

[English]

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member wants to speak on this point of order. He does want to speak on something else later, I know that, but I will hear him now on this point of order.

Mr. Broadbent: Madam Speaker, I have just decided that the matter that I was going to raise later will not be raised. We have spent 22 minutes on this point of order. At the very time when we are having this debate about whether someone was in his seat or on the floor, I say to you, Madam Speaker, there are thousands who are dying in the Middle East, there are hundreds who are dying in the Falklands, there are millions of Canadians out of work, and that this is a ridiculous use of the time of the House of Commons.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: I have a question of privilege in the name of the hon. member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson). He is not in the House?

Mr. Clark: Madam Speaker, I saw, I believe, the President of the Privy Council rising and in fact I believe he was recognized, so I assumed he was going to remove the false statements from the record of the House of Commons.

[Translation]

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, I was going to speak in more or less the same vein as the leader of the New Democratic Party did just now. I think it is absolutely ridiculous—

Madam Speaker: Order, please. If that is the case, I declare that the debate on this question is over. I believe *Hansard* will be abundantly clear to everyone, and I hope that all hon. members are satisfied with the statements they have been able to make this afternoon in the House.

[English]

Some hon. Members: No, not at all.

Madam Speaker: I have notice of a question of privilege from the hon. member for Halifax West (Mr. Crosby).

* * *

PRIVILEGE

MR. CROSBY—REMARKS OF MR. CHRÉTIEN DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West): Madam Speaker, I have a question of privilege arising from the remarks made by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Chrétien) during the question period when he responded to my inquiries concerning the Marshall case. I do not have before me the transcript of those remarks but I do believe I heard him say that I had not raised this case on a previous occasion.

Petitions

Such an allegation goes to my honour as a member of this House and affects my privileges, because if such an allegation were made it would mislead this House and constitute a falsehood. I had clearly raised this case on two occasions in the House once by way of an Order Paper question on April 1, which was answered, according to *Handard*, on May 11, 1982, and appears at page 17285; and again by way of Standing Order 43 on April 19, 1982.

Now, Madam Speaker, too often ministers of the Crown in responding to private members in this House lay them open to charges of abusing the privileges of this House by making answers without giving an opportunity to respond. I want to make it very clear that when the Minister of Justice stands up and treats a serious matter as summarily as he does and he adds gratuitously the suggestion that I am only raising this at a late date possibly to gain publicity, possibly because the case has been the subject of a feature article in a national magazine, possibly because it appeared in a national newspaper over the weekend on the front page, then I should certainly point out that I was on record on April 1, I was on record before that, and I was on record in this House on April 19. It is the Minister of Justice who will not deal with the case, not members of the opposition.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: I know the hon. member realizes he does not have a question of privilege, but he probably has a grievance and has made his point. A grievance can be debated on other occasions in the House of Commons and I invite the hon. member to use the procedure as it stands in order to air his grievances.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

MR. FLIS—POLAND—IMPOSITION OF MARTIAL LAW

Mr. Jesse P. Flis (Parkdale-High Park): Madam Speaker, it is my duty to table on behalf of over 40,000 Canadians the following petition:

That: martial law in Poland be lifted, the rights of trade unions which were achieved by the Polish people on August 1980 be reinstated, that the human rights mandated by the Helsinki Accord be reinstated;

That until these demands are met by the Polish government a trade embargo on Poland and the Soviet Union be imposed.

The petitioners hope, Madam Speaker, that you will find the petition in order and that the appropriate ministers of the Crown will consider the request of the over 40,000 Canadians signing this petition.