

a statement on motions in this House today on behalf of the government, which includes the Prime Minister.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Basford:** The matter was fully canvassed by the Minister of Transport on behalf of the government and the Prime Minister. The opposition parties replied to his statement, and the minister was examined and cross-examined. That, Mr. Speaker, is totally in accordance with the rules of the House. However, I am not aware of any rule of this House or any question of privilege which says that any member of this House, the peoples representatives, be he Prime Minister or no, is not entitled at any time to go outside this House and speak to the people he represents and is supposed to be reaching. It is, surely, no question of privilege, in a free society and a free parliament, for one of its members, including the Prime Minister to go out and speak to the people of this country.

● (1800)

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice (Mr. Basford) said he did not know what rule the hon. member for Grenville-Carleton (Mr. Baker) was citing in raising this question of privilege.

**An hon. Member:** Cite it.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** My hon. friend has asked me to cite one. Mr. Speaker, I cite a very simple rule—the rule of fairness.

*Privilege—Mr. W. Baker*

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** The Liberals are all leaving.

**Mr. Paproski:** They do not care about parliament.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Order, please. The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles).

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** I suggest to the Minister of Communications (Mrs. Sauvé), either in her own capacity in that portfolio, or maybe she is Acting Secretary of State—and I would be delighted if she were—that the suggestion be made to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation right away that if the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) is given free and extra time tonight for a political broadcast, equal or commensurate time be given to the other party leaders in this House. Mr. Speaker, I make that plea simply on the basis of the rule of fairness, which I think is still in existence.

**An hon. Member:** Six o'clock.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner):** Order, please. The hon. member's question may be a question of propriety, but in my opinion it is not a question of privilege and I consider the case closed.

At 6.04 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.