

Privilege—Mr. Broadbent

officers. We have, I repeat, in each case referred them either to the attorney general of the province or to the royal commission of inquiry. We are concerned with these. We think they are of great importance as far as civil liberties are concerned.

Simply speaking, we have not on this side magnified a number of things. There may be a handful, or there may be five handfuls—I do not know—but when you have a force of some 20,000 people, which I believe it is, more or less, there are bound to be mistakes that happen. I believe this is now the position that the leader of the New Democratic Party took in the west this weekend when he said they are not accusing the RCMP. The majority of them are all very good people, but there is some minority which is not. This is the new position of the leader of the NDP.

An hon. Member: Oh, come on.

Mr. Trudeau: I can understand—

An hon. Member: That is really despicable.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: I can understand that in this present frame of mind—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: I can understand, Mr. Speaker, that in this present frame of mind, the leader of the New Democratic Party forgets what he said as little as three weeks ago. The accusation—

An hon. Member: Where are the statements? Where are the responses?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, would you ask this hyena to be a bit silent over there.

An hon. Member: And would you ask the Prime Minister to stick to the point?

Mr. Trudeau: I allowed him to make his question of privilege without interruption. He is now sensitive because I suggest he accused the RCMP of having been responsible for a break-in of the New Democratic Party offices and he says he never said anything of the kind. Perhaps he now wishes he had not said anything of the kind.

● (1532)

I have two quotations from reputable newspapers. I cannot vouch for their authenticity. If the hon. leader of the New Democratic Party stands up and says that he never said what he is alleged to have said by the newspapers, then of course I will say that we have both been badly served by the newspapers.

In the House, during an answer to the leader of the New Democratic Party, I was stating what I learned from the newspapers. I have two quotations in my possession of statements which were made outside the House. I will not look up

[Mr. Trudeau.]

every newspaper from last week during the time when I was embarked on this operation; Your Honour has indicated that a few quotations are enough. I am sure I can get more. But the leader of the New Democratic Party did not fall behind the screen that the Tory party used last week when they were talking about the hon. member for Central Nova and said that he had never accused the RCMP outside the House and that what he had done outside was irrelevant to them.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: How old are you, Pierre?

Mr. Trudeau: At least the hon. leader of the New Democratic Party has been honest enough to say that he did not say anything either inside or outside the House. I should like to read from an article by Mr. Lawrence Martin which appeared in the *Globe and Mail* of November 3, 1977. It reads in part as follows:

NDP leader Ed Broadbent has alleged the Mounties broke into party offices in Ottawa in December, 1972, and an outraged Stephen Lewis, the Ontario party leader, says the provincial activities of the Mounties might warrant a separate Ontario inquiry.

Mr. Speaker, I am reading this from the article which appeared in the *Globe and Mail*. I do not know what the shaking of the head by the leader of the New Democratic Party means, but at least he will concede that it is saying the same thing as I said and it is quoting him.

Mr. Broadbent: It is not a quote. Is he quoting me?

Mr. Trudeau: “Is he quoting me”, is the outraged scream. There are no quotation marks.

Mr. Broadbent: Right.

Mr. Trudeau: There are no quotation marks, but I should like to read it once again:

NDP leader Ed Broadbent has alleged the Mounties broke into party offices—

What am I supposed to do? Am I supposed to phone up the *Globe and Mail* and ask them why they did not put quotes in there, or what?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: I am not saying that the hon. member actually said this; I am saying this is the basis of my assertion in the House. If he tells me he has been maligned by the *Globe and Mail*, then I will say my authorities are not reliable—

Mr. Hnatyshyn: What else is new?

Mr. Trudeau: —and I will not ask anyone in the House in the future to use the *Globe and Mail* as the basis of any fact. I should like to quote from an article which appeared in the *London Free Press*. The by-line is John McKeough, and it is dated Wednesday, November 2, 1977. It reads as follows:

Asked if RCMP security forces could be suspected in the break-in, Broadbent replied: “there’s now good reason to at least suspect that the RCMP or security services were involved”—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!