

not be misconstrued by any person as being cooked, or in any way reflecting upon the integrity and honesty or character of the individuals responsible for this report. On the contrary, I think ... it was a job extremely well done....

Now one further word. It may well be that members may feel that the manner in which the debit side and the credit side of balance sheets have been prepared by present administrations may have been incorrectly or improperly done. Upon that I make no comment. My only duty is, or was, to make sure that these figures were listed as taken from such government figures or statistics as may be available to members. On that point I have satisfied myself, and I therefore rule at this time that I find that the figures are correctly represented....

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, I think I am entitled in reply to Major Cashin's request to you to make a ruling, and in comment upon your ruling to say...

Mr. Chairman Just a minute, Mr. Smallwood, please. If it is your intention to appeal my ruling to the House that is your right ... but I remind you that you are not permitted to debate and appeal from my ruling to the house. I want to make it clear that when I met the Steering Committee after I had been sworn in there was handed over to me rules of procedure.... I have sworn that I will impartially and fairly preside over the deliberations of this room while I am here.... Unless and until any of the rules of procedure handed to me by the Steering Committee are repealed, varied, altered or amended by two-thirds of this House, it becomes my sworn duty to enforce your rules. I did not make these rules, they were made for me. I shall preside here to insure that the rules of debate shall be conducted with propriety, and in accordance with the rules of procedure....

Any ruling that I make I shall expect to be respected and observed. Unless and until my ruling is appealed to and reversed by the House as a whole, I propose to act on my rulings as if they were judgements of this House. It is the constitutional right of any member to appeal my ruling, but he must do one of two things: he must either abide by my ruling, or else he must appeal from it to the House.... I will promptly put any appeal from any decisions I may make to this House, and of course I must naturally abide by

any decision reached by the House as a whole. Therefore I must say two things: one, while a member is addressing the Chair he has no right to come between the speaker and the Chair. It is in the interest of all you gentlemen that I should reserve to you the dignity and respect to which you are fairly entitled. That I can only do if by and with your sympathy I am permitted to enforce the rules, that no member shall rise or interrupt a speaker who is addressing the Chair, unless and until he rises to a point of order, at which time he will be asked to state his point of order. A ruling will, if possible, be immediately given on that point of order, and then, if he is dissatisfied with the decision his remedy is to appeal to the House as a whole. With that in mind, Mr. Smallwood, I want to reserve to you the right to correct, by way of appeal to the House if you like, any misapprehensions I was unfortunate enough to convey, or any decisions that I wrongfully arrived at....

Mr. Smallwood Mr. Chairman, there was nothing further from my mind than to appeal against your ruling.... It was my intention merely to say that not for a moment had I any thought that in the writing and compilation of this Finance Report did the Finance Committee or any member of it have any desire to change or twist or distort or falsify any figures whatsoever.... At no time did I have in my mind, nor have I now, any doubt about the integrity of that Committee or their honesty. I have no doubt that, in copying those figures, they copied them correctly and accurately, with the exception of one item which I will refer to at some other time; that they just took the figures from the Auditor General's report and copied them, and that is what they put in this table.

Mr. Chairman You do accept that? That their *bona fides* in honesty in copying the figures is not in question at all?

Mr. Smallwood I never doubted it at all, except for one short period on one side of the ledger, and that is purely a technical matter which I hope to have the pleasure to explain. My entire point is that the very reports which the Finance Committee took their figures from are themselves wrong....

Mr. Higgins I rise to a point of order. You have ruled these figures correct, and I don't think Mr. Smallwood is at all within his rights in discussing