

*Privilege*

public by that retailer, as evidenced by an affidavit signed by both the retailer and the wholesaler.

\* \* \*

[Translation]

**CHILD SUPPORT**

**Mrs. Christiane Gagnon (Québec, BQ):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister.

Last week, in a controversial ruling on child support, the Supreme Court rejected Suzanne Thibaudeau's appeal. The Minister of Justice immediately stated that he would act quickly in this matter.

Can the Prime Minister tell us what his justice minister meant when he announced his intention to act quickly in the matter involving Ms. Thibaudeau and what measures he intends to take?

**Hon. Paul Martin (Minister of Finance and Minister responsible for the Federal Office of Regional Development—Quebec, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Justice indicated very clearly the government's intention to issue a statement before the House adjourns in June. We certainly intend to do just that. The hon. member must know that we raised the problem in our first budget, and we are studying it very seriously.

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• (1500)

[English]

**CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD**

**Mr. Jake E. Hoepfner (Lisgar—Marquette, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, further to my question on allegations of illegal dumping by the Canadian Wheat Board, we have now confirmation from the RCMP both in Winnipeg and Ottawa that no one from the Solicitor General's office ever asked them to review these allegations.

Why then did the Solicitor General write to me on March 28, 1995 and say that the RCMP had been asked?

**The Speaker:** That brings question period to a conclusion.

I have a question of privilege from the hon. member for Saint John.

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**PRIVILEGE****UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PHOTOGRAPH**

**Mrs. Elsie Wayne (Saint John, PC):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege today because I feel that my privileges as a member of Parliament and my privacy have been severely

undermined by the government through its report on plain and generic packaging of tobacco products.

Because of the House recess last week, I have not been able to bring this matter to the attention of the House until today. The Minister of Health—

**The Speaker:** My colleagues, I would appeal to you. One of our members is rising on a point of privilege which could affect all hon. members in the House. I would ask you to please listen attentively, as I intend to do.

**Mrs. Wayne:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Minister of Health released the report two weeks ago. Over 1,300 copies were given to the press in the National Press Gallery. It contained eight pictures used in a visual impact study. To my astonishment, my picture was one of them. In the report I was stereotyped as a smoker, which I am not, grossly overweight, which my doctor says I am not, and I guess they have me almost as an 80-year-old woman, which I am not.

At no time did I give permission for the photo to be used nor did anyone from the Department of Health consult me. This type of stereotyping is an assault on my dignity as an individual and as a member of the House. It opens me up to ridicule and thus may impede my ability to perform my duties effectively.

To facilitate your work, Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to a ruling by your predecessor, Speaker Bosley, on a similar case in 1985. The issue involved an advertisement in a newspaper that identified a member of Parliament as someone else. Speaker Bosley said:

Anything tending to cause confusion regarding a member's identity creates the possibility of an impediment to fulfilment of the member's functions and constitutes a breach of privilege.

Speaker Bosley ruled that it was a prima facie case and referred the matter to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections. That case is similar to mine because a member of Parliament was misrepresented.

• (1505)

That is essentially the issue in this case. I have been identified and stereotyped in a manner that misrepresents me, not to mention the photo was used without my permission.

I have asked the Prime Minister for a public apology for the unauthorized use of this photo in a public document and a full accounting and explanation of how the health minister could have allowed this to happen. I have yet to receive a response.

Mr. Speaker, respectfully, I ask you to rule on this question of privilege.

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Saint John has raised a very serious issue, one that I know the Minister of Health is very anxious to reply to when she is available. Unfortunately, the Minister of Health cannot be here today. I am informed that she will be back in the House later this week. When she returns I know she will