

Madam Deputy Speaker: I think the member is already there.

The hon. member for Winnipeg Transcona did not mention at this time that a member was or was not present in the House. He referred to something else. Therefore, I could not according to all rules really take him up on it. I did hear him and I was hoping that he would somehow go to another subject. And I think he will.

Mr. Murphy: Madam Speaker, on a point of order. I suggest the members of the Liberal Party read Standing Order 15, and I quote:

Except as otherwise provided in these Standing Orders, every Member is bound to attend the service of the House unless leave of absence has been given him or her by the House.

I do not believe that the member for Vancouver Quadra has that leave.

An hon. member: Oh, oh, now you have done it.

Madam Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Bonavista—Trinity—Conception had the floor.

Mr. Mifflin: I do thank you for allowing me to really make my point of order. I appreciate that you can read my mind and I think that is great. You are absolutely right. This is where I was going.

Madam Speaker, do we rely on Beauchesne for everything we want to do in this House? There are not enough books written to control and contain what we have to do to achieve what we are about here.

While the hon. member for Winnipeg Transcona may have been within the finite rules of the House, and I will take your word for this, it does absolutely nothing to the tone of the discussion for him to zero in on one member or another hon. member, to get up on a point of order and read Beauchesne's, to quote something that is totally irrelevant to the discussion.

Madam Speaker, I plead with you to watch the tone of this discussion and at least, if nothing else, I plead for relevancy in this subject.

Mr. Mills: Madam Speaker, on a point of order. I would like to come at this from a different point. I do not know all the rules of Beauchesne's, but it seems to me that it is not appropriate for a member of Parliament to stand here and slam a former Prime Minister, a man who served this House for over 30 years, a man who, by the way, put his views on free trade quite clearly on the

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record, and they happen to concur with the member's. Therefore, I think it is a questionable experience that somebody stoop to that level to slam someone who is not in the House.

An hon. member: Right on.

Madam Deputy Speaker: With the permission of the House, I would like us to go on with the debate, which is the motion before the House today, and try to stay within the realms of that motion. We will do a lot more for this place and for the country than by getting into personal attacks of any kind.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Madam Deputy Speaker: I see the hon. member for Churchill rising. I have just asked the House to please let us go on with debate.

An hon. member: Question.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Is this on another matter, or was the hon. gentleman trying to put a little more oil on the fire? The hon. member for Churchill.

Mr. Murphy: Madam Speaker, I am not trying to put oil on the fire but just to correct something. I was not quoting from Beauchesne, I was quoting from the Standing Orders.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Yes, the Chair was aware that it was Standing Order 15. I have read the Standing Orders.

There is a minute and 45 seconds remaining in the period for questions or comments. The hon. member for Broadview—Greenwood.

Mr. Dennis Mills (Broadview—Greenwood): Madam Speaker, I listened attentively to the member for Winnipeg Transcona, and if I understood him correctly, he basically would like to abolish or rip up all of the various trading transactions that we have with the United States.

My problem with his approach has to do with the auto pact. This is a proven instrument of trade between both countries. I know his former leader was a strong proponent of this. I know many members of the Canadian auto workers union support this—

Mr. Blenkarn: They didn't originally, they voted against it in—

Mr. Mills: They were against, now they are for, but the main thing is now they are for it. My concern is one of