

first phrase, namely, "That on the fortieth anniversary of the Katyn forest tragedy".

The differences and omissions give rise to some very serious questions. The first one, of course, is why are the texts from *Hansard* and from *Votes and Proceedings* quite different? Why were the changes not made in the House, as they should be since they are changes of substantial nature? What has happened to the televised *Hansard*; were similar deletions—and I have not checked that—made there? It may be quite adequately explained if an explanation is forthcoming as to who authorized the changes 'twixt *Hansard* and the *Journals*.

If we are currently to place any reliance on the accuracy of the written record of this place, these things should not happen without some sort of adequate explanation. Certainly for the future if any reliance is to be placed by students—although why they would want to study these matters in any serious way perhaps might be open to question—they too should be able to rely implicitly upon the total accuracy of the proceedings recorded in this place, and certainly when they are transposed to the *Journals*.

Mr. D. M. Collenette (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, I rise on the point of order. I am very glad the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) has brought this to the attention of the House. I do not wish to comment on the first part of his point of order concerning the bales of hay. It was a rather raucous day in the House and I will leave that to interpretation.

On the question of the Standing Order 43 motion in the name of the hon. member for Parkdale-High Park (Mr. Flis), I think the hon. member for Yukon makes a valid point. It is one of my duties on the government side to look at motions under Standing Order 43 when members try to obtain the unanimous consent of the House and check them with all sides before presentation is made at two o'clock. I remember distinctly on that particular day that the words as read by the hon. member for Parkdale-High Park differed from the written text he had shown me earlier.

I do not think there was anything malicious or deliberate in this. This happens from time to time when a member wants to express some sentiments and perhaps deviates a little from the written text. I would say that perhaps there has to be closer collaboration between what is given to the *Journals*, which is the actual written statement, and what is actually said by a member when he makes his point in the House of Commons.

Mr. Nielsen: That is what should be recorded in *Journals*.

Mr. Collenette: We now have three ways of checking. First, we have any document referred to the *Journals* branch; second, the live voice recording; and third, the transcript of the *Hansard* reporter. So that this does not arise in future on matters of great substance, perhaps we could improve our procedure or at least, Madam Speaker, have you look into it to ensure that this does not happen again.

Privilege—Mr. Nielsen

Madam Speaker: I believe there are several ways of checking this. We have now in front of us at least three versions, the written, the spoken one, the one in *Hansard* and an extra one with the televised version. I will have to check on this matter to know whether there have been substantial changes which should not be allowed.

On the first question raised by the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) concerning "bales" instead of "bushels", I would remind the House that some of these corrections, which appear to be slips of the tongue, are normally made as a matter of course by the editors of *Hansard*. This has been an acceptable custom in Parliament.

I should like to read an excerpt from Erskine May on these practices, defining what exactly is *Hansard*, as follows:

It is a full report, in the first person, of all speakers alike, a full report being defined as one "which, though not strictly verbatim, is substantially the verbatim report, with repetitions and redundancies omitted and with obvious mistakes corrected, but which on the other hand leaves out nothing that adds to the meaning of the speech or illustrates the argument."

Another quotation from "An Encyclopedia of Parliament" says:

A certain amount of revision is bound to be necessary... For instance, the tangled sentence—

Also there are repetitions, especially when they are subject to interruptions, which seems to have been the case in this particular instance.

—must be sorted out if they are to make sense when committed to paper;

What appears to be a *lapsus linguae*, of course, can be corrected. Therefore, on the first point, it seems quite obvious that it was probably a *lapsus linguae*, the kind of correction which is acceptable in *Hansard*. But I will check the second point to see whether all the versions differ substantially.

Mr. Nielsen: Madam Speaker, you said something which rather alarmed me with respect to my second point, namely, that there were three methods of checking. May I submit to you, Madam Speaker, that there is only one official record of the proceedings of this House, and that is the record that is taken here by the *Hansard* reporters, and indeed it is so entitled on every issue we get: it is the "Official Report" of the proceedings of the House of Commons. What is said in the House, the actual wording of the motions that a member uses, is, in my submission, what should appear subsequently in *Journals*, not something submitted for vetting or whatever to the parliamentary secretary or to anyone else.

With respect to the first point, Madam Speaker, may I again draw your attention to the omission of a whole series of interruptions or interjections that were made after the statement of the hon. member for Thunder Bay-Atikokan. In order to make that change meaningful, all those interjections had to be omitted. I find that practice questionable.

Madam Speaker: It seems to me that we should not eliminate the advantage we have of checking what is written in *Hansard*, taken down by the *Hansard* reporters in this House which sometimes is not completely audible because of the cheers and heckling that sometimes take place in the House. It