

Point of Order—Mr. Crosby

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the Government approved a five-year plan in the order of \$20 million. For the first year the funding level was set at \$1.5 million. A number of projects across Canada have been funded. Those projects are available but I will not take the time of the House to mention them. Additionally, we have had many consultations on the special adviser and have now focused on one person. That name is now under consideration by the Government.

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POINTS OF ORDERPRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—VOTABLE ITEMS—COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order which I will state very quickly. My point is about the procedure followed in relation to a question of privilege raised by the Hon. Member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm).

● (1510)

You will recall that on December 4, 1986, you ruled on a question of privilege related to the work of the Standing Committee on Private Members' Business. You indicated that the matter in dispute should be considered by the Standing Committee on Elections, Privileges and Procedure as part of its review of the provisional rules.

Yesterday, April 7, 1987, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Elections, Privileges and Procedure filed the fourth report which recommended the continuance of the provisional rules, particularly those relating to Private Members' Business. There is no indication that the matter which you dealt with on December 4, 1986, was reviewed by the Standing Committee on Elections, Privileges and Procedure.

I merely want to bring that to your attention in the hope and expectation that some consideration could be given to the view you expressed in December and the work of the Standing Committee on Private Members' Business can be reviewed as you suggested.

ALLEGED IMPROPER USE OF MEMBER'S NAME—
UNPARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I just want to draw to your attention the fact that during the period for statements by Members, the Hon. Member for The Battlefords—Meadow Lake (Mr. Gormley) referred to the Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Mulroney) by his name. I want to bring to his attention the fact that that was inappropriate.

As well, while I am not certain that you heard it, I want to draw to your attention the fact that the Hon. Member for

Lévis (Mr. Fontaine), during his statement, referred to a Member of this House of Commons as a hypocrite. I believe that is considered to be unparliamentary and I ask that he retract that.

[Translation]

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, I have been advised that our interpretation services may have used the term hypocrite in the English rendition of the French, but it is not the term I used, and I regret that the New Democratic Party's House Leader got this impression of his Leader.

[English]

Mr. John Gormley (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, in response to the first part of the Hon. Member's point of order, I humbly acknowledge that in my enthusiasm for the Prime Minister's work in western Canada I mentioned him by name. I know the Opposition often does that in criticism. However, I apologize if I referred to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) by name because of all the good work he has done in western Canada.

Mr. Speaker: I should bring to the attention of Hon. Members that the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis) was absolutely correct procedurally.

The Hon. Member for Halifax West (Mr. Crosby) has raised a point which I will consider and report back to the House.

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TRADE

STATEMENT BY MINISTER ON GOVERNMENT STEEL POLICY

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I am rising today to outline the Government's steel policy. This Government has long recognized the importance of the U.S. market to all sectors of the Canadian steel industry and we have invested considerable effort to ensure that no restrictions are introduced at the border. The program I am announcing today will augment our efforts in pursuing that objective.

As you know, there are continuing pressures in the U.S. to reduce the share of the U.S. steel market held by Canadian suppliers. We are one of the few countries which has not been forced to accept a voluntary restraint agreement with the Americans. The Canadian position on this question is very clear. Our steel is fairly traded and trade restrictive measures at the U.S. border are not warranted. We continue to expect the U.S. administration to do its job and resist pressures from the U.S. industry and Congress to restrict fairly traded Canadian steel.

Before outlining the elements of our program I wish to emphasize that it represents a response to the problems facing the Canadian steel industry which extend beyond U.S.