

Q. No, but in this particular case it was a reckless thing to do with a serious charge like this to make.—A. No, I do not agree with *The Globe* in that respect.

Q. I am not using the word in a technical sense, but you think that you were right in making the speeches in Hamilton and Lindsay as we have heard them?—A. I don't put it that way, no. I will say this, that I believe I had reasonable ground, upon the information and sources of information available, in saying what I said, and that at the earliest opportunity I publicly made the correction, the retraction, and explained that I had done an injustice to Premier Bennett and Major Herridge.

Q. I have one more question to ask you, and that is this: you have agreed with me that the statement which appeared in *The Globe* of your position, is a correct one. I am referring to the statement in *The Globe* of January 9th, which said: "I have been too long in the public eye to make statements that are not based on facts"—A. I don't believe I said that; I don't think I said "public eye".

Q. You said to me a little while ago that you did not quarrel with that statement?—A. I don't believe I used the words "public eye". I probably said just what I said to you, Mr. Chairman, that I had been too long, I think, at public speaking, to make those statements without foundation of fact. I think that is the way I put it. We were walking on the street, and the reporter—

Q. I am not quarreling with that remark, the reports are not based on facts. I think what you meant was the same thing.—A. I think it means pretty much the same thing.

Q. So that you were then in Lindsay, which is self evident, making a speech on facts which you supposed—A. Which I believed to be true.

Q. You have indicated to us the measures you took to ascertain the correctness of those facts?—A. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Q. In Cobourg—I am trying to find the Cobourg file. There is no record in *The World*, and *The Sentinel Star*, or any of those papers because I am told that *The Sentinel Star* of Cobourg had an identical report to the one *The Globe* carried?—A. I do not know whether there were two reporters there, or one.

Q. Now, in the report, Mr. Gordon, I again call your attention to the fact that there is no mention whatever of your speaking of the Prime Minister. You said you did speak of him; and you felt it important to make the correction in regard to him, did you not?—A. I felt it was important to make the correction in respect to both Premier Bennett and Major Herridge.

Q. You saw, doubtless, the correction as it appeared in *The Globe*?—A. I did. I saw it in *The Globe*. I felt the time had come when I was not going to try to correct any more statements that had been put in *The Globe* from local correspondents.

Q. You knew your intended correction was not reaching the public through the press in regard to the Prime Minister?—A. Well, I felt the correction had reached the public. Not in the complete measure, true, but in the measure that it exonerated Major Herridge altogether, and in the same way would exonerate Premier Bennett from any complicity in the matter.

Q. You took no further steps?—A. I took no further steps except when I found the matter was to be the subject of an inquiry I then knew the opportunity would be given me to state fully what had taken place.

Q. I see.—A. And probably more completely than I could state it at Cobourg.

Q. That was within the last fortnight?—A. Well, what is the date of parliament meeting?

Q. February 4th.—A. It was on the 4th February.

Q. Within the last three weeks?—A. Fourth of February is the date of the Votes and Proceedings, number 1.