Emergencies Act

Yet, he voted against it. Who does not remember—with your indulgence, Madam Speaker, I shall conclude by giving these four names—who does not remember the great parliamentarian, Mr. Winch? This member of the New Democratic Party and former member of the CCF also voted for the War Measures Act. He probably found this as repugnant as I did, but he still voted for the War Measures Act. I also recall that Barry Mather, a distinguished Member from Western Canada, also voted for it. I also recall one of our colleagues, who is now a member of a National Asembly, I believe, Frank Howard—

[English]

I do not know if Frank is still a Member in the provincial House in British Columbia or not.

[Translation]

Mr. Howard still sits in a legislature, but he now sits in the provincial legislature of British Columbia. He also voted for the War Measures Act. Even when you want to score political points and attract votes, you should still have to tell all the facts. I am not saying that my colleagues lied, but they would have done better to give the whole picture instead of giving us only part of it by suggesting as they did yesterday to Quebec, and it is to this that I object, that all NDP members opposed the War Measures Act when the fact is that they were very much divided. They remained divided up to the end since four of them voted for the War Measures Act, which was a repugnant gesture for which we shall one day have to offer reparation and excuses to those who were stupidly arrested by the police. All this will be said during the third reading debate, but I still wanted to state the facts, and I thank you for your patience, Madam Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I simply wish to point out to the Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) that I certainly did not want to show any sign of impatience. I simply wanted, in the spirit of parliamentary reform, to remind the Hon. Member that the period for questions and comments is normally restricted to short exchanges to allow everyone to take part and to make the debate and exchanges as animated as possible. I am certain that the Hon. Member will want to get back to this issue during his own intervention. This is why I indicated that he should speed up his comments.

Mr. Prud'homme: Madam Speaker, as an experienced parliamentarian, I immediately accept your suggestion. Instead of going on, I shall ask the previous speaker whether he remembers—

[English]

Mr. Blackburn (Brant): You have had eight minutes out of ten. Sit down and let him answer.

Mr. Benjamin: Order, order.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The time will of course be added to the Hon. Member's response.

Mr. Benjamin: I thought bootlegging was illegal, Madam Speaker.

Mr. Hopkins: You should have been here yesterday.

Mr. Benjamin: My hon. friend makes a bootlegger look like an honest man. If he wants to get up to give a diatribe against the NDP and what we did in 1970, then let him get up and make a 20-minute speech at second reading and not use up my time.

Mr. Prud'homme: It is not your time. I rise on a point of order, Madam Speaker.

Mr. Benjamin: There he goes again, Madam Speaker. He can get up right after me and make a 20-minute speech if he wants.

[Translation]

Mr. Prud'homme: On a point of order, Madam Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) on a point of order.

Mr. Prud'homme: Madam Speaker-

[English]

Mr. Benjamin: What is he up for now? He has had his turn on questions and comments.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The Hon. Member has risen on a point of order.

Mr. Benjamin: Another bootleg.

(1630)

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I will listen and rule afterwards.

Mr. Prud'homme: I assure you, Madam Speaker, that it is a point of order.

Madam Speaker, you know my respect for the Chair and the rules. I was not taking time away from the Hon. Member since he had finished his speech. According to the new rules, I am using the second part. Therefore, I was not bootlegging. I know that it was said in good spirits and was meant well, so I will not pursue the matter.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The Hon. Member for Regina West.

Mr. Benjamin: The hon. gentleman sitting beside my colleague rose a little while ago and complained that the Hon. Member who had just finished his speech was not present for questions and comments. Then this hon. gentleman rose and proceeded to direct comments, and I presume that they were comments to me. The Hon. Member did not need to use up the whole 10 minutes. He can make his own 20-minute speech.