

I was never part of that administration. If you want to speak of accuracy, then let us have it completely accurate. There is a bit of a problem here, because I do not really know on what basis Senator MacDonald occupied the floor at this stage. If one disagrees with someone in debate, I guess that one can get up and say, "I disagree with you. I want to correct it," and so on. But there is no question of privilege, because I did nothing to offend any member of the Senate. Is there any point of order?

Senator Frith: I was the one who was cheeky, not you.

Senator Olson: Yes, it was the honourable senator who was cheeky, not me. Are we setting up something that is new, a new question of something? Possibly it is a question of disagreement. It is not a question of privilege and it is not a point of order. What reason did Senator MacDonald have for rising in his place?

Senator Roblin: You were just wrong, that's all.

Senator Olson: Senator Roblin knows enough about the rules in a democratic forum to know that one does not jump to one's feet for nothing. I am not sure on what basis Senator MacDonald is making what he alleges to be a correction. Really, it is a difference of opinion as expressed in debate.

Senator Roblin: It's a fact.

Senator Olson: I know when the P.C. order was passed. But you guys destroyed the whole structure that was set up.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Senator Olson: This gives me an opportunity to tell Senator Murray one or two things that I think he ought to know, which is that he will come back here day after day saying that he has not had enough time to get the infrastructure and all of the trappings that he needs in place so that he can deliver some effective regional economic development. I can predict that now. I will just tell him that had he left what was there, set up by competent bureaucrats and politicians, including support from some Conservatives, he would not have to waste all that time in putting it in place now.

As a matter of fact, the person whom he named—I am not quite sure of this; I will check it. I think it is a Mr. McPhail—to be the head bureaucrat of this new agency was, in fact, the FEDC officer in New Brunswick when they destroyed it. I am not sure whether it is the same name, so I want to be careful.

Senator Murray: It was DREE before that.

Senator Olson: So now you are bringing them all back. It is a lot of garbage to say that you are coming in with a new program. You are so bankrupt of ways of doing things in areas where you know you have responsibility that you are going back to look at stuff that is already five or six years out of date. I am glad that at least you acknowledge that there were some good things going then that you feel you must resurrect now. It is a little late. The sad part about it—and I hope Senator MacDonald is listening—is that you have wasted all this time. It is too bad.

Senator MacDonald: Why should I listen? You are never going to make the point anyway.

Senator Olson: If honourable senators opposite look at the polls that came out this morning, they will find that the kind of garbage they are perpetuating in here is not being bought by the people out there. The people want some action. They want this government to demonstrate what it can do, and not come along with a bunch of fancy ideas and words that really involve the resurrection of something that was set up months and, in many cases, years ago.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Senator MacDonald: Honourable senators, possibly some honourable experts in this house can indicate to me, as a relative newcomer—only two and a half years tenure—the proper procedure for drawing to the attention of the Senate a statement made, in this case yesterday, which is totally incorrect. Perhaps someone could advise me as to what my privileges are with respect to getting up and pointing out this inaccuracy. I am not making a case, good or bad, for MSERD. I am simply asking Senator Olson—

Senator Frith: Cheekily!

Senator MacDonald: —to acknowledge, without distracting us by raising matters involving Mr. McPhail, previous events or anything else, that he was wrong when he answered my question, "Who destroyed MSERD?" He says, "You guys." It was not us guys, it was you guys! Just acknowledge it! I shall not hold up the proceedings of the chamber any longer.

Senator Olson: Peace!

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS IN GALLERY

Hon. Rhéal Bélisle: Honourable senators, I would like to draw to your attention the presence in our gallery of a parliamentary delegation from India led by the Honourable D. Shankaranad, Minister of Water Resources, and the High Commissioner of India, Mr. S.J.S. Chhatwal.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

THIRD REPORT OF COMMITTEE PRESENTED AND PRINTED AS
APPENDIX

Hon. Dan Hays: Honourable senators, the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry has the honour to present its third report respecting power to incur special expenses pursuant to the procedural guidelines for the financial operation of Senate committees.

I ask that the report be printed as an appendix to the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate* and the *Debates of the Senate* of this day and that it form part of the permanent records of this house.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.