

Inquiries of the Ministry

mentary, I am not sure. I would not think the word was unparliamentary to the extent that if a member used the word he ought to be required to withdraw it. I am sure the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre would agree that my expression of opinion in this regard is probably supported by the precedents.

Mr. Hees: A supplementary question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I submit—

Some hon. Members: Sit down.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre is indicating, I think, perhaps not that he is dissatisfied with my ruling but that—

Mr. Nowlan: I rise on another point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): In order to make clear what I said, may I—

Some hon. Members: No, sit down.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Nowlan: Mr. Speaker, I was unable to hear all of the remarks of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre owing to the catcalls and noise from hon. members across the way, but aside from the question concerning an adjective placed before a noun in describing a debate in this chamber, the Prime Minister went on in all his honest glory to use the word "hypocrisy".

I have always taken the stand that sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me. However I suggest that the word "hypocrisy" does impute motives. We have had a lot of catcalls from many of the members across the way while we have been discussing a serious subject, though the Prime Minister has not set an example in maintaining the decorum of this chamber.

I am coming to the point that one is not allowed to impute motives. I am not so much worried about whether the Prime Minister thinks in his mind—whatever is in his mind—that the debate is a stupid filibuster; that is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I appreciate the point of view raised by the hon. member, but it is a basic rule of parliamentary debate

[**Mr. Speaker.**]

that no hon. member may impute motives. If the hon. member suggests the Prime Minister, in referring to the words of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, was imputing motives, I am sure that the Prime Minister will want to say that he was not imputing motives.

Mr. Lewis: On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Lewis: I am going to stand still, Mr. Speaker, until hon. members opposite have the dignity and decency to shut up.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Lewis: I can indulge in a wordless filibuster until there is silence, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Will the hon. member kindly proceed with his point of order.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I wish to suggest seriously to Your Honour that the issue is not merely an issue of whether any hon. member said a certain word or took a certain attitude towards a debate in this house. The issue before this house and Your Honour is the position of the Prime Minister of Canada in this house. The issue is whether the Prime Minister of this country can act in such a way as to induce every hon. member of this house, particularly on his side, to make a shambles of this parliament, as it is his intention to do.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Trudeau: Is this not imputing motives?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. It seems to me we are not making much progress. It is now the hon. member for York South who is imputing motives.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Speaker: I ask hon. members whether they seriously think this house should continue much longer in this way. I have some serious reservations. A moment ago I suggested, and I believe I was right in my suggestion, that attributing hypocrisy to another hon. member is imputing motives and to that extent I suggest that that word is unparliamentary. The Chair has intervened in similar circumstances before. The hon. member for Annapolis Valley suggested that I should