

somebody. He is using this method to get across something he knows in his own heart and every member of the Liberal party knows was untrue. There was no trickery. They did not have enough members in the house to uphold the government. That is why he was defeated. Why doesn't he tell the truth? I repeat that these are the words of the Prime Minister. They are not in quotes. That point must be made because his defence today is a false defence.

Not by this kind of trickery situation last Monday night.

Those are his own words. So I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, with the greatest respect, that the motion of the hon. member for Kamloops is completely in order because the Prime Minister did malign and slander everyone in this house over television by leaving the impression that this good government—that is what he thinks it is but we think it is the opposite—was tricked into defeat on that occasion. I might end with this phrase. This is a new rule. It is a rule by King Pearson I. He won't quit until he is fired.

**Miss LaMarsh:** That sounds more like Dief the Last.

**Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley):** Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to become particularly involved in the debate taking place at the moment. I simply want to state very clearly, with regard to the suggestion of trickery in connection with the vote on Monday night, that the members of this group voted according to the dictates of their consciences and without any reference whatsoever to any other member or any other party in the house.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Patterson:** I want to add another word to clear up what I think is a misunderstanding. There was just one member of this party who was absent the other evening when the vote was taken. Although I did not have the translation system turned on I understand that someone said there were two of our members absent. Mr. Speaker, we realize it is your responsibility to decide this issue and we leave it in your hands.

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, the main conclusion I have drawn from this debate so far is that the Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) made a mighty effective television performance last night.

*Reference to Statement by Prime Minister*

• (3:30 p.m.)

The hon. member for Kamloops complains of two allegations or statements contained within the Prime Minister's telecast. He refers to the expression "a trickery situation" and the expression "a manufactured crisis". Surely hon. members are becoming extremely thin-skinned when they rise on a question of privilege in objection to these two expressions. Those of us who have been in this house for any length of time know that these are relatively mild expressions—

**An hon. Member:** Not when principles are involved.

**Mr. MacEachen:**—especially those of us who have listened to and enjoyed the thunderbolts delivered at times in abusive and torrential language by the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker). I notice, Mr. Speaker, that he had the good judgment not to line up on this rather ridiculous and manufactured question of privilege.

The other day when I moved the motion to adjourn the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot (Mr. Ricard) said, "It is a rotten Grit trick".

**Mr. MacEwan:** It was.

**Mr. MacEachen:** I wish to refer in general terms—

**Mr. Horner (Acadia):** It was.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I rest my case.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Surely it is open to members of the public to say that the House of Commons is incompetent, that it lacks judgment and that it does not do its job efficiently. Surely this is a comment that any member of the public could make. Are our privileges thereby violated? Are we not ready to receive criticism? Surely hon. members opposite are not today saying that our personal privileges, our integrity and our station as members of parliament are in any way violated by the expressions "a trickery situation" or "manufactured crisis". Surely they have no more entitlement to that position than we on this side would have if we were to say that we have been maligned or slandered by two hon. members of the opposition who just the other day and now today have said that we have been guilty when moving a normal procedural motion of a dirty—I am sorry, I should