

introduce into a discussion of this kind the statement that a man is a hatchet-man. To go into the alley of Hong Kong—

Mr. FERGUSON: What does "hatchet-man" mean?

The CHAIRMAN: Order. Mr. Smith has the floor.

Mr. SMITH: I was endeavouring, to speak to the motion, but apparently the cariboo have not yet shed their antlers and they have got to get into a fight that is not theirs at all.

I simply come to this: I have been sitting here all day with some questions that I wanted to ask. I think the committee will agree that I did have quite a long cross-examination yesterday, but I think they will agree too that I did not waste any of this committee's time.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh,—

Mr. MAYBANK: Go on.

The CHAIRMAN: Order.

Mr. SMITH: There is apparently some disagreement with that statement, and I notice the agreement becomes vocal from the lips of the same gentleman who introduced the steam roller a moment ago, as he has tried to do on two or three occasions in the sittings of this committee.

I shall answer your question, if you like. So I am suggesting that we pursue our normal course, and I do want to ask some questions. If I did not do that—it is now getting close to 11 o'clock and tomorrow morning—

Mr. MAYBANK: We do not need to quit at 11 o'clock.

Mr. SMITH: You may not, but I do. I am an old man and you are one of those young fellows who can still wield a good hatchet. I am still sure it would save the time of the committee.

Mr. MAYBANK: After all the rest you had today, you ought to be able to keep going for a long time.

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. SMITH: My position is this: I think if I were permitted to study these various notes—all I have been able to do was to make notes of what the witnesses said as they went along—I am sure in so far as I am concerned that if I had the opportunity this evening of looking over what I have got here I could do what I have to do in a very short time—not what I have to do but what I intend to do, in a very short time tomorrow morning.

Mr. MAYBANK: No. Do it tonight. Fifteen minutes would serve you.

Mr. SMITH: Yes, I intend to do it tonight. That is what I am arguing for, an opportunity; but you are driving me so hard that you are not leaving me a chance to get some sleep and I need it. My beauty, among other things, calls for it.

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. SMITH: I am opposed to the motion.

Mr. MAYBANK: Surely, you are opposed to it!

Mr. SMITH: I hear sounds coming from somewhere, sounds which are disagreeable, sounds which to me do not make words, phrases, or sentences. I do not know what those sounds are. I suggest we pursue the normal course and if I prove to be wrong in what I have said, that this would give me an opportunity to shorten my examination tomorrow, then you may call me and tell me that I have had too much to say; or I give you the full authority to tell me tonight. Perhaps I cannot give it to you because you already have it; but I certainly would be in agreement with you if you stopped me because I was too prolix in the examination of the witness.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Parkes on a point of order?