

Department of Marine and Fisheries that Commander Roper, who was traduced by the colleague of my hon. friend the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, the member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. Monk) because forsooth he had espoused that very Canadian navy which he now condemns in this memorandum, was very anxious to get a little raise in his salary from the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

An hon. MEMBER: Hit a man behind his back.

Mr. LEMIEUX: I shall not make use of the weapons used by Commander Roper in sneaking this document into the department in the absence of his chief, but if the conduct of Commander Roper is referred to the British Admiralty, I do not know the English officials if they keep him in office.

Mr. OLIVER: Before this matter is dropped, would the hon. minister tell the committee how this document came into his possession?

Mr. HAZEN: What document?

Mr. OLIVER. This report of Commander Roper.

Mr. HAZEN: My attention was called to it when I took office by the officials of the department, and also to a memorandum made by Admiral Kingsmill, which I read to the House, and which is in line with the memorandum of Commander Roper.

Mr. OLIVER: My hon. friend stated that Admiral Kingsmill refused to accept this document from Commander Roper. If that is the fact, I ask him how that report of Commander Roper became part of the records of the Department of Naval Service, and how it came into his hands?

Mr. HAZEN: What I stated was that Admiral Kingsmill refused to forward it. It came into my hands because it was handed to me by an official of the department.

Mr. OLIVER: Will the minister let us know whether this document came through proper official channels, or whether it is in the hands of the minister as the part of a gum-shoe campaign which is one of the political weapons of this Government?

Mr. HAZEN: The hon. member for Edmonton should not get so excited. I do not really know where he has acquired the term he has used, or what it means and I do not think that there is any reason for his undue excitement except, perhaps, now that hon. gentlemen opposite find the facts of the case take the ground from under their feet, they

are so sorely disappointed that they are driven to indulge in additional abuse of that gentleman who has occupied and is still occupying a distinguished position in the navy. The hon. gentleman is simply trying to draw a red herring across the trail, and to divert attention from the memorandum which I have read to the House.

Mr. OLIVER: Then allow me to say that my hon. friend has seen fit to place before this House and the country as official a document that is not official.

Mr. LEMIEUX: My hon. friend seems to ignore the fact that Commander Roper was publicly arraigned in the Parliament of Canada by his present leader, the Prime Minister, by his deskmate the Minister of Militia, and by his former colleague, the ex-Minister of Public Works (Mr. Monk) for having taken the stand which the Liberal party takes to-day. Commander Roper can serve both parties; he is a very poor customer indeed.

Mr. HUGHES (Minister of Militia): As the hon. member has referred to my name in connection with this matter, let me tell him that if he reads 'Hansard' he will see that I defended Commander Roper. I stated to the House that he was acting at the dictation of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries; that he produced a document which had been written by the deputy minister and read over to the minister, and that the minister commanded the deputy to place it in Commander Roper's hands to deliver at the dinner.

Mr. LEMIEUX: I would refer my hon. friend to his speech in 'Hansard' which I read to-night, and which contains quite a different statement.

Mr. HUGHES: On the same occasion I pointed out that Commander Roper would not dare, unless authorized by his minister or his deputy, to stand before any public audience in Canada and deliver such an address.

Mr. GRAHAM: He did dare to do it.

Mr. McCRAANEY: I move the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. CURRIE: I rise to a point of order. Such a motion cannot be made in committee. The proper motion to be made in this regard is that the chairman do now leave the Chair, or that the debate on this clause be adjourned.

Mr. GRAHAM: That was the motion.

The CHAIRMAN: There is only one motion that can be made—that the committee rise.

Mr. BORDEN: I desire to make one or two observations to the amendment which