

*Routine Proceedings*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** No, I am not surprised, except the hon. member has been on questions and comments all the time and I figured he wanted another question or comment.

**Mr. Nunziata:** As you may know, Mr. Speaker, we are paid a handsome salary around here and I am simply earning my keep today by participating in the debate on this particular recommendation.

I am sure my constituents are not really familiar with the House management committee. What we are debating is report No. 23 of the House management committee. What is the House management committee, one might ask?

The House management committee—and it is becoming more open as time progresses—consists of certain members of Parliament from each of the political parties. It is the committee that, up until recently, was very secretive. The members of that committee decide how to run this place. They decide on such matters as the parliamentary restaurant, shoe shine facilities, framing, all the expenditures associated with the operation of the House of Commons.

**An hon. member:** Haircuts too.

**Mr. Nunziata:** Haircuts as well. As you know, Mr. Speaker, you and I do not often use the parliamentary barber. It is really not a necessity for us. But yes, the committee decides the price of haircuts, shaves and everything else in the rooms downstairs.

This committee is generally made up of senior members of each of the caucuses. For example, the member for Saint-Denis is a member of that committee. He is the dean of the House of Commons. The member for Kingston and the Islands is a member of the committee, the member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell, and the assistant parliamentary whoever he is on the other side of the House. These are part of the A team in the House of Commons. The member for Broadview—Greenwood referred to them as the élite. They are a group of people who have some authority around here.

• (1440)

There are others in this House—the member for Broadview—Greenwood and myself—who are not part of that inner circle of individuals. Yes, we are part of the B team, and the member from Chambly is also part of the B team on the New Democratic Party side.

Now and again we have the opportunity to consider some of the decisions made by the House management committee. One of the decisions made by that committee is presented in report No. 23 entitled: *Broadcasting of Committee Meetings*.

As the day has progressed, we have been dealing only with report No. 23, but we also have a series of other reports, report No. 22, report No. 24 and report No. 27. The members' representatives from the House management committee have been meeting behind the curtain, at times on this side of the House and a few moments ago on the other side of the House. They are trying to work out some type of deal to ensure that some of these reports are carried and others are not. So there is some negotiating going on behind the scenes and of course the people who are watching are not aware of the negotiations that are going on.

They ought to know how Parliament operates because when negotiating goes on behind the scenes, it breeds—if I can say it, Mr. Speaker—contempt or suspicion about what is going on. In this House management committee the élite from each of the three major political parties—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** On a point of order, the hon. parliamentary secretary to the government House leader.

**Mr. Cooper:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the remarks of the hon. member and I thought he might appreciate if I brought those negotiations on to the floor where people can see. We have offered on this side to give concurrence to all of these reports that are, in fact, an all-party unanimous agreement from that particular committee. Will he get together with his members and support it?

**Mr. Boudria:** That is not a point of order, Mr. Speaker. For the parliamentary secretary to the government House leader to be negotiating in public is not a point of order. After all, I could describe the position of his own House leader on some of these motions, and so on but I will not.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** I think that we should just carry on with debate. The hon. member for York South—Weston has the floor.

**Mr. Nunziata:** Perhaps the members on the House management committee can go have a cup of coffee and continue their negotiations.