

giving evidence with regard to these material facts. He is here by order of this Committee; he has said that Members of the House of Commons—if I remember it correctly—were mentioned to him by Mr. Forke, and I ask that the names of those Members be given now to the Committee, in order that this probe may be facilitated.

Hon. Mr. RALSTON: No one is objecting to that.

Mr. GLEN: I am not objecting to the witness giving the name of every Member whom he knows. As stated in the papers he definitely knows the names, and I am not objecting to his giving them, but I am objecting that he should be given a special privilege to name somebody and then seek the cover of this Committee in not standing up to any action that might be taken against him.

Mr. CAHAN: He is asked to give the name that a Minister of the Crown gave to him. He does not know the truth or falsity of it.

Mr. MCGIBBON: We have summoned this man here to produce proof of his charges. He has made statements which I think are serious and which reflect upon us all. It is only fair to him to let him present his case. If he has sufficient proof upon which he was justified in making that statement, then probably one can excuse him; if he has not, I certainly for one will hold him guilty.

Hon. Mr. EDWARDS (Frontenac): I support Mr. Cahan's contention, being influenced by his logic, and I would like to add that after all in extending the privilege to the witness we are only giving him for the time being a privilege which we all enjoy as Members of Parliament as saying things in the House we would not dare to say outside.

Hon. Mr. RALSTON: I am still of the opinion that the Committee should not extend any special privileges—

Mr. CAHAN: We are not extending any privileges; we are ordering him to answer.

Hon. Mr. RALSTON: I am concurring absolutely in Mr. Cahan's statement with regard to giving the name. No one is attempting to shut the name out, but Mr. Coldwell has made a statement with regard to Members of Parliament generally without any privilege or without asking any, and I do not know why he cannot make his statement with regard to any particular individual in the same way. (To the witness) You are not taking the position that you require an order before you answer?

The WITNESS: No, but I am taking this position, that I wish to have the same privilege extended to me as is accorded to Members of Parliament.

*By Hon. Mr. Stewart:*

Q. I am in accord with what Mr. Cahan has said up to a certain point. But if the witness wants to seek immunity from prosecution for any statement he may make here, because he is making it to a parliamentary Committee, then Mr. Cahan's—

Mr. CAHAN: The distinction is between making a voluntary statement and answering a specific question proposed to him by this Committee. I think the will of this Committee should be made known that he answer this specific question. He is not making any charge against any Member; he is saying that a Minister of the Crown, the head of a Department, gave him the name of a Member of Parliament who is trafficking in permits, and for the purpose of facilitating this inquiry this Committee should demand to know who that person is, what his name is, in order that we may ascertain the real truth.

Mr. GLEN: Mr. Cahan is interjecting into this another issue that is not before the Committee. I am satisfied that not a single member of this Committee objects to the witness giving the name. We are not objecting to

[Mr. M. J. Coldwell.]