

Combines Investigation Act

Mr. Aiken: I have a question of privilege, Mr. Chairman. I am one of the hon. members who spoke in the last 45 minutes. The hon. member for Essex East has said that I made my speech insincerely with a smirk on my face, or used some such words, and that I rose only to waste time.

Mr. Fulton: Not only are we not allowed to speak but we are not allowed to smile now.

Mr. Aiken: I have sat in this chamber for over three years now, and I have never stood on my feet to make any speech that was not sincere since I arrived here.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Aiken: I have a very great interest in the export market. This question came up in the committee. I also spoke on it yesterday and felt I should address myself to it again today. Although I was interrupted by the hon. member for Ottawa West on a question of privilege I nevertheless took 25 minutes. If the hon. member for Essex East thinks I was insincere I should simply like to tell him that I was not and if there is any question of insincerity I think the hon. gentleman should consider his own position.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Chairman, I did not say that the hon. gentleman—

Some hon. Members: Yes, you did.

The Chairman: Order.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Chairman, I did not say that the hon. gentleman was insincere. If he is now telling us that he was I can only tell him that I never doubted it. I have no hesitation in saying, however, that that sincerity accompanied his reading of minutes of the committee that had nothing to do with argument.

Mr. Kucherepa: The hon. member for Hull read for hours the other day. What malarkey. Read *Hansard*.

Mr. Morton: Mr. Chairman, I wish to associate myself with the remarks made by the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka in raising a question of privilege concerning what was said by the hon. member for Essex East. This is not the first time that the hon. member has imputed such motives to members on the government side. Just because hon. members on this side exercise their right to speak the hon. member for Essex East—

The Chairman: Order. I thought the hon. gentleman was rising on a question of privilege.

Some hon. Members: He is.

The Chairman: I would ask the hon. member to state immediately what are the words to which he objects.

Mr. Morton: Mr. Chairman, I said that I associate myself with the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka in speaking in respect to the reflections cast upon us by the hon. member for Essex East.

Mr. Drysdale: He is smiling now. Look at him.

Mr. Starr: Look at the hon. member for Essex East laughing.

Mr. Morton: This is not the first time the hon. member has cast such reflections nor is it the first time I have had to rise in this chamber on a question of privilege with respect to the reflections he cast. I feel as does the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka that it is both unfair and unparliamentary for this experienced parliamentarian to take advantage of those of us who have not been in this chamber very long in trying to cast these reflections upon us simply because we exercise our right to speak which is one of the purposes for which we were elected.

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, no one on this side desires to reflect in any way on the sincerity of the two hon. gentlemen and the smiles which were mentioned as being displayed on their faces was merely an indication of their intense interest in our export trade.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a question of privilege. Since I was one of those who spoke in the last three quarters of an hour I want to inquire of the hon. member for Essex East if he included me in his reference.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): No, Mr. Chairman, I was not looking toward the hon. gentleman. My eyes were directed westward.

Mr. Woolliams: Which eye?

Mr. Drysdale: Mr. Chairman, I hope my remarks will not be considered irrelevant. I merely wish to speak to the amendment. I should point out to the committee that I rose and then the hon. member for Bonavista-Twilligate arose and in deference to that hon. gentleman's seniority and experience I resumed my seat. As a result of that I have been unable to make my contribution to the debate until this time.

Allegations were made by members of the opposition, who in my opinion spent a considerable time this year on irrelevant discussions, and they seem to take objection when hon. members on the government side rise to set forth their points of view. I spoke