

this House and our thoughts are with the families and the victims of this terrible crash.

I do not yet have final information about the number of survivors. At this very time the rescue efforts are continuing. There are people on site providing support to the victims and the evacuations will be taking place as soon as they can be effected safely.

There are survivors but there are also critical injuries. We will of course be assessing the situation and advising the families. We will be making that information public as quickly as possible. If information is available before the House closes, I will be pleased to return and provide that to the member and to the House.

#### COMMENTS DURING QUESTION PERIOD

**Mr. Maurizio Bevilacqua (York North):** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. During Question Period and in response to my question on training, the Minister of Employment and Immigration stated that during the years when the Liberal Party was in government we spent nothing on training. The reality is—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member is entering into debate on what the minister said or what was done many years ago by another government. That really is not a point of order.

I will hear the hon. member further.

**Mr. Bevilacqua:** Mr. Speaker, we cannot get away with saying all sorts of things in this House that are not based on reality.

**Some hon. members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Speaker:** First of all, I can understand the position of the hon. member. When there is a sharp disagreement as to what the facts are there is a natural tendency to want to correct it, but I ask hon. members to remember that there is a distinction between the kind of deliberate statement which may be untrue and the understandable difference of opinion as to what was done by whom and in what place.

I could point out in this case that the hon. minister a moment or two later said that he might not have been altogether correct. However, once we get into that there is no stopping it.

#### *Points of Order*

Another thing I point out is that preambles often make statements that could well be quarrelled with by the other side. I think that if we had everybody up on points of order after every Question Period we would be going for quite a long time.

• (1210)

I understand the hon. member's concern, but there must be another way to correct it. Of course the late show would be an excellent usage of that opportunity. You could return to the matter in Question Period or return to the matter in questions and comments at the close of the government member's speech on a bill, provided of course that the Speaker does not hold you too closely to relevancy.

**Mr. Bevilacqua:** I just wanted to point out to the minister that there is a difference between zero and \$2.2 billion.

**Mr. Speaker:** I suppose I have to concede there is no question of debate there.

#### WITHDRAWAL OF REMARKS

**Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask you when you are reviewing the "blues" from Question Period to look at what happened in the incident of the question raised by the New Democratic member.

I want you to look at it, Mr. Speaker, if you do not mind, from this perspective. I believe that what happened is that the hon. member introduced a question that contained inflammatory language on which you then called him to order and asked for his withdrawal. He did not withdraw it. He got up and asked another question. What happened from that is that we had a very quick escalation of the failure of members to live up to our own standards that we want to see in terms of decorum.

Mr. Speaker, my point is this: I would ask you to review those "blues" because I believe your action was correct in the first instance, to cut the question off and ask for a withdrawal. I would ask you to examine that because I think that is a pattern for practice that will allow us and prevent us, I guess in fact, from getting into these situations of an escalation of an ugly event.