

Mr. MANION: Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of order. The hon. member is quoting from a previous debate on the same subject matter, namely the debate on the second reading of the bill. According to my understanding of the rules he is not entitled to do so.

Mr. POULIOT: Speaking to the point of order, the rule of the house is to the effect that we cannot quote from a previous debate, if the quotation is in regard to another matter. At this point however we are discussing the same bill, and I submit a member is entitled to quote Hansard on the same debate. However to save time and trouble I shall not insist upon reading further from Hansard, and shall be content to read some documents which do not appear on Hansard but which it is my intention to place on record. The quotation I have just read appears at page 3000 of Hansard of March 14, 1933. Any hon. member may find at that point what I said.

Then, I sent the following question to the assistant clerk:

Mr. Pouliot:

1. What has been the taxation of each witness heard at each of the sittings of the Senate committee on Bill A of the Senate from November 10, 1932, to February 16, 1933?

2. What is the total amount of other expenses incurred by that committee in connection with said bill?

On March 17, 1933, Mr. Speaker ruled as follows: "This is a matter for the Senate, not the House of Commons. Question not in order." Then I wrote to the Minister of Railways and Canals. My letter under date of March 20, 1933, is as follows:

Hon. Dr. R. J. Manion,
Minister of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Doctor Manion,—

On Friday last I sent the following questions to the assistant clerk of the House of Commons.

The questions I have already mentioned are quoted in the letter. I then continued as follows:

The Hon. the Speaker of the House of Commons wrote me thus: "This is a matter for the Senate, not the House of Commons. Question not in order."

Will you kindly give me that information?

With thanks,

Sincerely yours,

Jean-François Pouliot.

The answer to that letter is as follows:

Office of
The Minister of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, Canada.

March 22, 1933.

Dear Mr. Pouliot,—

I am obliged for your letter of March 20, and for your suggestion that I give you information as to expense incurred by the committee of the Senate which dealt with Bill A.

As the Speaker of the house has already advised you, such inquiries should be addressed to the officials of the Senate, who could no doubt give you the desired information.

Yours very truly,

R. J. Manion.

The letter is addressed to Jean-François Pouliot. I then wrote the Right Hon. Arthur Meighen leader of the government in the Senate, the following letter:

Ottawa, March 23, 1933.

Right Hon. Arthur Meighen,
Leader of the Government,
The Senate,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Meighen,—

Pray find herewith enclosed copy of a letter to Hon. Doctor Manion, dated March 20, and copy of his answer dated March 22.

Would you kindly communicate with the officials of the Senate in order that the information asked for is forwarded to me as soon as possible?

With thanks,

Sincerely yours,

Jean-François Pouliot.

Then I wrote another letter to the same right hon. gentleman. It is as follows:

Ottawa, March 25, 1933.

Right Hon. Arthur Meighen,
Leader of the Government,
The Senate.

Dear Mr. Meighen,—

You will greatly oblige me if you answer my letter of March 23 at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Jean-François Pouliot.

The answer of the right Hon. Arthur Meighen was as follows:

The Senate,
Canada.

Ottawa, March 28, 1933.

Dear Mr. Pouliot,—

On my return to Ottawa to-day I have your letters of the 23rd and 25th instant.

As I understand the procedure it would be necessary for you to move in the Commons that a message be sent to the Senate asking for the information you desire.

If such a message is received in the Senate I shall see that it is given prompt consideration.

Yours very truly,

Arthur Meighen.

This letter was addressed to J. F. Pouliot, Esq., M.P. It was impossible for me to have such an address moved in the House of Commons and communicated to the Senate. It would have been impossible for me to have the answer to-day when the bill is being considered before the committee of the whole house. So my good friend, the good Samaritan, the Hon. Senator Horsey, was kind enough to put the following question before the Senate: