

I never said that the member for Yukon committed perjury.

[English]

Mr. Diefenbaker: That is what you said: Something false under oath.

Mr. Favreau: That is what you said I said.

[Translation]

The hon. member for Yukon had just made an interjection which was not at all pertinent to the debate. He stated that everything said could be found in the Dorion report, thus prompting me to object, because I, among others, had read the transcript of the evidence.

I believe I am entitled, with regard to his allegation, to tell him that, on two occasions, he said things that were not the exact truth.

Mr. Vincent: Under oath.

Mr. Favreau: Under oath and otherwise.

Mr. Vincent: No, no.

Mr. Favreau: What constitutes perjury is the intention to mislead.

● (2:10 p.m.)

[English]

Mr. Diefenbaker: You can't get away with that. You might as well withdraw.

An hon. Member: You are getting in deeper.

Mr. Churchill: Withdraw or sit down.

[Translation]

Mr. Favreau: Mr. Chairman, I regret that that interruption should delay the discussion. It is most important and urgent in the public interest—which goes considerably beyond the personal interest of the hon. member for Yukon or mine—that the estimates be voted by the house.

In the circumstances, I clearly state that I never had the intention of implying that the hon. member for the Yukon had perjured himself and consequently I do not believe the words I may have uttered could be construed as harmful to his reputation or otherwise.

I think a solution might be that if I stated things that were not according to the facts, every one agree to refer the question to the committee on privileges and elections where it could be dealt with.

[English]

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee rise.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

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Supply—Justice

The Deputy Chairman: Order.

Mr. Churchill: It is a motion, Mr. Chairman. I move that the committee rise.

The Deputy Chairman: Order.

Mr. McIlraith: The Chairman is on his feet.

The Deputy Chairman: Order. The Chair has been enlightened by the observations of members of the committee. It is difficult in these situations to render a decision, but if we consult the authorities on this topic and recall certain decisions that have been rendered in similar circumstances it is definitely mentioned that the word "lie" is unparliamentary. To ease the situation may I ask the hon. President of the Privy Council if he would consider withdrawing the word "lie" which is unparliamentary?

Mr. Favreau: Mr. Chairman, before this ruling was rendered I did withdraw the word "lie" as unparliamentary, and I must make it quite clear that to the extent that any of the words I may have used might be interpreted as meaning that the member for Yukon deliberately tried to deceive the court, I withdraw them.

Mr. Churchill: I move that the committee rise, Mr. Chairman. You must surely accept my motion.

Mr. Nielsen: Perhaps I might make one last appeal to the minister and give him one last opportunity.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): He isn't worth it.

Mr. Nielsen: The issue is this. The minister used these words, that the member for Yukon, myself, had on two occasions before Mr. Justice Dorion—

An hon. Member: Under oath.

Mr. Nielsen: —under oath, not told the truth. Therein lie the offensive words. All the minister has to do—I am not asking him for an apology even though the rules say I am entitled to one—is simply to withdraw those offensive words.

Mr. Churchill: He is apparently not going to withdraw them, Mr. Chairman. My motion is before you. Will you not accept my motion?

Mr. Winkler: Let us have the motion.

The Deputy Chairman: I did not hear what the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre said to the Chair.