

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The honourable member is quite in order.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: —but since the honourable senator from Parkdale (Hon. Mr. Murdock) made certain statements, I think that I, in the absence of the right honourable leader on this side (Right Hon. Mr. Meighen), have a right to say a word or two. In all sincerity I want to state it is a matter of great regret to me, as an individual member of this House, that every session, and sometimes more than once a session, the honourable senator from Parkdale feels it his duty to issue a tirade of abuse against people who do not feel altogether as he does.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I rise to a point of order. "A tirade of abuse"? Where? When?

Hon. Mr. BLACK: This afternoon.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Will the honourable gentleman indicate one term used by me which can be construed as a tirade of abuse?

Hon. Mr. BLACK: I might indicate many. I did not interrupt the honourable senator, except to call attention—

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: My honourable friend is not going to get away with an untrue statement while I am here.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: I have said it, and I am prepared to back it up, anywhere. Make no mistake about that.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Well, the statement is unqualifiedly false. I will let the record stand.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Order!

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The honourable senator from Westmorland (Hon. Mr. Black) has the floor. I am sure he will answer any questions that the honourable senator from Parkdale may ask.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: The whole tenor of the argument by the honourable senator from Parkdale seemed to be that there was in the Banking and Commerce Committee an express desire on the part of the majority to kill the Combines Investigation Act.

Hon. Mr. LEGER: He mentioned the lawyers.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: No objection was entered there on the part of any lawyer or layman to the Combines Investigation Act of 1935. That Act is still on the Statute Book, and if the Bill which we have had before our committee is not passed the Act will still remain in force and the people of Canada will be as fully protected by it tomorrow as they are to-day.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: That was a wooden gun, and so is this.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: I think it has been very useful. And let me say this. It occurs to me that if all combines in Canada were included within the provisions of the Combines Investigation Act, the honourable senator from Parkdale would not be so enthusiastic in his condemnation of people who do not happen to think as he does.

When the honourable gentleman says there is a desire on the part of this House or any other House to oppress the poor, I reply that he is entirely wrong. Speaking for my own part, as an individual citizen and business man, I declare that I have never at any time attempted to oppress anyone unduly.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I did not say that the honourable gentleman did.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: But the honourable gentleman said that was the idea of members of the Banking and Commerce Committee.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I did not. I said I believed it was the view of certain honourable senators that there should be one law for the rich and another for the poor. And I insist on that.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: That is just a part of the honourable senator's language which I referred to as abuse, for it contains an insinuation which is unfair to honourable members of this Chamber, no matter on what side they sit. My honourable friend has been, and still is, so I understand, an official of one of the largest combines in Canada.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: You are mistaken.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: Are you not a member of the Telegraphers' Union?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I never was.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: Are you not a member of a labour union?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Yes.

Hon. Mr. BLACK: I believe in labour unions. They are a great benefit to the public and to themselves so long as they keep within bounds, just as combines are good so long as they keep within the law. My honourable friend from Parkdale has for many years received a high salary from a combine which can be used in restraint of trade just as effectively as a combine of millers, paper manufacturers or any other business groups. I am not at all sure, now that we have leaders of international unions coming in from other countries to take charge of our labour organizations, that we had not better bring labour unions within the scope