

projection and conception; it was never mine. In fact the hon. member for Simcoe North (Mr. Rynard), one of the doctors on the opposite side of the committee, was praised very highly by me for his great contribution, based on his medical experience and his years of experience here. He understood the spirit of Bill C-68, which others apparently did not. They, the others on the opposite side, supported the CMA brief very strongly when the CMA officials cried "poor", and pretended to be the martyr of government cutback,—the slapped child of a father's frustration—not deserving the slap, but being nearest when dad's anger explodes at the dinner table.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mrs. Holt:** I pointed out—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

● (1510)

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. On the previous occasion I interrupted the hon. member for Lambton-Kent (Mr. Holmes) in the midst of an exposé of all the virtues which ought to be possessed by those who want to serve the public in this House. All of it is a very valuable exposition of the attributes which each of us may offer to the constituents at large here, but again I say that while that reasoning is very valid and very important in fact the question at issue is a narrow question of privilege. The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. Holt) has been most helpful in intervening to explain the nature of her remarks, but I would want, as I did in respect of the hon. member for Lambton-Kent, to call her to attention simply to get back to the basic point of procedure or privilege which is involved, and perhaps conclude her remarks.

**Mrs. Holt:** I simply want to say, Mr. Speaker, that at no time during this hearing—and I think this is a matter for your consideration and ruling on this point of privilege and request for an apology—did the member rise on privilege at committee and ask the chairman of the committee for an apology. It was just cross-talk over the table. It took the hon. member a whole week to find out his tender feelings were hurt and come before you, Mr. Speaker, to ask for an apology. I think it is improper and, in the language of the school ground—which I believe those opposite best understand since they often behave as though they are in the school ground—I would suggest that a member who is thin skinned should not use spitballs, because he could get them right back.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Friesen) on the same question of privilege.

**Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock):** Mr. Speaker, I would just like simply to object to the hon. member's suggestion that the job of a government backbencher is huge and complex.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I hope hon. members will understand that I wish to give this matter some further consideration. There are a number of very interesting and somewhat conflicting precedents, but I think one thing comes through again, which is the obvious difficulty of

#### *Committees of the House*

attempting to rule from here in any way on the proceedings that have taken place in the standing committees.

**Mr. McGrath:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. It is one which will not require a ruling from Your Honour. Since the first Monday following the Christmas recess a number of questions to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Lang) have been dealt with in this House in respect of the inadequacy of search and rescue procedures in Canada. Each round of questioning would always follow some tragedy at sea, either on the west coast or on the east coast. This has become a serious topic of this session.

Today the Minister of Transport issued a very important statement outside the House. The statement was delivered to my office at 11 a.m. today. However, the minister did not show the House the common decency of coming to the House, standing in his place, and being accountable to this House for what he said outside the House. That, I submit, is contempt, and is a complete contradiction of our parliamentary system of responsible government.

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### COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

#### HEALTH, WELFARE AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Tenth report of Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs—Mr. Robinson.

[*Translation*]

#### MISCELLANEOUS PRIVATE BILLS AND STANDING ORDERS

Ninth report, in both official languages, of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills and Standing Orders—Mr. Loiselle (Saint-Henri).

[*Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Bellechasse on a point of order.

**Mr. Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, it is a very short point of order. At the beginning of these proceedings, the House adopted a motion concerning the Order of Canada and some Canadians will receive this order tonight. I want to draw the attention of the House to the fact that among the personalities who will receive this order will be the Hon. W. A. C. Bennett, who was premier of British Columbia for 20 years. It is therefore a well deserved honour for this great Canadian and I wanted to bring this to the attention of the House.

[*English*]

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) on a point of order.

**Mr. Reynolds:** Mr. Speaker, I would just like to add the wishes of my party to those expressed by the hon. member for the Social Credit Party in respect of the honour being bestowed on our former premier of British Columbia this evening.