Privilege-Mr. Nowlan

[Translation]

Next week we will continue the study of Bill C-132. I understand that Bill C-131 is expected to be reported to the House within the next few hours. In that case, and if we can do so, we will continue the study of Bill C-132 and Bill C-131, which concerns Old Age Security. Assuming that those two bills could be referred to committee before the end of the day on Tuesday or Wednesday, we would then consider Bill C-136, if we can reach agreement. Otherwise we will go on with Bill C-139 relating to income tax. All that is, of course, subject to changes, in which case I will give reasonable notice. There is a possibility that Bill C-85 could be called for debate before Christmas, but in light of what I have just said, it is highly unlikely if the debates go on smoothly and if we do get practical results with the other bills.

[English]

POINT OF ORDER

MR. NOWLAN—REMARKS OF MR. TRUDEAU DURING QUESTION PERIOD

Madam Speaker: I have a notice of a question of privilege from the Hon. Member for Annapolis Valley-Hants.

Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley-Hants): Madam Speaker, I gave you the required letter and I will be very brief. I have checked yesterday's *Hansard*. As Your Honour knows and can see from page 21596, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), in reply to one of my questions, said:

I suspect the Hon. Member has made those quotations up as he makes up a lot of his questions.

It submit that it is clear from that reply that the Prime Minister was certainly inferring that I fabricated quotes that I read to him in the question. I believe that under the rules of Beauchesne, that is certainly most unparliamentary. I also gave the Prime Minister a letter earlier this morning indicating that I was going to try to catch your eye and raise this matter today. He may have other business and perhaps that is why he is not here.

However, I do believe that this goes a little too far. If the Prime Minister wants to disown the authorship of the article written by Pierre Elliot Trudeau in April, 1963—

• (1510)

Madam Speaker: Order. I do have to interrupt the Hon. Member because I thought he was rising on a question of privilege, but he gave me notice of a point of order and a question of privilege. He raised the point of order.

On the point of order, I am afraid I must tell him that "made up" are not considered to be unparliamentary words and that if he is assimilating them to "fabricate" or to other words which are considered to be non-parliamentary, that he cannot do. That is stretching it a bit. The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) used the words "made up", which is acceptable, and

therefore the Hon. Member does not have a point of order. However, I will hear his question of privilege now.

Mr. Nowlan: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I will not trespass any further on a point of order because, quite frankly, there are larger things to do in the House today.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

PRIVILEGE

MR. NOWLAN—REMOVAL OF MR. GAUTHIER FROM MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley-Hants): Madam Speaker, I come to my question of privilege in a very serious way. I gave Your Honour a fairly lengthy written explanation and I will try to be almost as short in my verbal explanation of what I consider to be a collective question of privilege from all Hon. Members in this House in view of what happened in the Miscellaneous Estimates Committee when the appearance of the Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) was terminated, as far as being a member of that Committee was concerned, having been a Member of that Committee, I understand, almost from the day of his election. Obviously, the Hon. Member himself is perhaps the one who should have raised such a question of privilege. I also understand the narrow definition of "privilege". Privilege can only be raised here in a responsible way if a matter affects the discharge of a Member's duty, or the carrying out of his duties.

I was in the House when the Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier made one of the most considered, constructive speeches on Bill C-133. Frankly, I think it was one of the best speeches which have been made in this Parliament since we began the session almost two and half years ago. As a result of that speech, my duty to my constituents was affected in a very positive way, frankly, because instead of quoting many times from the article which I used as the basis for a question yesterday, showing how the then writer and philosopher, Mr. Pierre Elliot Trudeau, now the practising politician as the Prime Minister of this land, castigated, in the most penetrating way—

Madam Speaker: Order.

Mr. Nowlan: —the docile sheep of—

Madam Speaker: Order, order.

Mr. Nowlan: I'm almost-

Madam Speaker: Order.

Mr. Nowlan: Madam Speaker, I want to continue.

Madam Speaker: Order. The Hon. Member's question of privilege concerns the fact that a Member has been removed by a Committee. The Hon. Member, I think, gave me some clue as to what the answer to his question of privilege might be