

The WITNESS: What I am trying to give are the facts which the committee can decide. Whether there was any such circumstance or reasonable ground, I suppose that is really, Mr. Chairman, what you are trying to ascertain.

*By Mr. Bowman:*

Q. Reasonable ground for what, for making the statement contained in *The Globe* of January the 6th?—A. For making the statements as I have outlined them to the committee. I am not tying myself up to *The Globe's* statements by any means.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. What was in my mind, Mr. Gordon, is that you virtually, in that speech, repudiated the Hamilton charge?—A. Oh, no, not at all.

Q. Well, in what respect does it differ?—A. Well, in the respect that I have disclosed already to the committee—I have repeated it twice, I think, to this committee—it is of record.

Q. Then if it is we need not go at it any further. Then you did make a statement here where they coincide with Hamilton, or are better or are worse?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You made them on clippings?—A. Oh, yes, of the papers I have indicated and Canadian Press reports.

Q. Could you let the committee have any one of those clippings that seem to substantiate this charge?—A. Why no; but they are of record of all these papers. *The Toronto Star* has an article on it. *The Montreal Gazette*, as I recollect it, had the report of the trip, and the Prime Minister's car, and all these things are available in the public press of those dates.

Q. Perhaps this is reptition; but after *The Globe* article of the 2nd and the editorial of the 8th, and your telegram that you intended to explain or correct, or whatever you may wish, at Lindsay, you did not go any further towards checking up those things otherwise than by reference to newspaper files?—A. Yes, and Canadian Press reports.

Q. And you would agree with me it should have been a simple matter to ascertain either one of these dates; the one to the Imperial Conference was in 1930 and the other was in 1931.—A. Well, I do not remember now whether it was immediately after the Hamilton trip, I was probably laid up there with a cold, but I wrote to Ottawa to get certain information and my recollection is that that was not received in Peterborough in time for the Lindsay meeting; but it was subsequently and I used it at the Cobourg meeting, which confirmed the facts, the real facts.

Q. You asked for information for use at Lindsay, but although the information that you were awaiting had not arrived you went on and made your speech?—A. As I recollect it, there were a couple of days there that I was suffering from the cold and not attending to my practice very actively.

Q. Don't you think, Mr. Gordon, that *The Globe* might have been right in this respect at all events, that under all those circumstances it was a somewhat reckless thing to do to make that speech either at Hamilton or at Lindsay with the facts so easily ascertained?—A. I don't think so, Mr. Chairman. I have been speaking for 25 years and my memory has not slipped on any serious matter during that time. I know that other men have made errors. I was just citing the case of the Prime Minister of Ontario who fell into a very serious one the other day and very frankly corrected it on the Orders of the Day being called.

Q. He sent a letter to Senator Hardy, so I saw in the Press.—A. Well, he read the letter on the Orders of the Day.

Q. So you do not agree with *The Globe* that it was a somewhat reckless—  
—A. No. There are a lot of things I do not agree with *The Globe* on.