

certain section of the returned men; perhaps later on we may have to consider the case again. Why not keep the two branches of legislation separate and distinct?

Mr. MANION: That is the intention of the government—to keep it distinct.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Let us be fair. It is easy to start a discussion of this kind for the purpose for which it is begun.

Mr. MANION: What purpose does the minister imply?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): To draw the attention of the committee away from the matter under discussion.

Mr. MANION: Nothing of the sort. I submit, Mr. Chairman, that the minister is imputing motives to me, and I demand a retraction of that statement. I rise to a point of order and demand that the minister retract that remark.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I have not imputed anything to my hon. friend; I have merely suggested certain inferences that may be drawn and I do not think I have anything to take back.

Mr. MANION: I rise to a point of order.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Nothing is imputed.

Mr. MANION: I rise to a point of order. The Minister of Soldiers' Civil Reestablishment should be spending his time fighting for the soldiers instead of fighting against them.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): That is unfair. I object to that statement and the hon. member should withdraw it because it is not borne out by the facts.

Mr. MANION: The Minister of Soldiers' Civil Reestablishment made the statement a minute ago that I had introduced this motion—

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I did not refer to you at all.

Mr. MANION:—for the purpose of drawing the attention of the House from the old age pensions bill and I say he had no right to impute that motive to me. He had no right to impute any such motive to me and I demand that he retract it.

The CHAIRMAN: I followed the hon. minister very carefully and I did not hear him impute motives—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

The CHAIRMAN:—to the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. Manion).

Mr. CLARK: Then may I ask to whom the imputation was directed?

The CHAIRMAN: I thought the minister's remarks were very generally applied.

Mr. MANION: He applied them absolutely to me.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): My hon. friend is too sensitive. There is no intention, as I have already said, to impute improper motives to him or to his party, but I do say that a moment ago my hon. friend did not make a fair statement.

Mr. MANION: I did make a fair statement and one that was a good deal fairer than your own.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): My hon. friend said I was fighting against the interests of the returned soldier.

Mr. MANION: So you have been all the evening.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I take exception to that. It is an unfair statement and one which would not be made by many members of this House.

Mr. MANION: Well, I make it.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): You make it?

Mr. MANION: Yes.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): You are not accountable sometimes for the statements you make in this House.

Mr. McGIBBON: Mr. Chairman, I rise—

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I do not wish to continue this discussion. I merely tried to point out that the proposal of my hon. friend will not, in my opinion, bring about the desire which he has in mind and also those who support him.

Mr. McGIBBON: Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of order. Are you going to allow a minister of the crown to cast insinuations against a member of this House? I ask for your ruling.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Muskoka (Mr. McGibbon) will have to explain what the point of order is before I can give a ruling.

Mr. McGIBBON: I can very easily tell you. The minister has just stated that the hon. member for Fort William was sometimes not accountable for what he said.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I think the hon. member for Fort William can well take care of himself.