

cause of nearly all the irregularities, all the wrong doings and all the malfeasance in office in connection with that institution. It may be contended by some hon. gentlemen that now he is not in the employ of the government, as he is superannuated,—that the government have no control over him. If there are any in this House holding such views as that, I claim—

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—I rise to a question of privilege. I appeal to the Chair.

Hon. Mr. McINNES (B.C.)—There is a question of privilege before the House at the present time.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—The question is whether my hon. friend can go on with this tirade of abuse against a gentleman who is not in the civil service, and not in the employ of the government. It is entirely beyond his privilege. He is taking advantage of his position in this House to abuse the character of a man who stands as high as any hon. gentleman in this House.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I would like to call the attention of the House to the fact that when a question of order is raised it is the duty of the speaker to sit down until it is decided. The hon. member must have forgotten that.

Hon. Mr. McINNES (B.C.)—I did not forget it. The hon. gentleman rose to a question of privilege he stated, and not a question of order.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Then it was an act of discourtesy to the hon. gentleman as well as to the House. I was charitable enough to think the hon. gentleman had forgotten the rule for the moment.

Hon. Mr. McINNES (B.C.)—The hon. gentleman rose to a question of privilege, and not of order, consequently I was perfectly justified in not sitting down—it was discourtesy to the House.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—The hon. gentleman from Lunenburg in his last remarks used the word privilege instead of order, but when he first took the floor he rose to a question of order.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH—I ask the ruling of the Chair on the question of order.

Hon. Mr. McINNES (B.C.)—I throw myself on the indulgence of the House. This man Moylan is, or ought to be, under the control of the government, just as much as if he were in their employ. He has been superannuated, but surely we are not going to allow superannuated civil servants to have free scope to attack members of this House and of the other branch of Parliament with impunity and without redress. I appeal to the Premier if it is not his bounden duty—a duty that he owes to himself, to this House and to this country—that this man's superannuation should be immediately stopped, or that he should be cautioned that if he attacks any member of this or the other branch of parliament it will be stopped, notwithstanding anything that the counsel for the late inspector may have to say to the contrary in this House.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—I do not propose to follow the hon. gentleman in the remarks that he has made, because I am strongly of the opinion that the matter brought up by him is not a question of privilege in any sense of the word. If every attack that is made upon a public man in a newspaper, either by inference or directly, is to be considered a question of privilege, there are very few of us who could not occupy the time of the House during half of the session.

Hon. Mr. PERLEY—We would not want any adjournment.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—In the other House it has grown into practice to explain any attack made upon a member in the public press, and also to defend oneself. I do not wish to be understood as approving in any way of the parenthetical sentence put into the report of Mr. Moylan. On the contrary, I had a conversation only last Saturday with the Minister of Justice, who authorized me to state, when the question came up in this House, that he deeply regretted it himself; that how it got into the report he could not understand; that when he read the report as presented to him, he put his pen through the reference to the hon. gentleman, considering it irrelevant; and how it got in afterwards he does not know. I told him that I should take the first opportunity to explain the matter to the House. For my own part, I think it is reprehensible on the part of any public servant, or of the public