

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**An hon. Member:** Sir, may I ask the Prime Minister a question?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. We will allow the hon. member for Ontario to speak.

**Mr. Starr:** I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. In view of what he has intimated the government might be prepared to do, and would get support on, which is the establishment of a judicial inquiry, does the Prime Minister intend that the aspersions that have been cast should remain until the judicial inquiry meets, hears witnesses and brings in findings? Is this what he means?

**Mr. Churchill:** That is what he wants; to postpone everything.

**Mr. Pearson:** I believe that there have been all sorts of statements made in the house this afternoon, and allegations made inside and outside the house. I ask the hon. member who was so very indignant a few moments ago because we would not do anything about it, if the government moved a motion in this parliament for the establishment of a judicial inquiry, which is what they wanted in the Spencer case and this is a matter which concerns security—would the opposition support it?

**Mr. Starr:** May I ask this question of the Prime Minister, and I ask the Prime Minister if he would answer it for me? Does he intend then under this procedure to allow this stigma to hang over the heads of all those who were at that time in the government, until the findings are made? Does he agree that that should be the case?

**Mr. Pearson:** I wonder if my hon. friend would consider some of the stigma that he and his friends have imposed on us in recent months, as a government, and whether he thought at that time there should be a parliamentary inquiry into the statement, for instance, of the Leader of the Opposition who said not very long ago, "A vote for the Liberal government will mean an open season for organized crime in Canada".

Did he ask for a parliamentary inquiry then?

**Mr. Bell (Carleton):** Why does not the right hon. gentleman just act like an ordinary Prime Minister?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle):** Mr. Speaker, I think possibly we have had a clear

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### *Question of Privilege*

indication in these last two or three minutes of what the real sickness of this parliament is.

**Some hon. Members:** You. You.

**Mr. Hamilton:** You have a man who has the title of Prime Minister treating this house in a smart alec way on a very serious—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest to the hon. member that there are institutions which have to be respected in this house, and I ask him to limit his remarks, as I have asked the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona (Mr. Nugent), to the question of privilege which was raised by the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen).

There is a very special piece of business to be considered at the moment, and the rules of relevance insist that we should limit our comments to the matter now before the house.

**Mr. Hamilton:** Mr. Speaker, I think you are aware that the statement we are objecting to on this question of privilege was made by the Minister of Justice today who said in this house that the conduct of the Leader of the Opposition should be the subject of a royal commission. He stated that when he was minister in another department, which we have to assume was the Department of National Defence, he heard rumours or stories which he repeated today in his press conference outside the house.

My question is why, if the Minister of Justice has held these views for several months now, has kept this knowledge to himself for all this time, did he not do his duty when he was Associate Minister of the Department of National Defence and lay these serious charges then?

How can a man stand up and be credible in this house when he claims he has had this knowledge for many months, but has waited until today to use it.

I now charge this Minister of Justice with taking part—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Pursuant to section (3) of Standing Order 6 it is my duty to interrupt these proceedings.

At 6.05 p.m. this day, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), seconded by the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin), moved:

That the house do now adjourn.

And the Chair having proposed to put the question thereon, more than five hon. members rose to object to the taking of a vote.

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