

are New Democrats and many are also members of the Liberal Party, I would submit.

• (1520)

I have no personal motivation in this matter because the letter that the Land Bank Tenants Association sent out was not only within my constituency—

Mr. Hnatyshyn: It was in mine!

Mr. Anguish:—but it was sent out to all of the approximately 2,600 land bank tenants in the Province of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: It came from my constituency!

Mr. Anguish: I do not solicit any funds in the letter for myself as a politician or for my political party. I hear the Hon. Member for Saskatoon West (Mr. Hnatyshyn) starting to cry that this was from his riding. I would admit that fact, and he can respond as well.

It happens that Mr. Mewhort, the Secretary of the Saskatchewan Land Bank Tenants Association, does in fact live in the riding of the Hon. Member for Saskatoon West. The writer of this letter came to me and said that he was very concerned about the passage of Bill 46 in the Saskatchewan legislature because it took away the rights that people have under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms which would apply to this House. In fact, Bill 46 takes away the right to any recourse—

Madam Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member is going far beyond the explanation that he was going to give with regard to the complaint raised by the Hon. Member. I asked him to make his comments short. I think we accept the explanation that he has given, but he must make his comments very short.

Mr. Anguish: Madam Speaker, I was coming to my point. I think that two things were indicated. The Hon. Member was asking if this was not an abuse of my frank, and was also asking if I was aware of the use of my frank on this piece of correspondence, which I could read into the record if you so wish, Madam Speaker.

Some Hon. Members: Go ahead.

Mr. Anguish: The frank was used with my full knowledge on this piece of correspondence. I would admit that. I maintain that there was no abuse of my frank as a Member of Parliament or, if Your Honour would see fit to find that there was an abuse, it would certainly be less flagrant than it was on November 30, 1978 when—

Madam Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Anguish:—when the Hon. Member for Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain (Mr. Hamilton)—

Madam Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member is raising another point in order to justify—

Privilege—Mr. Thacker

Some Hon. Members: No, no!

Madam Speaker:—his own conduct, which I do not judge. I told Hon. Members before that I do not judge whether the frank was used properly or not. If Hon. Members maintain that there is a complaint which could be lodged, then they must lodge the complaint before the Committee on Management and Members' Services.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Nowlan: I have a question of privilege.

MR. THACKER—PREPARATION OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills): Madam Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 17. You will know from the notice that I gave to you that the question I propose to raise today affects each and every one of us as Members, because we all have Private Bills which we have presented and which we want to present. The question relates either to the inability or, as written in my notice, the refusal—although I am not sure that is the case—of the legislative drafters to prepare our Private Bills in time.

The reason I raise this matter before Your Honour—

An Hon. Member: Filibuster!

Mr. Thacker:—is that it falls under your jurisdiction on the Hill.

Since I became a Member in 1979, I have attempted to have Private Bills drafted with respect to gun control, with respect to making salaries public of officials who work for us and Crown corporations, and another relating to the Constitution which would provide for balanced budgets. Such Private Bills would reflect the wide views of constituents.

Ever since becoming a Member in 1979, I have met with different lawyers in the private legislation branch. The first time I went over there was in 1980, after we came back with the new Government in place. I met with a young lawyer and his adviser to discuss these Bills. They were supposed to be drafted but they never were. My researcher would go back after a few months and ask for an update. Then a draft of the gun control legislation came and it simply was not in the proper form. I held a meeting, then a second one, with a supervisor at which time I explained why I wanted to have a certain clause of the Constitution deleted. That officer was actually quite rude in the sense of implying that his branch would not draft just any Bill that a Member wanted. I wanted to have Clause 133 totally taken out of the Constitution, leaving the question of language to the Provinces, but the officer simply refused to draft that Bill. I think that is—

Madam Speaker: All right, I see what the Hon. Member's question is all about. What I must tell him is that it is not a question of privilege. It is, rather, a question concerning the services of the House. I very much regret that the Hon.