

with some of the activities outlined by the hon. member for Welland, but that was under a Liberal regime. Any restoration that is going on at the present time will, of course, be under a Conservative regime. I can assure all the hon. members who have spoken on this subject that every activity that takes place in the Grand Palace theatre will be highly respectable and for the edification of the thousands of tourists who are going to visit Dawson city in the current tourist season.

Actually I am very pleased that this subject has been raised in the House of Commons. As the hon. member for Port Arthur has intimated, there has not been too much publicity concerning this question, and there is a very good explanation for that fact. It is not because of undue modesty on the part of the minister. It is because only in the past few weeks plans have been completely formulated for the staging of what has become known now as the Dawson city gold rush festival. Hon. members have implied that this project was conceived by the government, or that the decision to restore the Grand Palace theatre as a shrine was that of the government. I do not know to what faith the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate belongs. However, for him to refer to this as a shrine indicates that he is indeed twisted in his thinking on historic sites.

Mr. Pickersgill: I was repeating what the hon. member for Welland said.

An hon. Member: He who repeats is equally guilty.

Mr. Dinsdale: Yes. This is an historic site pure and simple. Even the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate should be able to appreciate that point.

Mr. Pickersgill: I rise on a question of privilege. It may be simple but certainly, judging from the description, it is not pure.

Mr. Dinsdale: I said pure and simple. Let us not go back to its experience under a Liberal regime; let us stick to contemporary times. The decision to declare the Grand Palace theatre an historic site was made by a no less distinguished group than the historic sites and monuments board, which includes among its membership some of the most distinguished historians in Canada.

Mr. Fulton: Perhaps it is jealousy that motivates the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate.

Mr. Dinsdale: Yes. It is not only jealousy. There was a sort of wistfulness in what the hon. member said.

Mr. Pickersgill: I am rising on a question of privilege.

An hon. Member: Who is taking up time now?

Mr. Pickersgill: I am. I am rising on a question of privilege in a free parliament. The Minister of Justice, echoed by the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, accused me of jealousy.

Mr. Dinsdale: I said "wistfulness".

Mr. Pickersgill: "Jealousy" is now an unparliamentary word. Indeed, it is a vicious attack. We have read editorials from one end of this country to the other to the effect that when an hon. member is accused of jealousy, a vicious attack has been made upon him. In view of the attitude taken by hon. gentlemen on the other side of the chamber, I feel that word should be withdrawn by the Minister of Justice, if he has any sense of justice and any sense of fair play. I say that in view of the tremendous fuss his friends made when an hon. member on this side of the chamber suggested that an honourable and distinguished member on the other side of the chamber was guilty of jealousy. Personally I would not worry about it, Mr. Chairman, but I am suggesting that the same treatment be given to both sides of the chamber.

Mr. Fulton: I do not wish to prolong this discussion. What I said was that it is probably jealousy that motivates the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate. If he finds that his sensitivity will not absorb that remark, I shall be glad to withdraw the word "jealousy" and say "green eyed envy".

Mr. Dinsdale: I was just about to indicate that distinguished historians made the decision, as is the case in respect of all historic objects and sites that are designated as such. I refer to Dr. Creighton, Professor Lower and other men with very distinguished historical qualifications. I am afraid that my friend the hon. member for Port Arthur has misinterpreted completely the story of Pierre Berton. Actually the association of the department and the government in the Klondike or gold rush festival is quite incidental. Our only connection is the restoration of the Grand Palace theatre. The moving spirit behind this very imaginative project is Mr. Tom Paterson—who, a few years ago, was responsible for the establishment—and indeed I might use the word "creation"—of the Stratford festival. At the time Mr. Paterson conceived of the possibility of a Shakespearian festival being located in Stratford, Ontario, criticisms very much similar to those that have been raised in this chamber this afternoon were made against the project of those days.