Mr. Barrett: Mr. Speaker, my point is separate and distinct from any other point that has been raised this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Essex—Windsor.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex—Windsor): Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my previous discussion of what took place in the committee, I wanted to raise as a question of privilege—and I gave notice this morning with respect to this—the actions of the member for Longueuil with respect to certain calls for the police during the period that the finance committee was meeting.

If I could proceed briefly—

Mr. Speaker: As I say, I have reserved the hon. member's right to make this argument.

I wonder if the hon. member would co-operate with the Chair and let me read that transcript very carefully. There is also a tape which I can look at. As soon as I have a chance to do that, I might indicate to the hon. member for Essex—Windsor at an appropriate time, perhaps tomorrow, when that matter could be raised and argued. It may be necessary for some reply. I do not know.

Mr. Langdon: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to indicate that this seems quite a satisfactory procedure since it will give us time as well to find the "blues" for the committee for that particular period.

I did want to note, however, that this was not simply a gesture, an irritated shout. It was a series of comments.

Mr. Speaker: I certainly take it from the hon. member that he believes it is a serious matter. I will hear him at an appropriate time. I will contact the hon. member.

The hon. member for Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca wishes to rise, but on what?

Mr. Barrett: Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise on a question of privilege of which I gave you notification earlier. I think it is in your hands. It may have been confused with all the others on the earlier point.

• (1700)

Mr. Speaker: I must say to the hon. member that I have in front of me an application on a point of privilege and I take it that is what the hon. member is referring to.

DEMONSTRATIONS ON PARLIAMENT HILL

Mr. David Barrett (Esquimalt—Juan de Fuca): My point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, is related to a matter of privilege that I raised last Monday with regard to my conversation with a certain Mr. Kealey on the front steps. As you will know, because the matter has been brought to your attention, myself and the member for Carleton—Gloucester were in a conversation with Mr. Kealey and Mr. Kealey at that moment, while in the midst of a conversation, was taken away from our presence and escorted to jail.

He was escorted to jail in the company of Father Van Hee. Now both of these citizens are in prison which, of course, normally is a matter of the courts. But it has come to my attention that they are being housed in a 14-prisoner-capacity cell. The reason I link this to the point of privilege is that as a consequence of our actions we are morally bound with the experience of those two citizens.

It has come to my attention that there was almost an altercation in the cell this afternoon, that Father Van Hee, who is in the cell at the pleasure of some charge by the government related to my point of privilege, was under physical threat. Fortunately, no violence has taken place against Father Van Hee but when the threat to Father Van Hee was brought to the attention of the authorities in the institution, Father Van Hee was to told, and I quote, that the only option is "to play it cool or we can put him in solitary confinement for his own protection".

I am asking the Chair to consider in this case action from the Chair for *habeas corpus* to get these two people out of a situation that is not normal within their frame of experience, particularly the priest. Nothing has happened yet but I am concerned for the safety of the priest in the circumstances that exist and I want to bring it to the Chair's attention because of my earlier question of privilege.

Mr. Speaker: While I appreciate the hon. member's point, it is not a question of privilege. The hon. member