

the one serving Edmonton—as to whether they would be prepared to take their gas from your grid system if you constructed it, or have you any reason to believe they would sooner get their gas by other means?—A. I have had many conversations extending over two years.

Q. What is the effect of those conversations? Are those two gas companies there at present favourable to your scheme, or would they prefer to get gas in some other way?—A. I think, as of the moment, they apparently want to get gas in some other way.

Q. In some other way. Would that have a material effect on whether you build your grid system or not?—A. No.

Mr. APPLEWHAITE: I do not want to rise too often on a point of order, but, on page 2 of the brief it says that there is an Alberta company incorporated for the purpose of operating a natural gas gathering grid system. If this company we are dealing with is not being incorporated for the purpose of operating a grid, then let us keep to a discussion of the bill?

Mr. HARKNESS: Mr. Chairman, I would submit that Mr. Dixon has given us evidence in connection with the grid system—it is an integral part of this scheme. The Alberta Natural Gas Grid Company is a subsidiary of the company which is seeking incorporation at present and therefore the questions are in order.

The CHAIRMAN: I think you should proceed with the main topics of the bill. I quite agree with Mr. Applewhaite, and I think most of the members do, that you should make your remarks relative to the bill and its main provisions. There is a good deal of repetition going on now.

Mr. HARKNESS: My next question, and the only one I have on that, is: if the Alberta gas companies at present in operation are not prepared to deal with you in this matter of taking gas, as you say you understand, do you think you have any sort of a chance of getting a permit from the Alberta government to construct this grid?

The WITNESS: Yes.

Mr. HARKNESS: All right, but I would think myself that it is very doubtful.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Maybank wishes to have the floor for a moment.

Mr. MAYBANK: Mr. Chairman, I wish to move that at the next sitting of this committee we shall commence to consider the bill, clause by clause—and that is the end of the motion.

That is to say that at the conclusion of the sitting of the moment we will not proceed any further with the taking of evidence. It is not my intention to express any argument with regard to these things—I feel there may be other people who will wish to argue about them. My own view is that we have had a masterly presentation of triviality long enough.

Mr. McIVOR: I second the motion.

Mr. SMITH: I wish to speak to the motion, Mr. Chairman, and I am opposed to it. Among my many good reasons for opposing it is that the chief hatchetman for the government has come down here to start the steam roller in operation.

Mr. MURRAY: I think that word should be withdrawn—it is very wrong.

Some Hon. MEMBER: Withdraw, withdraw.

Mr. MAYBANK: Mr. Chairman, since the remark applied to me, I am the one who might expect to have asked that it be withdrawn—if it were to be withdrawn at all. Thank you Mr. Murray for taking my part that way—but may I say that I do not care whether he withdraws it or not. All the kind of triviality, and stupid talk—to use one of his expressions,—just passes off my back like water off a duck. I pay no attention; I just consider the source.

Mr. MURRAY: It is not a matter of personalities or whether the honourable gentleman is aggrieved, or not: It is lowering the standard of parliament to