

*Oral Questions*

the company told officials in Ottawa that they were aware of more details.

**An Hon. Member:** That was Wednesday night.

**An Hon. Member:** Why didn't they come clean on Thursday?

**Mr. Mazankowski:** According to a *Globe and Mail* source, the President of a Toronto financial company learned the next morning that his staff had been in possession of the Budget. Once this issue was opened and turned over to the RCMP, all aspects of it, as the Solicitor General has indicated, had been turned over to the RCMP for full investigation.

The Leader of the New Democratic Party should know, he has been around here long enough, that it would be absolutely and totally inappropriate and irresponsible for anyone to interfere with the RCMP investigation. He is asking Members of the Cabinet to in fact interfere with an RCMP investigation, and he ought to know better than that.

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

## MINISTER OF FINANCE—PRIVILEGE—SECOND LEAK

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, I have been around here long enough to see a Minister of the Crown deliberately mislead the House, as I have just seen right this very minute.

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

**Mr. Broadbent:** I want to ask—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Oshawa should know that he should not use language like that in the House—

**Some Hon. Members:** Withdraw.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker—

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

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I am sure the Member for Oshawa will withdraw and put his question.

**Mr. Broadbent:** I will respect the rules of the House and withdraw the comment I made. I now ask the Deputy Prime Minister to respect the truth and answer the question. That is what I want him to do. I want to ask the Minister, since today and yesterday several Ministers of the Crown have avoided the question, if he will tell us when the Minister of Finance and the Government of Canada learned of the second leak, did they know it on the day that the Minister of Finance got up on a question of privilege and talked about only the one leak? If so,

why did they not come clean then and tell the people of Canada? When are they going to live up to their responsibilities and be honest in the House of Commons?

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

**Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and Minister of Agriculture):** Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the Minister of Finance stands by his statement that he made in the House at 11 o'clock on the question of privilege which the Hon. Member referred to. The Hon. Member says "Respect the traditions of this House and respect the traditions of Parliament." He should learn, and he has been around here long enough, that it is totally inappropriate for Members to interfere with an ongoing RCMP investigation.

**An Hon. Member:** You are a phoney.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** The Leader of the New Democratic Party may not like the answers that he is getting.

**Mr. Broadbent:** You are right.

**An Hon. Member:** And we don't either.

**An Hon. Member:** The people in Canada don't like it.

**Mr. Mazankowski:** Let him be patient and let due process take its course.

[Translation]

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF TWO LEAKS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Solicitor General. Yesterday, in this House, he told us four times that the RCMP has been investigating two leaks from the beginning. So, the RCMP started its investigation early Wednesday evening, according to what the Solicitor General said on Thursday, April 27. If the RCMP started its investigation early Wednesday evening and knew all along there had been two leaks, why did the Solicitor General not admit it on that Thursday morning to the House of Commons and to the Canadian people?

**Hon. Pierre Blais (Solicitor General of Canada and Minister of State (Agriculture)):** Mr. Speaker, I think we have been consistent. The day following those events, on the 27th, I think I mentioned in the House that on the evening a budget document was made public on television, we immediately asked the RCMP to investigate. We did not know anything then about the investigation or the events, all we knew was that a budget document was shown on television. We asked the RCMP to make a