

take advantage of our seats in this House to defend anybody but ourselves on a question of privilege.

Hon. Mr. McINNES—That is precisely what I am doing.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (B.C.)—The hon. member from Richmond will see this; a government official attacks a member of this House and tries to connect his name with a criminal, a person whose word is alleged to be unreliable, and this House ought to give every liberty and facility to that hon. gentleman to clear his own character, and if he attacks Mr. Moylan for going out of his way to put his name in a report where it should not be, Mr. Moylan deserves all the lashing this House can give him.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—I am not here as the advocate of Mr. Moylan. I am not expressing approval of anything that Mr. Moylan has done. I have not read his letter. I am not prepared to say what judgment I would pass upon it if I did read it. But the point to which I wish to call the attention of the House is this, that I do not think it is within the scope of the question of privilege for a member to attempt to defend any one but himself.

Hon. Mr. McINNES—I quite agree with what the hon. gentleman states, but if the hon. gentleman paid attention to the letter when I read it, he would see that I am directly attacked through the medium of my nephew.

Hon. Mr. BELLEROSE—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. McINNES—The letter reads:—

This is an error. It is not W. H. Kearey, the dismissed accountant, but Thomas McInnes, late steward, and now a refugee in the United States, who is nephew of the polished and amiable senator referred to.

Hon. Mr. ANGERS—That is not an attack.

Hon. Mr. McINNES (B. C.)—It is an implied slander. There is no question about it.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—It may be that—on the nephew.

Hon. Mr. McINNES—I am not prepared to go on to debate this question of privilege, but I do claim that I am doing what is the duty of every member of this honourable House when he is attacked, especially by a civil servant, or a person in a still worse position, a man who has been superannuated, and is living on the tax payers of this country. In my place in the Senate, over six years ago, I called attention to scandals in a public institution and my statements were subsequently proved to be all true. If I can be attacked with impunity by the man who should have prevented these irregularities, I think that this House has fallen very low indeed if it will not defend itself. This Mr. Moylan is an old offender. Within the last six years he has been called to account for similar misconduct no less than twice to my personal knowledge. During the incumbency of the late Premier, Sir John Abbott, Mr. Moylan made an unjustifiable attack on the honourable member from Delanaudière in his annual report. He was brought to task for it, censured and punished. Even the \$500 that was placed in the Estimates for an increase of his salary was wiped out upon that occasion, and he was then cautioned not only by the late Sir John Thompson, but also by the late Sir John Abbott, that if he should be found guilty of any such offence again he would be suspended or severely dealt with. Two years after that he attacked me in his report, and that attack appeared in the annual report of the Minister of Justice. It was done without the knowledge of the Minister, or the Deputy Minister of Justice. Mr. Moylan only showed it to the private secretary, and it was smuggled into the departmental report in that way. I found that out subsequently. I was perfectly satisfied that Sir John Thompson would never lend himself to anything so low and unworthy as that. He was then summoned to appear before the bar of this House. But on the following day, before the meeting of the Senate, he apologized to this House, and Sir John Thompson gave a pledge that he would not offend another time. Now, unfortunately for this House, and I may say for the country, when Sir John Thompson dismissed the warden, the deputy warden and the accountant of the British Columbia penitentiary, he made the fatal mistake that he did not dismiss this J. G. Moylan, because when the papers are brought down, I can show very conclusively that he was probably the