

The CHAIRMAN: I cannot permit the hon. member to discuss something that is not before the committee and the report is not before us.

Mr. POULIOT: I am not discussing the report nor anything which has come before the commission; I am mentioning matters that have not come before it, and I say that the appropriation should be considerably increased in order that the whole business throughout the country may be investigated. Although \$75,000 is a considerable sum, we have only part of the picture.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): May I interrupt? This is an appropriation for a royal commission and any discussion of the report or of the proceedings of a royal commission is out of order.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): The hon. member is discussing the mechanism of it and he is quite entitled to do that.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): If it were a committee of the house, I would say that the discussion was in order, but in the case of a royal commission, the matter is different.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): Surely the committee is entitled to discuss the method of expenditure of any sums it is voting.

The CHAIRMAN: Provided that the hon. member is discussing the method of expending the money and not the report, he is in order.

Mr. POULIOT: I am not touching on the report. If I were discussing McLean's evidence about the packing business, the matter would be different, but I am not discussing what he has said. I claim that more money should be voted in order that we may have information about their other set of ledgers for their own use in the hog-packing business.

The CHAIRMAN: That is not in order. Surely the hon. member is an old parliamentarian and he knows that is not in order.

Mr. POULIOT: I regret I have to differ with you, sir, but I always bow to the ruling of the chair, and therefore I shall not continue on this point. But may I say on the first point that although the members have done their best while they have been sitting on either the committee or the commission—and it was a very dull proposition to sit there—they have only part of the picture, and to have the whole picture, several commissions should be appointed to sit at

the same time and for years in order to present a complete report. Moreover, the evidence is so considerable that men have been employed to assist the members of the royal commission. I can discuss that because part of the salaries of the men who do that work is included in the item. That appropriation would never have come before the house had the profiteers not been protected by tariff walls since 1930.

The CHAIRMAN: Again I must insist that such a discussion is certainly not in order.

Mr. POULIOT: On a point of order I will explain to you, sir, that it is quite legitimate to state the reasons for an appropriation. If you suppress the cause, you suppress the effect. Therefore if you suppress the cause of all that fattening of public exploiters, you suppress the effect, namely, the exploitation of the public by those men, and thus you save money for the people. What I am after is the saving of money, and I repeat that due to present conditions the amount set forth in the appropriation is not sufficient. If however a different policy had been adopted by this government—

The CHAIRMAN: Again that is not in order.

Mr. POULIOT: —we would never have had this appropriation to consider in the house.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Can the minister advise the committee as to when the report may be expected?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): We have been making very honest efforts to ascertain that fact. Within the past hour the chairman of the commission interviewed me with respect to this appropriation and I asked him the question. The report is now in course of final preparation and it is expected that it will reach me early next week. That is the best information I can give the committee.

Mr. CASGRAIN: When will it be tabled?

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I do not know whether I am supposed to read the report. I understand it will cover about 500 pages of printed matter. If I were to apply myself, I might get through and digest it in a week. Then it has to go to council. Due expedition will be used, I assure the committee, to get the report on the table of the house as soon after we receive it as possible.