

*Tabling of Documents*

that Question Period begins at eleven o'clock on Friday, it is impossible for Members of Parliament to be aware of comments made by people like the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) or Cabinet Ministers during the previous day's proceedings. That therefore makes it difficult or impossible for us to use the appropriate quotes in questioning.

I read with interest, as have other Members, the speech made by the Prime Minister. A whole set of questions ought to have been raised today in Question Period, but without the transcript of the proceedings being available prior to Question Period, it was impossible to ask those questions.

I wanted to raise this matter, focusing on the comments of the Prime Minister yesterday, at the first and earliest opportunity. It affects the privileges of all Members of the House in that it hinders our ability to do our jobs effectively. If Question Period is the time of the day when the Government is to be held accountable, and if we have an obligation under the traditions of this House to ask appropriate questions at the earliest opportunity, we must have an earlier reading of *Hansard* on Friday. I am simply flagging this issue in the hopes that one way or another, this can be remedied in the future.

**Mr. Speaker:** I thank the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis) for his intervention. I am not sure that it is a question of privilege. However, I see by indications from other Hon. Members in the Chamber that it is a problem.

The Chair has heard the Hon. Member with considerable concern and I will take some steps to see if there is something that can be done to get *Hansard* available for all Hon. Members on both sides of the House a little earlier. However, I do thank the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap for his very generous acknowledgement that our *Hansard* team is working pretty hard these days. I thank the Hon. Member for raising the matter, and I will see if there is something that can be done to correct the situation.

**Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East):** Mr. Speaker, on the same point, is it not possible, given the time constraints of *Hansard* and the difficulties involved, for Members who are really interested to go up and review the audio tapes? I think that that is available to Hon. Members, and in fact I have done that in the past.

**Mr. Speaker:** I thank the Hon. Member for Hamilton East. I do not think that the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap was suggesting that there are not other ways to possibly cover the debates of the day before. There are, of course. The Hon. Member's suggestion is one, and I would invite Hon. Members to see what arrangements might be made. However, before I indicate that all Hon. Members can avail themselves of the "blues" of statements by other Hon. Members, I think some consideration should be given to what is the policy of *Hansard* there.

As well, it is obvious that with the electronic recordings and television recordings, it is possible, if there is some specific

matter, to draw back through the Oasis system the actual television review. However, I do not think that that is what the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap was getting at. In those cases that can be done, but the Hon. Member was talking about the fundamental convenience of having *Hansard* in time for Hon. Members to use it as a reference for the work they have to do.

I thank the Hon. Member for Hamilton East. I do not want to make a blanket ruling on what is available to Hon. Members, but Hon. Members might make inquiries of the *Hansard* office.

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I wonder if I might take this opportunity to address a question to the Minister of State for the Treasury Board (Mr. Lewis) concerning Government business. It is a matter which relates to legislation which has been promised for some time in the area of—

**Mr. Speaker:** I have a bit of difficulty with this. If the Hon. Minister wishes to respond, he can indicate so, but there is a time for these kinds of questions and it is Thursday afternoon. I am in the hands of the House, of course, but I think the Hon. Member is out of order. I have to say to the Hon. Member for Burnaby that there is no consent.

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### PETITIONS

#### GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

**Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106(8), I have the honour to table, in both official languages, the Government's response to Petitions Nos. 332-5100 to 332-5102 inclusive, 332-5104 to 332-5110 inclusive, 332-5151, 332-5157, 332-5184 to 332-5186 inclusive, 332-5188 to 332-5207 inclusive, 332-5211, 332-5214, 332-5221, 332-5223, 332-5224, 332-5228, 332-5230, 332-5231, 332-5240 and 332-5245 to 332-5248 inclusive.

While I have the floor, I move:

That this House do now proceed to Orders of the Day.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Speaker:** All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

**Some Hon. Members:** Yea.