

matter. I regret having used it. I desire to make the fullest and most unequivocal statement that I used language and adjectives which were all too powerful when I condemned the statement of the hon. gentleman as not having been based on a proper foundation of fact. Let him therefore accept from me this statement as deeply regretting the injustice which my statement might have done him.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, with reference to the condemnation I made as to the lack of justification or authority for the statements of fact which he made, I desire to draw the line clearly between my regret for the use of my language on that score and the condemnation which I uttered as to the lack of propriety and the harm done to Canada by going back thirty-six years to rake up and expose in a political discussion from the floor of the House of Commons, conduct of the deceased president of our great and friendly neighbour the United States, whether or not the facts on which he based his criticism were true.

The house will therefore understand that my correction of to-day is not to be taken as a withdrawal in any sense of a condemnation of the practice and tactics which prompted the hon. gentleman to make the attack upon the late president which he made, and which, in my view savours of carrying on political warfare in a graveyard.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. gentleman has stated his position; he must not make a speech.

Mr. SLAGHT: In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I desire to associate myself with the sentiment expressed by the hon. gentleman in the closing lines of his remarks of yesterday, found at page 3552 of *Hansard* in which he says:

In other days, years ago, perhaps I would have been tempted to reply in undignified and more severe language to the charges made. But as I grow older I am not so disposed to be vituperative as perhaps I once was, and therefore I submit the matter, sir, for your consideration.

I have just passed another milestone and believe that I should also take to myself some of the sound philosophy contained in that language, and I welcome this my first opportunity to tender the hon. gentleman my sincere regret for the error I made.

Hon. C. H. CAHAN (St. Lawrence-St. George): Just one word. I accept the retraction and apology of the hon. gentleman so far as it went, but I do not accept the restricted conditions under which the apology was pronounced.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the incident is closed and the question settled.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION ACT—THIRD AND FINAL REPORT

Third and final report of the special committee on the Civil Service Superannuation Act.—Mr. McLean (Melfort).

BANKING AND COMMERCE—FIFTH AND SIXTH REPORTS

Fifth and sixth reports of the standing committee on banking and commerce.—Mr. Moore.

AGRICULTURE AND COLONIZATION—SECOND REPORT

Second report of the standing committee on agriculture and colonization.—Mr. Weir.

STANDING ORDERS—FIFTH REPORT

Mr. W. H. GOLDING (Huron-Perth) presented the fifth report of the standing committee on standing orders, and moved that the report be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

PRIVATE BILLS

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 109

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister) moved:

That private bills reported from standing or select committees be placed on the order paper for the consideration of the committee of the whole house on the day on which such report is received, and that standing order 109 be suspended in relation thereto.

He said: This is the customary motion before the close of the session.

Mr. COLDWELL: May we have an explanation of the effect of the motion?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: My hon. friend did not catch what I said. Standing order 109 provides:

Private bills reported to the house by any committee, shall be placed upon the orders of the day following the reception of the report, for consideration in committee of the whole, in their proper order, next after bills referred to a committee of the whole house.

Citation 886 reads:

Towards the end of the session, it is not unusual to place bills reported from select committees immediately on the orders of the same day, but this can be done only on motion and by general assent.

I assume that we are towards the end of the session, and this is the usual procedure at this stage.

Motion agreed to.