

that the Liberal party had ever set the example or precedent of causing members of this House to be elected by partisans chosen by the Government of the day for such purpose; and I say, and I think that this is in order, that there never was a more indecent act committed than the act of the Government which chose the greatest partisan in the county as returning officer to return this candidate.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have already decided, I think it was no later than yesterday, that the word "indecent" applied to anything passing in this House, was out of order. I will repeat what I said yesterday, that I expect the leaders of this House to set an example in what I think is the right direction, viz., using strictly parliamentary language in the discussions.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. You will observe, Mr. Speaker, that I did not apply the words to language used in this House, but to an act of the Government of this country done outside of this House, and I say I am strictly in order in so designating it.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. SPEAKER. I must maintain my authority. I gave my decision yesterday on the very same ground. When the right hon. member for Kingston (Sir John A. Macdonald) used the word "indecent," and said he did not apply it to any member of this House, but to the measure or motion before this House, I declared it was unparliamentary; and now the hon. member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright) has just applied the word "indecent" to the conduct of the Government. I maintain that this is the same thing, and I call upon the hon. member to withdraw it, and I hope he will set a good example to the House.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Withdraw, withdraw.

Mr. CHARLTON. Mr. Speaker—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Chair, Chair; order, order; withdraw, withdraw!

Mr. CHARLTON. I should like to speak to the point of order.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Chair, Chair.

Mr. CHARLTON. I speak with all due deference to your decision, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Chair, Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have rendered my decision. I have called upon the hon. member for South Oxford to withdraw his expression, and I maintain, unless there is a motion to reverse my ruling, no one can discuss it now.

Mr. CHARLTON. I rise for the purpose of moving to reverse your decision. I wish to say in speaking to this motion that—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Mr. CHARLTON. I wish to say, in regard to this matter, that it strikes me that liberty of speech in this House will be sorely and dangerously abridged if members are not permitted to characterise the conduct of the Government with respect to its actions outside of this House by some such word as indecent, wrong or improper. If such word cannot be used it strikes me it will be wrong.

Mr. McNEILL. This is insulting to the House. The hon. gentleman is insulting the Chair.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Withdraw, withdraw; Chair, Chair.

Mr. CHARLTON. While I believe in the utmost courtesy of expression with respect to members of this House and as regards their conduct in this House, I believe the utmost latitude should be given as to expressions with res-

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pect to the conduct of the Government outside of the House, and our liberty will be seriously abridged if members are deprived of properly characterising the acts of members of the Government outside of this House. I believe such a restriction is one that would be fatal to debate.

Mr. DESJARDINS. I rise to a question of order.

Mr. CHARLTON. The discussion of public questions is too important—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order, order.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The rule of Parliament is clear, that when the Speaker of the House announces his decision, and there is an appeal from it, it must be made at once.

Mr. DESJARDINS. And without discussion.

Mr. LAURIER. I understand that you have ruled Mr. Speaker, that the expression used by the hon. member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright) is unparliamentary. As a humble member of this House I bow to your ruling, though I believe if I were allowed to discuss it, perhaps the words might appear in a different aspect.

Mr. DESJARDINS. No discussion.

Mr. LAURIER. Perhaps it might be a subject of debate as to whether, if the Government is censurable, it may not be censured; but as you, Mr. Speaker, have ruled the word out of order, I think it would be an act of grace on the part of the hon. member to withdraw it.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Grace!

Mr. LAURIER. Perhaps the word grace is not the word I intend to convey; what I mean to say is that it would be a gracious act on the part of my hon. friend.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I am informed, Mr. Speaker, that you ruled somewhat in the same direction, though I was not present, as regards the First Minister; and no doubt your position is so difficult a one, and it is so desirable you should be maintained here, that I will waive my own judgment and opinion in deference to yours on this occasion; and I am willing, in obedience to your ruling, which I suppose you will record, to withdraw, and I do withdraw the word "indecent" under these circumstances.

Mr. LANGELIER (Montmorency). (Translation.) Mr. Speaker, as we are now dealing with questions of order, I believe I have a right to call the hon. member for Joliette (Mr. Guilbault) to order. He has used expressions just as unparliamentary, to say the least, as those used by the hon. member for Northumberland (Mr. Mitchell). The hon. member for Hochelaga (Mr. Desjardins), has shown himself as touchy, with regard to the language used by the hon. member for Northumberland (Mr. Mitchell), concerning the Premier, that I did not recognise that same hon. gentleman whom I had occasion to hear, not very long ago at a public meeting held in the county of Levis, speaking of the same man, of the hon. Premier—

Mr. SPEAKER. Order.

Mr. LANGELIER (Montmorency). (Translation.) What is the point of order?

Mr. SPEAKER. That has nothing to do with the question now before the House nor with the question of order which has been raised.

Mr. LANGELIER (Montmorency). (Translation.) If speaking of matters which took place outside of the House is to be allowed, I do not see why I should not have the same right as other members. I am now explaining the question of order which I have raised. I was saying that the hon. member for Hochelaga (Mr. Desjardins) has used a much more extraordinary language than that which he