

Tabling of Documents

distributing government documents. That company acted on its own when it published that document without any approval from government authorities and that is why this case is now before the courts.

However, if the hon. member wants to have original copies of the Bertrand report, I will be glad to send him one free of charge, whereas he undoubtedly had to buy the other book or obtain it in the Parliamentary Library. In any case, it is not an official version and does not contain the full Bertrand report.

Madam Speaker: Now I think this settles the matter and the question of the member's access to the report referred to by the minister. As far as the book is concerned, it is, if I am not mistaken, a book like any other. It was published by a private firm and I can assure the hon. member that there is no Index at the Library of Parliament. We have all the books that are published and can be of interest to members of Parliament.

● (1520)

[English]

Mr. Waddell: With great respect, Madam Speaker, perhaps that is not the point. The point is that this book is being withdrawn from Coles book store in Toronto. I understand the government has attempted to withdraw it from Smith and Sons book store. It has attempted to withdraw it from all the book stores. Your Honour promised to look into it, so I will make it perfectly clear, as one politician said. Would Your Honour look into whether this book is going to be withdrawn from the parliamentary library? It concerns me because I gather, from what the minister said, it is going to be withdrawn. It is very important that it not be withdrawn from the library.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member wants me to cause a book to be withdrawn when the case is still—

Mr. Waddell: No, Madam Speaker, the opposite. I want Your Honour to stop the government from withdrawing this book from the parliamentary library because we believe in freedom of speech.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Waddell: Unlike the government, we want this report published and spread around, and we want access to it. The government is withdrawing it from all the book stores in Toronto.

Madam Speaker: Order, please. Do I recall correctly that the hon. member has procured this book from the library?

Mr. Waddell: Yes, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Therefore, as I said in French—

[Translation]

There is no Index at the Library of Parliament.

[English]

—that is to mean, we do not censure. We buy the books we think are important for the members to have access to. The book the hon. member is referring to obviously was in the library. He did have access to it. I do not understand what he is complaining about.

Mr. Waddell: I will not prolong this any more, but the complaint is simply that the government has withdrawn the book from all the book stores in Toronto and the other parts of the country, and I do not want it withdrawn from the parliamentary library. That is dictatorship.

An hon. Member: Keep it.

An hon. Member: Give it back.

Madam Speaker: The book has not been withdrawn. I think that should satisfy the hon. member.

MR. MACKEY—CLARIFICATION OF MADAM SPEAKER'S RULING ON QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE RAISED BY MR. DOMM

Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): I rise on a point of clarification, if I may, Madam Speaker. I did not quite get some of Your Honour's words. With respect to the question of privilege raised by the hon. member for Peterborough, (Mr. Domm), I understood Your Honour to say, if I am correct, that the hon. member had no question of privilege but he had a grievance, and that there was some other recourse. I am just wondering if I heard correctly, and I am not reflecting on your ruling, Madam Speaker. Essentially, did Your Honour say it was a legal matter, or what did you say? I am sorry. I did not quite understand.

Madam Speaker: Yes, that he did not have a question of privilege and that he could use other means of bringing the question to light. I am sure the hon. member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm) has lots of imagination and knows the rules and means at his disposal in this House to do so. I give him full marks for imagination and creativity.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

JUSTICE

TABLING OF FIRST INTERIM REPORT ON FIREARMS CONTROL

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2), I have the honour of tabling in the House, in French and in English, the first interim assessment report on legislation dealing with firearms control.