

Supply—Mines and Technical Surveys

over the provinces. I said that in doing so he deceived the people into voting for him. That statement is a statement of fact.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Pickersgill: There has not been any increase in production. There has been a steady and increasing reduction of production which has followed. That is what I said. Of course, I do not think the Prime Minister knew enough about coal mining to have the faintest idea whether or not he could increase production. To quote one of the Prime Minister's colleagues, it was just another election promise. But my right hon. friend Mr. St. Laurent was also pilloried by both those gentlemen all over Nova Scotia—

Mr. Pallett: I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Pickersgill: —because he was honest enough and truthful enough to say—

Mr. Pallett: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member still has not withdrawn the remark about deception, and in fact he reiterated it. Your Honour has ruled that the hon. member has to withdraw the remark about obtaining votes by the use of deception, which is what the hon. member said and repeated. He knows this offends the rules. His emotions may be a little close to the surface because of the events of the last few days, but still he should act as a parliamentarian.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Chown): I still take the view that, as provided in Beauchesne's fourth edition, the applicable rule under citation 155 is as follows:

It will be useful to give examples here of expressions which are unparliamentary and call for prompt interference. These may be classified as follows:

1. The imputation of false or unavowed motives.
2. The misrepresentation of the language of another and the accusation of misrepresentation.
3. Charges of uttering a deliberate falsehood.

The word "deliberate" was used by the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate—

Mr. Robichaud: No.

Mr. Pickersgill: No, I never used the word "deliberate".

Mr. Robichaud: No; the hon. member said he did not use it.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Chown): Order. I thought I heard the hon. member use the words "deliberately deceived". However, the word "deceived" itself implies to the Chair that there was some knowledge, or that the promise was made knowingly as one that could not be fulfilled. I think the language

[Mr. Pickersgill.]

could be modified and I would ask the hon. member if he would do that, as is his custom in this chamber.

Mr. Pickersgill: I do not want to waste any further time, sir, and therefore I will say, particularly as Your Honour helped me a bit by using the word "knowledge", that I do not think the Prime Minister had any knowledge of the subject when he made those promises. I think it was simply an irresponsible promise. I put it this way: The promise was that coal production would be increased; the fact is that it has steadily and increasingly gone down. I will accept whatever Your Honour likes to call that. You can substitute any word you like, and I should like to go on with my speech. The fact of the matter is that because the Tory party promised, and got votes by promising, to increase coal production, they have never dared to face the facts of this problem.

Mr. Pallett: Would the hon. member be good enough to give the reference of that particular statement to which he now refers.

Mr. Pickersgill: If the hon. gentleman wants a few of them, I will give him lots of them and I will give them tomorrow in my own time.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Pickersgill: I refuse to be diverted by these—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Pickersgill: —questions from the point I am seeking to make. The point I am seeking to make is that anybody has been able to see ever since that slow down, to which my hon. friend from Gloucester referred, in 1958—

Mr. Henderson: He was in the oil business.

Mr. Pickersgill: Well, no doubt—

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Chown): Order.

Mr. Henderson: He was in the oil business; he wasn't interested in coal.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Chown): I think the hon. member who has the floor should be given a little more adequate hearing and I would ask the committee to refrain from these persistent interjections and hear him out.

Mr. Pickersgill: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I think it is really rather astounding, when you realize that the closing yesterday of this old mine that has been going for so many years and has provided a livelihood for so many of our fellow citizens leaving people with no alternative employment, seems to be a laughing matter to hon. gentlemen