

*Privilege*

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, I would not want to pre-judge the decision that you may make or this House may make in terms of the appropriateness of sending any matter to committee for further discussion.

I would wish to point out to you, Sir, that it would be totally unfair for such a matter to be referred out of this House until my House leader, the hon. member for Kamloops, has had an opportunity to at least take as much House time in responding as the government Whip did in attacking him.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Calgary West has made an offer. That offer amounts to simply this, that we adjourn this discussion with all rights retained and the hon. members go away, or come to my chambers, and continue the discussion of this morning.

It is not for me to tell hon. members what to do, but it might be helpful. It would be done on the basis that both the hon. member for Calgary West and the hon. member for Kamloops return to this Chamber if they cannot agree on some sort of accommodation between them.

There are really two issues here. One is the question of Bill C-79 and the work of that committee. The other is the general complaint by the member for Calgary West that there are times and places in the working of this House where hon. members have to be very careful what they say because of information which they may have gathered in either confidential or quasi-confidential places.

It seems to me not particularly helpful to debate Bill C-79 this afternoon unless it is only mentioned in order to support or to refute the question of privilege. But there is here a matter of importance to the House, to both the hon. members, and to probably other hon. members. There are two ways to proceed now.

**Mr. Dingwall:** Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps I could continue and I will certainly hear the hon. member.

There may be three ways to proceed at this moment. One, we can continue the question of privilege. To do that I would, of course, go back to the hon. member for Calgary West. The second is to pick up the offer and adjourn the matter with all rights retained and to have some discussion to see if some resolution in a civil way

could be reached. The third is the possibility that if the House wished, by consent, to put the whole matter over to a committee, at which place the matter could be pursued in front of a—if I could put it this way—a committee of the peers of the two members.

That is where we are. I of course want to be helpful if I can.

**Mr. Dingwall:** Mr. Speaker, the suggestion or the offer made by the hon. member for Calgary West is a reasoned one, as are the comments which have been made with, I believe, genuine sincerity by the House leader of the New Democratic Party, both on the substance with regards to Bill C-79, as well as comments which he alleges have been referred to him personally, I think are serious and require either some airing at some point or after an adjudication.

But perhaps the musings of the Speaker may be appropriate in resolving this matter. Further discussions should take place with the caveat clearly understood by the hon. member for Calgary West, as well as the the House leader for the New Democratic Party, that all the rights are retained so that if they wish to pursue other courses of action on the completion of their discussion, they would have that right.

It would seem, Mr. Speaker, in the interest of not only those hon. members but in the interest of the institution which is so important to us all, that we would want to proceed with caution and reason. We would like to have an airing of the matter in a way which is tasteful to all individuals, making certain that their rights in this institution are not infringed upon in any way.

Your suggestion, Mr. Speaker, that the matter be adjourned for further discussions with you in your chamber, from my perspective as a deputy House leader of this party, may be the fairest way to proceed at this time.

I take no issue with any of the sentiments which have been expressed by the House leader of the New Democratic Party, or the hon. member for Calgary West.

**Mr. Murphy:** Mr. Speaker, I want to be fairly brief, but I do want to make a few points at this time with regard to the suggestion made by the member for Calgary West and reiterated as one of the possibilities to which you yourself alluded. That is that the matter not be judged by