

*Privilege—Mr. Waddell*

**Mr. Waddell:** Madam Speaker, I am just coming to that, and I appreciate your comments. The point is simply this: the word McCarthyism has a certain connotation. It can be objectively defined as defined in the dictionaries, and I ask Your Honour to look at "The American Political Dictionary", fourth edition, by Mr. J. C. Plano, which defines McCarthyism, and I will pass this up to the Chair. It talks about it in terms of unsubstantiated accusations imputing disloyalty, threats and so on, and to being undemocratic. Also in William Safire's "Political Dictionary" of 1978 there is a definition of "McCarthyism" which talks about investigations which flout the rights of individuals in the pursuit of their ends. Again there is the notion of being undemocratic, and this indeed is the question of privilege.

● (1510)

The fact is that McCarthyism is not listed in the words which are listed at pages 108 and 109 of Beauchesne, with which I am sure Your Honour is familiar, but my point is that the word McCarthyism does mean something. It means deceitful and undemocratic, and when an hon. member says that about my remarks, he is imputing to me the notion that somehow I am being deceitful, undemocratic, disloyal, and so forth. That is why I set the context in which the remarks were made.

I ask Your Honour to look at page 136 of Erskine May's nineteenth edition which talks about breaches of privilege and contempt, and about "a tendency, directly or indirectly, to produce such results", in speeches, that may be treated as contempt. It speaks about contempt as reflecting on the character, good faith and motives of a member. I ask Your Honour to look at page 152 of Erskine May which talks about libels in common law and also says the following:

—but to constitute a breach of privilege a libel upon a member must concern the character or conduct of the member in that capacity.

To summarize briefly, my point is that the charge made by the hon. member is serious. He is in fact reflecting on my character and saying that I am carrying out something which is deceitful and badly motivated. In the context of my remarks, as I pointed out, I was simply making a legitimate criticism, as I am supposed to do in this House.

I was inviting hon. members to take part in the debate and to answer very serious concerns. After all, what is a western parliament when we already have a Parliament in Canada? That is what I was asking, and I was inviting hon. members to take part in the debate. They chose not to. They chose to duck the debate. The hon. member for Calgary Centre chose to make false and slanderous accusations. I ask Your Honour to look at the matter and to ask the hon. member to withdraw them.

I want to raise one other point before I sit down, and that is the nature of a word like McCarthyism. I apologize in advance if I am wrong, but in a debate I thought I heard the Leader of the Opposition, or perhaps someone else, refer to the Chair the other day by saying "Beaudoin". Taken in that particular context that was an unfortunate reflection that the Chair was

acting unfairly. If that remark was made, it seems to me that would be a breach of privilege and that it should be withdrawn because the word Beaudoin has a certain connotation.

The word McCarthyism clearly has certain objective connotations which can be defined, and I have already gone over them. I will not repeat myself, but if Your Honour accepts that the word does have those connotations and can be defined that way, and if Your Honour accepts what I have said—I invite you to look at my remarks in *Hansard*—as legitimate criticisms, then the hon. member for Calgary Centre is in breach of my privileges as a member of this House by alleging that I am making McCarthyism remarks.

**Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre):** Madam Speaker, the word McCarthyism is derived from the activities of the late Senator Joseph McCarthy of the United States who, under the guise of pursuing evil communism, besmirched many reputations of outstanding Americans by making the accusation either directly that they were communists or, more indirectly, by saying, "Will you now stand here and state categorically that you are not, never have been nor have any sympathies for the communist party?" Knowing full well that if a person had, for example, some socialist leanings, the mere asking of the question "Were you communist" was enough to hurt that person's reputation. Since then the word has come into increasing usage, to the point where it is defined in numerous political dictionaries.

The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) quoted from "The American Political Dictionary" by J. C. Plano. According to that dictionary McCarthyism means:

Unsubstantiated accusations of disloyalty and abuse of legislative investigatory power that engender fear over real or imagined threats to the security of the nation.

Another definition in "The Young Voter's Manual", a topical dictionary of American government and politics by Leon W. Blevins, defines McCarthyism as follows:

The indiscriminate use of loose accusations by those seeking to cast doubts on the loyalty of selected public officials—

Those are two definitions. I bring to the attention of the Chair the remarks of the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway on November 21, as reported at page 4952 of *Hansard*, and I quote:

I will go further and say that the Leader of the Conservative party (Mr. Clark), who should know better, is aiding and abetting the new forces of separatism in western Canada.

**Some hon. Members:** Shame!

**Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich):** False!

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Withdraw!

**Mr. Andre:** I would define that as a loose accusation by one seeking to cast doubts on the loyalty of a selected public official, in this case the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark).