

Supply—Northern Affairs

Conservative side than from the Liberal side in these last 14 days, and it is about time the truth was stated.

Mr. Pigeon: He only spoke for five minutes and you spoke for two hours.

The Chairman: I think, first of all, that some semblance of order should be kept so those who have the floor may be heard. I believe that the remarks the hon. member just made are not directed toward the item.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): They were just made in passing.

The Chairman: Well, I think the hon. member will admit that his remarks should be directed to the item. I therefore hope he will continue to discuss the item and the item alone.

Mr. Pickersgill: I certainly will, sir.

Mr. Winkler: On a question of privilege, Mr. Chairman, may I suggest that the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate should go back one night previous, to Tuesday night's paper, and read the first letter to the editor. If he does so he will then have the answer he requires.

The Chairman: Order. Every hon. member who is recognized has the right to speak and make the remarks he feels he should make provided they are relevant and according to the rules. I am sure the hon. member who has the floor will do so and that those who follow him will do likewise.

Mr. Pickersgill: I, of course, will comply with your ruling, sir, but I know you would expect me also to reply to the hon. member for Grey-Bruce who instituted a debate. I would make one observation and one observation only, that more supporters of the government than members of the official opposition have spoken on the supplementary estimates, and that is a statistical fact.

The Chairman: Order. That statement has been made by various hon. members on either side of the house. The Chair is not at all interested in hearing a discussion on that subject. All the Chair is interested in is that the discussion be strictly relevant to the item. I would therefore ask for everyone's co-operation so that the discussion may proceed on an orderly basis. I know that the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate will abide by that ruling.

Mr. Pickersgill: Well, Mr. Chairman, having corrected Mr. Grosart's propaganda I can now go on with the business before the committee. I simply wished to draw attention to it, sir, because it is an extraordinary misrepresentation that is going on in the country,

and the people of Canada deserve to know the truth. What I wanted to do was to get to Arizona Charlie's—

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order—

Mr. Pickersgill: Am I being interrupted again, sir?

The Chairman: The hon. member for Bow River is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Woolliams: Mr. Chairman, surely the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate, who has a great deal of experience in this house, should follow the direction of the Chair and adhere strictly to a discussion of the item before us.

Mr. Carter: Is that all?

Mr. Pickersgill: Well, Mr. Chairman, I must say there is no hon. member whose opinion on any subject will impress me more than that of the distinguished and elevated hon. member for Bow River. We know how much that hon. gentleman has done to raise the tone of public life in this country, and we are very glad to have him bring us all to order in this committee.

An hon. Member: How about getting on?

Mr. Pickersgill: An hon. gentleman asks me how about getting on, but hon. gentlemen opposite fail to ask supporters of the government when they are really not talking about the item at all how about getting on. They do not interrupt their own speakers, who take more time than we do.

Mr. Cardiff: You have not started talking about it yet.

Mr. Pickersgill: No, because the hon. member for Huron in that garrulous fashion of his keeps interrupting.

Mr. Cardiff: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, there is no hon. member in any quarter of this House of Commons who wastes more of the time of this house than the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate.

Mr. Pickersgill: Well, sir, if the honourable and distinguished member for Huron were not the amiable gentleman he is I would have to raise a question of privilege about that, but we know the hon. gentleman does not mean it, that the milk of human kindness flows through his veins, and that he is just saying this for the record. I think we will leave it on the record along with Arizona Charlie's and Nigger Jim's as a record of the new heights to which this government has raised the northern vision.