

Mr. Cossitt: It was made, of course, by the New Democratic Party benchers to my left. In particular, I would like to refer, as I did at that time, to the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton), who made that remark, as was apparent to all of us. It may be contended that because *Hansard* reported that it was said by an hon. member, without specifically identifying the hon. member for Skeena, it is really irrelevant because we are all hon. members. I am therefore sure that the hon. member for Skeena—who is not in the House at the moment—being an hon. member, would want to acknowledge that indeed he had said this, and would want to withdraw the unparliamentary remark he made.

Mr. Nielsen: First thing tomorrow morning.

Mr. Cossitt: I would therefore suggest that tomorrow, if the hon. member for Skeena is in the House—or the day after, or as soon as he is here—he should have the opportunity to withdraw his unparliamentary remark which you, Madam Speaker, ruled as unparliamentary. To illustrate my point, of course, I would like to refer to the *Hansard* of July 8, 1961. At that time, Mr. Johnson, an hon. member from the riding of Chambly-Rouville in the province of Quebec, said to Lionel Chevrier:

Tell the truth, do not be a hypocrite.

At that time, the deputy speaker in the Chair replied:

I have heard a term which is certainly not parliamentary.

Then Mr. Chevrier proceeded to draw attention to the fact that he had used a similar expression on a previous day, and had been forced to withdraw it as it was indeed unparliamentary. Therefore, Mr. Johnson had to withdraw his remark. The fact that it might be contended that the hon. member for Skeena was not in his own seat at the time this remark was made would be irrelevant according to the ruling of the Speaker of the day, because the hon. member who made the remark said:

Mr. Speaker, I should return to my seat, because I am not now at my regular desk.

Then he returned to his seat and retracted the remark. Therefore, it is my contention, Madam Speaker—

Madam Speaker: Order, please. While the hon. member was making his point of order, I was reading *Hansard* in order to see what was said on Friday. Yes, the hon. member is right. I said that I would be prepared to look at *Hansard* to see whether those words had been spoken. I see from the *Hansard* I have in my hand that those words had been spoken. They had not come to the ear of the Speaker. Since some hon. members insisted that they had been spoken, I said that I would look at *Hansard*. I now read *Hansard* and find that the words are not reported in *Hansard* under any particular hon. member's name.

Therefore, I am afraid that if it is not in *Hansard*—I did say that I would look at the blues. The blues do not report these words. Therefore, I am at a loss. I do not think I called on anyone to withdraw an expression which does not appear in *Hansard* and which has not been heard by the Chair.

Point of Order—Mr. Cossitt

As for the term “hypocrite,” I understand it is listed as both unparliamentary and parliamentary language. Hon. members will understand that that puts the Chair in a very difficult position. I would say that it is not a very appropriate expression in the House, but since it was pronounced by no one, at this point, I cannot call on anyone to withdraw it.

Mr. Cossitt: With all due respect to the Chair, Madam Speaker, I must contend that the words were used, and they appear on page 8709 of *Hansard*. We in this end of the chamber have identified the hon. member for Skeena as having said them. I would therefore think that this matter should be held until such time as he has the opportunity to either deny that he said them, or to admit—as an hon. member would—that he did indeed say them. Then at that time, I think, it would be up to the Chair to decide whether he should be asked to withdraw the words, or whatever the case may be. It is very clear that it is an unparliamentary expression. It is very clear to all of us here that the hon. member for Skeena made those remarks. I think that he should at least have the opportunity, before the Chair makes a ruling, to say whether or not he is prepared to acknowledge that he made those remarks, if he did. If he is an hon. member and does—and I am sure he does acknowledge that—then I would think we should have a ruling from the Chair.

Madam Speaker: Yes, I now see that on page 8709 of *Hansard*, at the bottom of the page, it says that an hon. member said:

You are a simple-minded hypocrite.

The hon. member must understand what kind of a predicament I am in. Whom can I ask to withdraw these words? The hon. member—

Some hon. Members: Skeena!

Madam Speaker: Yes, well, that is the hon. member's contention, but I cannot ascertain it because I did not hear those words. They are not identified in *Hansard*. Therefore, it is impossible for me to ask an hon. member, any hon. member who is not identified to withdraw his words. I can ask no one, so I cannot do that. The hon. member cannot ask the Chair to do that.

As for the expression “hypocrite”, if it is on both lists, then that puts me in a position where I guess I have to determine whether it is unparliamentary, and I would say that it is; but since there is no identified hon. member, to my knowledge, who has pronounced those words, I guess the matter is closed.

Mr. Cossitt: I have a second point of order. Before proceeding to it, I would like to acknowledge the statement you have made and ask if you would be prepared to wait until the hon. member for Skeena is here so that he can tell the House whether, as an hon. member, he did or did not make those remarks.