

Q. That is all wrong too?—A. Yes.

Mr. DUFF: Mr. Chairman, if the other members of the committee are through I would like to ask Mr. Gordon a few more questions.

The CHAIRMAN: You can go as far as you like, Mr. Duff.

*By Mr. Duff:*

Q. Mr. Gordon, Mr. Bowman asked you with regard to the reason you did not correct the statements made at Hamilton between the time you made the Hamilton and Lindsay speeches and the time you made the correction at Cobourg. Was the reason for the delay due to the fact that you had very little time in which to get the necessary facts to base your correction on?—A. I did, yes. I verified the information I had.

The CHAIRMAN: That is almost a leading question.

Mr. DUFF: I have heard lawyers ask a question like that.

Mr. BOWMAN: Mr. Duff is justifying his position as a sea lawyer.

The WITNESS: Yes, that was one of the reasons; but the main reason was that on account of the position of the two gentlemen whose names have been mentioned I felt there was only one way to present it and have it corrected so that it would reach the proper source, and that was at a public meeting fairly largely attended, one attended by the more important members of the Canadian Press.

*By Mr. Duff:*

Q. Am I right in saying that because of *The Globe's* editorial you felt it then necessary to make further inquiries other than what you had previously made, and consequently you could not have made the retraction or apology until you had made those further inquiries?—A. I did not have the full information at Lindsay. I tried to get it from my cuttings file at my office, and I thought I had it correct for the Lindsay address; but afterwards I got in communication with friends in Ottawa, so that I got the whole story, so that I was able to fix the matter at Cobourg and present it there.

Q. Mr. Bowman asked you why you did not, after getting the proper information, communicate with Prime Minister Bennett or with Mr. Herridge.

Mr. BOWMAN: Or with *The Globe*.

*By Mr. Duff:*

Q. May I ask you another question based on that one? Did you receive any communication—from the time you made those statements until the time you made the retraction, or since—from either Major Herridge or Mr. Bennett either denying the facts or otherwise?—A. No, never. I never received any communication from either of those gentlemen, nor did I write them. I felt it was common practice which I have seen adopted on many occasions, to speak at the next opportunity I had, if it was fairly close to the time when the error was made, the same as Premier Henry did the other day when he corrected a statement regarding Senator Hardy whom he said received a couple of thousand dollars from Mr. Swezey, the promoter of Beauharnois. He corrected that in the Orders of the Day. I corrected it at the first opportunity I had, when I could give the matter the same publicity and reach the same persons who had received the first information. I felt that was the fair and the better way.

Q. Did you, or have you received any letter from Major Herridge's solicitors or Mr. Bennett's solicitors asking for an apology or threatening action if you did not apologize?—A. No, sir.