

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Mr. Speaker, Mr. Flis is Canadian. I am a Canadian and I am very proud to be a Canadian of Ukrainian descent.

This is not a case of editorializing by the newspaper; it is the case of a paid advertisement on the part of an individual who is not now a Member of Parliament. The Member of Parliament, who has served with such distinction, is now in the House and has raised the question of privilege. It is a question which affects the rights and abilities of Members in carrying out their responsibilities in the House. We must have a set of rules which, in fact, protect Members of Parliament from not being able to carry out their responsibilities. Indeed, in this particular instance there is a *prima facie* case, as Mr. Flis has held himself out as a Member of Parliament.

**Mr. Deans:** We don't know that.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Mr. Speaker, I am saying—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Mr. Speaker, the point has been made by the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans) that there is not a *prima facie* case. However, the Hon. Member who made the case presented the paper with the authority of Jesse Flis holding himself out as a Member of Parliament for Parkdale-High Park and as having a constituency office.

I think a legitimate matter of concern has been raised by the Member of Parliament. I would ask the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain: If one, two or more people were holding themselves out as the Member of Parliament for his riding, would he not be the first to rise in the House and say that his abilities to carry out his responsibilities as a Member of Parliament were being impeded? It is not a laughing matter, as the Liberals seem to think it is. It is an attempt by the Hon. Member to bring forward a *prima facie* case with respect to this issue. It is legitimate. People cannot go out and call themselves Mr. Speaker, or the Member of Parliament for Hamilton Mountain. I support the Hon. Member and I think he has done the right thing. If someone else has done this on Mr. Flis' behalf, then Mr. Flis can, in fact, come forward.

**Mr. Gauthier:** If.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** The "if" part is that we know there is an advertisement. It is under the authority of Mr. Flis and there is no question that there is a *prima facie* case.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Shoot first and ask questions after.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I will hear the Hon. Member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) and then the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans). I will restrict the argument to that.

**Mr. Guilbault (Saint-Jacques):** Not me?

**Mr. Speaker:** No, that will be it. I have heard two Members of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition. Clearly, this is now

*Point of Order—Mr. Deans*

becoming something other than a question of privilege in terms of the reasons for which Members are rising.

**Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I have no axe to grind here. I think, perhaps, that we are losing our perspective in this matter. Surely, a former Member of Parliament, in his normal actions, would not advertise himself as being a Member of Parliament. It does not sound reasonable. The ad may have been placed without his knowledge. I believe we should postpone the matter for a couple of weeks, and that the Member or the Speaker should write to Mr. Flis and await his response.

I was once called a nobody by the previous Government and I have been called "an insignificant" by this Government, so I am not worried about what Members of Parliament are called or how they advertise. But I think we should keep the matter in perspective.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think I have heard all that I need to hear on the question of privilege. I fully intend to reserve on the question. However, I would like to say that the Hon. Member's point is a very important one. It is important to me and to all Members; it has to be. So I am proposing to reserve a final judgment on this matter, do a little thinking and, perhaps, a little investigation. That is my intention. I also intend to allow some time for any additional appropriate information to come to my attention. Then I will return to the House with a final ruling on the matter.

\* \* \*

**POINT OF ORDER**

APPLAUSE DURING QUESTION PERIOD

**Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to seek your assistance in resolving what I believe to be a developing situation.

Over the course of the last few weeks we have seen, on a number of occasions, government Members rising during Question Period with loud and lengthy applause. I would like to ask you, Mr. Speaker, if you would be kind enough at some point to draw to the attention of all Members, Opposition and Government, that it is inappropriate to take the time to rise and disrupt Question Period with lengthy applause and demonstrations of solidarity. It is not necessary. There are times when it is appropriate, but it cannot be appropriate on a daily basis.

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I think that you as Speaker conduct yourself with distinction. You have a sensitivity toward the House and, in fact, you have intervened from time to time—very often on our side, but that is your function. I appreciate and respect the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans), but I believe he is suggesting that somehow you might not have been intervening at the appropriate times.

**Mr. Deans:** Not at all.