

*Supply—Citizenship and Immigration*

full knowledge of what has been done. How in the name of common sense any hon. member can really pretend he is making a serious argument that any right of parliament has been denied, when parliament knows what has been done and has been discussing what has been done for two and a half hours, defeats me.

**Mr. Stuart (Charlotte):** It will defeat you.

**Mr. Fulton:** On January 30, and again when the estimates of the Department of Veterans Affairs were being considered, the knowledge of what was done was in the possession of hon. members. They raised no issue on it. I believe these facts give the true measure of the validity of the issue they are attempting to raise here today.

I think it must also be admitted that the appropriate time to raise an issue, if in fact the person who raises the issue believes that it is a serious issue and if he believes that the conduct of the government or any person is a grave abuse of parliamentary rights, is the first time an opportunity arises.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Here it is.

**Mr. Fulton:** I think the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate had better not reveal the depths of his own ignorance because the opportunity has arisen twice before.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** On a question of privilege, Mr. Chairman. The hon. gentleman made certain specific imputations against me.

**Mr. Fulton:** It was not an imputation, it was a statement of fact.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I maintain that the proper place, and the only proper place to raise this matter—

**Some hon. Members:** Sit down.

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. Rea):** I do not want to hear a debate at this time. What was the hon. member's question of privilege?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** My question of privilege is that the hon. gentleman said I was revealing my ignorance because I had not raised this matter on other occasions when it might have been appropriate. Of course, I did not raise the matter at all, but I maintain that the only proper place to raise this particular warrant is on this specific item. The basis of my argument for that, sir, is this:

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. Rea):** Order. There seems to be no argument about that. It already has been raised on this vote No. 684. I do not see that there is any question about that, and I do not see what the question of privilege is.

[Mr. Fulton.]

**Mr. Fulton:** It is not a question of privilege; it is an argument.

**Mr. Tucker:** You are dictating to the chairman now.

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. Rea):** I cannot understand the hon. member's question of privilege because this question he is discussing has been raised on vote 684 and is now being discussed.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** The hon. gentleman said it should not have been raised here, sir.

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. Rea):** It has been raised, and it is a question of argument now.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Then, I rise on a point of order, Mr. Chairman. My point of order is the same point of order that was raised by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre earlier but not decided, and it is this. This is the only appropriate place in the whole of the estimates to raise this particular item. Now, what was this warrant about?

**An hon. Member:** That is not a point of order.

**The Acting Chairman (Mr. Rea):** That is a matter of opinion; the Acting Minister of Citizenship and Immigration has the floor.

**Mr. Fulton:** Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate said a moment ago, when he attempted to raise a point of order that was not a point of order or a question of privilege that, as a matter of fact, he had not raised this issue. This is obvious. It had not occurred to him, and he is just jumping on the bandwagon now.

**Mr. Stuart (Charlotte):** It is a bandwagon.

**Mr. Fulton:** As I said earlier, all those who have spoken on this matter have adopted the argument of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, who himself earlier admitted that there were two previous occasions on which he could have raised the matter, but he did not.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Will the minister permit a question?

**An hon. Member:** No.

**Mr. Fulton:** Not at this moment.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Will the minister not extend to me the same courtesy that I extended to him?

**Mr. Fulton:** I simply point out that I did not interrupt the hon. gentleman while he was speaking.

**Mr. Stuart (Charlotte):** Oh, yes you did.