

when, at a later stage, on a new motion, the subject was again before the House, I referred to the letter spoken of. But I did not, on a question of privilege, undertake to do anything of that sort. I think that my hon. friend, if he will consult the record, will find that he is mistaken.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The procedure may have been as the hon. minister states; I have not a sufficiently clear recollection of the case to contradict him. By my recollection is that he was not corrected in the course he took. My hon. friend from Selkirk (Mr. Bradbury), I take it, could again bring up the whole matter on motion to go into supply.

Mr. FIELDING. Certainly.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I do not see any reason why he should be driven to that. He has only a short explanation to make, as I understand it, endeavouring to put himself right on a matter in which he conceives himself to have been misrepresented.

Mr. FIELDING. But he is assailing another member.

Mr. BRADBURY. I have no desire to infringe on the rules of the House. But the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) criticised the statement I made the other night in language which calls for some explanation from myself. He characterized my statement thus :

May I add my humble appreciation by saying that I believe never, since this chamber was erected, has there been delivered in its walls such a persistent and sustained tirade of unwarranted assertion, of unwarranted insinuation, a tirade that, in its gratuitous inexactitude, is an offence against the privilege of parliament and an insult to its intelligence.

Now I hold that, as a member of this House, I have some rights here. I have a right to justify what I said in the House.

Mr. FIELDING. With the hon. member's permission, I would respectfully suggest that he is endeavouring to justify himself in a matter arising out of a previous debate. Unless there is some thing in which he has been misrepresented or something of that kind—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Oh, oh.

Mr. FIELDING. No, the hon. member has not a right to proceed in this way on a question of privilege. His statement must be confined to a personal explanation. The hon. member must see that his speech will challenge a reply—

Mr. BRADBURY. No.

Mr. FIELDING. Then the hon. member wants to have it one-sided. Unless that is his wish, I have only to point out that

what he says is likely to challenge a reply, and so we lose the order of the House.

Mr. BRADBURY. I am simply making a statement correcting what the minister (Mr. Oliver) said in regard to the statement I made before. He said that when I stated that the chief and councilmen had received more land than they were entitled to, I stated that which was not in accord with the facts. I have laid before this House this return which is sworn to by the Indian agent, which is absolutely correct and proves the correctness of my statement and the incorrectness of the minister's explanation.

Mr. FISHER. If I may be permitted to interrupt, the hon. member (Mr. Bradbury) says he has a right on a question of privilege to justify a statement he made in a former debate. I ask your ruling, Mr. Speaker, on the question whether the hon. member can do that on a question of privilege. As I understand it, he has a right to correct a statement of his own or to make a personal explanation, but not to justify his former argument. The hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. R. L. Borden) has pointed out that the hon. member for Selkirk will have an opportunity, on going into supply, to bring up this question. That is perfectly right. And the only objection to his bringing it up now is that he is violating the rules of the House and indulging in a procedure which has been, I regret to say, somewhat abused.

Mr. J. A. CURRIE. The hon. member has risen—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Fisher) has the floor.

Mr. J. A. CURRIE. I rise to a point of order.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. J. A. CURRIE. I am speaking on the question of order.

Mr. FISHER. The hon. member for North Simcoe (Mr. J. A. Currie) desires to interrupt me, but I claim to be heard as I have the floor.

Mr. J. A. CURRIE. Mr. Speaker, the hon. member (Mr. Fisher) cannot speak on a question of privilege for the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Bradbury) has the floor on that question. He (Mr. Fisher) can only speak on a point of order. That is my point of order.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The hon. member for North Simcoe rose to a point of order. The Minister of Agriculture should have taken his seat at once.