

Business of the House

Mr. Garson: I think what my hon. friend is doing is leading his party into another Newfoundland fiasco.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is very difficult for me because there are two points of order before the house. Am I to understand that the leader of the opposition is speaking on the first point of order?

Mr. Drew: In view of the fact that the minister of make-believe was—

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Garson: I rise to a point of order and suggest that when my hon. friend refers to the minister of make-believe he is not using a proper parliamentary term and should withdraw.

Some hon. Members: Withdraw.

Mr. Drew: Mr. Speaker, I think that was one of the most generous expressions that have been used. May I point out that it was used by one of the members of the Liberal party. I would point out that the Minister of Justice took no—

Mr. Garson: I would like a ruling on the point of order.

Mr. Drew: I shall not give way until I have finished the sentence at any rate.

Some hon. Members: Withdraw.

Mr. Drew: I would point out—

An hon. Member: Name him.

An hon. Member: Who is running the house?

Mr. Drew: Mr. Speaker, I hope you heard the suggestion that you should name me. Not only do they want to wield a club over our procedure, they want to deny speech to hon. members of this house. I would point out that the term I employed was a term which I understood to be one of affection used by one of the Liberal members. I must say that it is an infinitely more generous term than could have been used in reference to a minister who broke the law which he is now seeking to have amended in this house. I return to the subject I was discussing when he interrupted.

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): I believe the statement made by the leader of the opposition should be withdrawn, and it should be withdrawn now without any more discussion.

Mr. Fulton: On the point of order, may I point out that the expression—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: We have two points of order before the house.

Mr. Fulton: I was intending to deal with the most recently raised point. Am I correct in doing so?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The first one.

Mr. Fulton: As to whether or not the motion is in order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It seems to me that the expression used by the leader of the opposition is not very courteous. I think it would be better not to use those expressions.

Mr. Drew: I am proceeding now to deal with the statement that was made in regard to money that had been wasted. In dealing with that—

Some hon. Members: Withdraw.

Mr. Sinclair: I also would like to rise on this point of order. The expression "minister of make-believe" is almost as offensive as though I were to call the leader of the opposition "a pompous jackass leading a bunch of filibusters." It is obviously true, nevertheless I would not use an expression like that about him in this house no matter what I thought about it. I think in fairness to the house the hon. member should withdraw his offensive expression "the minister of make-believe".

Mr. Drew: Had that remark come from anyone else but the member for Coast-Capilano I might have taken some notice, but in view of the fact that it came from a member who has so completely discredited himself in this debate I will not even bother paying any attention to it at this time. I was dealing with the subject of the cost of the proceedings to the taxpayer, and the point raised by the hon. member who spoke on that subject.

Mr. Garson: On the point of order; if I am not mistaken, what is now before the house is the point of order raised by the hon. member for Montmagny-L'Islet to the effect that the amendment now before the house is frivolous. That is the matter now before the house; and if the leader of the opposition is talking intelligently about anything at all he must be addressing himself to that point of order.

Mr. Drew: Mr. Speaker, I do not expect the minister to whom I have referred to follow the debate closely because he never does. I am dealing with the point that was raised by the member who spoke about the amount of money that was being wasted. I was pointing out, when I was interrupted from several quarters, that the motion before the house is one that was introduced by the member for Winnipeg North Centre.