest until they are here.

**Madam Speaker:** The hon. member is free to rise at this time on what he considers to be a question of privilege but perhaps is a point of order. I am confused as to what the hon. member is really raising because he called it a point of privilege. I am confused as to whether it is a question of privilege or a point of order. At any rate, the hon. member has heard the suggestion of the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker). Does the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) want to extend that courtesy and delay his point of order or question of privilege until a time when these members will be present in the House?

**Mr. Waddell:** Madam Speaker, at page 5125 of *Hansard*, I am reported as saying the following:

Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I wish to give the Chair and the hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre) notice that I wish to reserve my right to raise a question of privilege in this House after I have read in *Hansard* the reference in the hon. member's speech to McCarthy and other remarks with reference to me.

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

**Mr. Waddell:** Just let me finish my point. I do not think the member need rise. I am prepared to extend—

**Madam Speaker:** The hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) on a point of order.

**Mr. Nielsen:** I will defer it because I heard the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) say something that the Chair probably did not hear.

**Mr. Waddell:** I have said that I gave notice last night.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** Yes, that is correct.

**Mr. Waddell:** The hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker) is correct that the hon. member for Calgary Centre and the hon. member for Capilano (Mr. Huntington) are not in their places today. The third person who is involved in this question of privilege—and it has been raised all week in the House of Commons; it is a very important point with respect to western separatism—is the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark), the hon. member for Yellowhead, who has been asked on numerous occasions to reply in the debate—we have had a six-day debate—on my charges with respect to his position on western Canada.

**Mr. Nielsen:** He is not here today.

**Mr. Waddell:** He is not here today either. In the interests of getting this matter properly aired, I will reserve my right to raise the matter. I intend to bring it up on Monday. I will tell the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton that right now, and I hope he will have the three members here in the House to reply.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** Just so that it is clear, certainly I will advise the hon. members, but I make no guarantee to the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway with respect to the attendance of members.

**Mr. Ouellet:** Where is he?

**Mr. Evans:** Where is the hon. member for Capilano (Mr. Huntington)?

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** They are likely in their ridings. It may have escaped the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) that the hon. member for Capilano represents a seat in British Columbia and that the hon. member for Calgary Centre represents a seat in Alberta. It takes a little time for them to get to their constituencies. The Postmaster General and I are quite fortunate in that regard.

**An hon. Member:** It takes longer to go by private rail car.

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** We can get to our constituents very easily. I want to make it clear that certainly I will inform the hon. members with respect to the matters raised. I want to thank the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway for his marvellous display of courtesy.

**Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra):** Madam Speaker, when the question of privilege of the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) is being considered, when he sees fit to bring it up, it should be noticed and realized that only the hon. member for Calgary Centre (Mr. Andre) is mentioned in his notice of a question of privilege. The hon. member for Capilano (Mr. Huntington), the hon. member for Yellowhead (Mr. Clark), and myself are not mentioned.

**Mr. Waddell:** They will be.

**Mr. Clarke:** I would not want the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway to think that he could include all members when he has only reserved the right to raise a question of privilege concerning one member.

**Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Postmaster General):** Madam Speaker, I take note of the remarks of the opposition House leader. I sympathize with these members from British Columbia and Alberta.

**Mr. Nielsen:** You think they have problems!

**Mr. Ouellet:** I realize that they have to go back to their ridings every weekend and sometimes leave on Thursday night. This brings me to wonder why the opposition has not yet accepted the very keen proposition of my government House leader to have only four sitting days each week.