

days between the time he was sworn in and the nomination.

Mr. CAMPBELL. That is near enough for him.

Mr. INGRAM. No, it is not near enough. If the hon. Minister of the Interior will say that is correct, I will accept that statement and withdraw the statement I made.

Mr. OLIVER. I think the hon. member will have to accept the statement of my hon. friend from West Assiniboia (Mr. Scott).

Mr. INGRAM. I am bound to say I will not accept the statement. I will accept the statement of the hon. Minister of the Interior. If the hon. minister who was the candidate on this occasion will state that he was not sworn in on Saturday, 15th April, I will accept his word. Is that correct or is it not?

Mr. OLIVER. I say again that the hon. gentleman will have to deal with my hon. friend from Assiniboia.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Oh, oh.

Mr. INGRAM. It is quite evident that I am right.

Mr. SCOTT. No, my hon. friend will permit me. This is a matter within my personal knowledge. I left here to go to Edmonton on Tuesday, the 11th April, and I am certain it was on the previous Saturday that my hon. friend the Minister of the Interior was sworn in.

Mr. TAYLOR. It was the Saturday after you left. You left four days before he did.

Mr. INGRAM. I will not accept the statement of the hon. member for West Assiniboia.

Mr. SCOTT. I will call to the attention of the hon. member the rule of the House. He is compelled to accept. I make this statement within my personal knowledge.

Mr. INGRAM. The hon. gentleman will have to study up the rules of the House. I will not accept the statement that he has made. He has contradicted my statement. I have as much right to have my statement accepted as the hon. gentleman has to have his accepted. I have given an opportunity to the hon. Minister of the Interior to correct my statement and on his correction I will amend it if I am wrong; otherwise I will not amend it.

Mr. OLIVER. I want to know if the hon. member has made his statement on his responsibility as a member of this House.

Mr. INGRAM. Certainly I make the statement on my responsibility as a member of this House.

Mr. OLIVER. Then I say the hon. gentleman is incorrect.

Mr. SCOTT.

Mr. INGRAM. Will the hon. gentleman kindly tell me—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Take it back.

Mr. INGRAM. Will the hon. gentleman kindly tell me on what date he was sworn in?

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of order. I have stated to the committee as a matter within my personal knowledge that the date upon which my hon. friend the Minister of the Interior was sworn in was the 8th April. I know that because it was on the Saturday previous to the date on which I left Ottawa for Edmonton and I know the date on which I left Ottawa was Tuesday, the 11th April. I draw the attention of the hon. leader of the opposition to this matter. He gives very frequent lectures to this side of the House on the proper conduct of debate.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Scott) was present when the hon. Minister of the Interior was sworn in and knows it of his own personal knowledge, I suppose?

Mr. SCOTT. I make my statement as being within my personal knowledge.

Mr. FIELDING. A personal statement of fact as to a matter is one thing, but I am afraid there is no point of order in it. I think the statement of my hon. friend from Elgin (Mr. Ingram) must be erroneous, but I do not think there is any point of order in it.

Mr. OLIVER. I will merely call the attention of the committee to the fact that the hon. member for East Elgin has taken it upon himself to state that there were only ten days intervening between the occasion of my being sworn in and the date of the nomination. That statement is absolutely and totally false. I was sworn in on the 8th April.

Mr. INGRAM. I am very glad to hear that.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Why did you not say so ten minutes ago?

Mr. OLIVER. I wanted to see how far the hon. gentleman (Mr. Ingram) would go.

Mr. SPROULE. Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of order. I want to ask the ruling of the chair if it is in order for any hon. member of this House to say that the statement of another is absolutely false.

An hon. MEMBER. So it was.

Mr. SPROULE. I want the ruling of the chair.

Mr. OLIVER. If it is out of order to say that the statement is absolutely false, I will withdraw, but I will say, that, when the hon. member told the committee that I was sworn in on the 17th of April, I was not sworn in on the 17th of April.