

mains the property of the Albert Manufacturing Company.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I desire to ask if this is a question of privilege. My hon. friend (Mr. Crocket) is making statements which are unwarranted by the evidence, and it would seem to me that there is no question of privilege in what my hon. friend is now stating.

Mr. CROCKET. I submit that it is a question of privilege. This statement made concerning a discussion and concerning a statement which I made in the House surely is a matter of privilege and one that I have a right to correct. I am saying that the statement that the wharf which was under criticism the other day had passed into the hands of the Crown is an untrue statement. I say that the title to that wharf is still vested in the Albert Manufacturing Company, and in the New Brunswick Gypsum Company, of which Mr. Osman is manager, subject only to an agreement which was entered into by the company giving a right of way to and upon the wharf to the public and allowing His Majesty to charge wharfage upon all vessels other than their own vessels, or vessels chartered by the company, which agreement, Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. CROCKET. —is nothing more nor less than—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Crocket) has read an article and has stated that the article has misrepresented him. He proceeds now to give an explanation. I do not know how far the hon. gentleman may be allowed to go, but he understands clearly that it is a question of privilege, and he can merely make a statement in reference to what he objects to in the paper. I do not suppose that to enter into a discussion of the matter now would be regular.

Mr. CROCKET. I have a right to show that this statement is untrue, and I say that the agreement which was referred to is nothing more nor less than a sham agreement inasmuch as the wharf is so situated—

Mr. PUGSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I rise to a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Pugsley) rises to a point of order.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I think that when the hon. gentleman rises to a question of privilege he is certainly going beyond the privilege when he enters into a lengthy statement

in regard to evidence which is before a committee of this House. This whole question of the Pink Rock wharf is before the Committee on Public Accounts. My hon. friend is certainly making a statement the truth of which I cannot admit and which will not be verified by the evidence before the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. My hon. friend from York (Mr. Crocket) is accused of misrepresentation and surely he has the right of showing that he is not guilty of misrepresentation.

Mr. FIELDING. Would it be correct for every member of this House, when he is accused in some statement in the public press, to come here and make it a question of privilege? I would hardly think so.

Mr. FOSTER. If he is accused of falsehood?

Mr. FIELDING. No, almost every day, I am sorry to say, we find some statement in the public press to which we could take exception. I think my hon. friend should confine himself to a correction of the misrepresentation of his own speech.

Mr. SPEAKER. I think that is the proper attitude. As far as discussing a matter that is now before the Public Accounts Committee is concerned, I suppose the hon. gentleman (Mr. Crocket) has no intention of doing that?

Mr. CROCKET. No, I have no intention of doing anything farther than discussing the statement which was made. Surely an hon. member, in discussing a question of privilege, when he has been misrepresented in the public press, is not confined to the simple statement that the statement concerning himself is untrue? He can go further and show in what respect the statement is untrue.

Mr. FIELDING. The House will be kept busy.

Mr. CROCKET. In so far as the statement that this question is before the Public Accounts Committee is concerned, I say that this question is not before the Public Accounts Committee. It is true that the return from which I adduced the proof of this statement I got by a motion before the Public Accounts Committee. But the matter has not been under investigation by the Public Accounts Committee. I do not intend discussing the proceedings of the Public Accounts Committee, but I merely wish to add to what I have already said of this agreement that it is nothing more nor less than a sham—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. CROCKET. Inasmuch as the wharf is—