

Does that or does that not bear out what Major Douglas said in Alberta in 1934? I leave that to the members of this house to decide. We may smile at this thing, but the day may come when we shall regret those smiles in something deeper than tears. It would not be the first time the people have been utterly deceived and have regretted it in their sorrow. Onlookers are certainly filled with great concern about this matter, whether or not members of this house are. For example, these are a few words from a man who, I very much fear, knows a good deal about his subject. They bear directly on this matter we are considering in parliament right now.

(Quotation immediately following stricken out. See ruling of Mr. Deputy Speaker at page 2812.)

Whether or not that man knows what he is speaking about—

Mr. DUNNING: Who is the man, please?

Mr. BLACKMORE: I do not propose to give the name.

Mr. DUNNING: The hon. member should give the authority which he is quoting or accept responsibility for the statement.

Mr. BLACKMORE: I am simply stating that I have these words. Is that contrary to parliamentary procedure?

Mr. DUNNING: When my hon. friend is quoting, he must state from what he is quoting.

Mr. BLACKMORE: I am not free to give the name of the man whom I am quoting.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When the hon. member for Lethbridge (Mr. Blackmore) is quoting from an article, he must give the name of the author.

Mr. BLACKMORE: In case you do not wish to give the name, then what?

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order. This is not the view which the present government took when they were in opposition. I do not think there is any authority for saying that an hon. member is bound to give the name of the author whom he quotes. I think all he is bound to do is to say that he is quoting. This would alter materially the position of hon. members who quote from the remarks of other hon. members. Sometimes these remarks contain quotations, the authors of which are not named, and for a member to be obliged to give the name of the person whom he is quoting would place

him in an almost intolerable position. I have always contended that hon. members should not read from newspapers because to do so is to attempt to influence the 245 members of this house, which is not in accordance with the principles of good government.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): My right hon. friend has referred to a position taken by the present government when in opposition, but I cannot recall any time when the members of the present government took the view that an hon. member was not obliged to give the name of his authority when he brought into a debate an article or quoted from a communication with a view to making it an authority in support of what he was saying. An hon. member may not thus bring into a debate any document or quotation without giving the house full information as to the source from which he is quoting.

Mr. BENNETT: With your permission, Mr. Speaker. If the right hon. gentleman had received a communication from an unnamed person and he read it as something he had received, the question might be raised whether he was bound to lay it on the table, on the one hand, or give the source of it, on the other. He would not be quoting from a public authority or document. A private member would not be bound to lay such a document on the table, but if he took the responsibility of reading from a letter which he had received from some person, whether from a constituent or otherwise, the view taken was that he was not bound to give the name of his constituent; he was permitted merely to say that he had received a communication reading as follows. That was the view then taken.

Mr. LAPOINTE (Quebec East): Did my right hon. friend agree to that?

Mr. BENNETT: I am not saying that; I am only pointing out that that is what prevails in the house at the moment. Whether or not it is sound, I am not prepared to discuss at this time. I think the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) will find that we have permitted letters and telegrams to be read without giving the names of the persons who sent them. I am quite familiar with the terms of the rule that covers this particular point.

Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, on the point of order. Without quoting the rule to which my hon. friend has just referred, there is