

*Hansard* will show words; *Hansard* will not show emotions. It has been said many times of things that have happened in this world of ours in the last 25 years that it could not happen here. Mr. Chairman, it could happen here.

**Mr. White (Hastings-Frontenac):** It has happened.

**Mr. Rowe:** It has.

**Mrs. Fairclough:** On what is our government founded?

**Mr. Purdy:** On democracy.

**Mrs. Fairclough:** "Democracy", my friend says. It got a death blow this afternoon. You might as well just get out; you are no use in this house. Mr. Chairman, I would not have said a word to the hon. member had he not interjected.

**An hon. Member:** Do you not believe in the majority rule?

**Mrs. Fairclough:** I agree the majority rules, my friend; I do indeed. But when that majority abuses the use of the rules, of procedure and of precedents that have been built up in this country over hundreds of years, then it is not a case of majority ruling; it is the old steamroller tactics, the very type of thing that robbed Europe of democracy. I admit, Mr. Chairman, to feeling strongly on this subject; I admit to feeling so strongly that it is difficult for me to speak upon it.

**An hon. Member:** Oh, no.

**Mrs. Fairclough:** Don't say "oh, no". Possibly the hon. gentleman has not had in his family the history that I have had in mine. In the last 500 years, as I think I have mentioned in this house before, Mr. Chairman, my family has fled from persecution in two countries and it is here today in Canada, and has been here for five generations, thinking that in this country we had freedom. If this freedom is taken from us, Mr. Chairman, where do we go for sanctuary? Where do we go?

**An hon. Member:** Not to me.

**Mrs. Fairclough:** Not to you; you're not fooling. The type of thinking which prompted that remark, the type of thinking which prompted the votes which have taken place in this house today, Mr. Chairman, is the type of thing that has robbed free peoples of their freedom over this world many, many times.

I say to you advisedly that threats face us. There are so many kinds of people in this country. The people of the North American continent, and the people of the world, have been warned of threats of physical extinction

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by reason of atomic bombs or hydrogen bombs. But, Mr. Chairman, there are other types of extinction. To die; we all come to it eventually. If we live the proper kind of life we do not fear death, but a living death is a different thing. I say to this house that there are things to be feared worse than the death which may come to one from an atomic or a hydrogen bomb. I did not hear that last interjection from my friend. If he would like to repeat it I would be very glad to hear it. There have been a good many interjections in this debate.

I had intended to speak tonight specifically upon the gas pipe line. If events of this day have prompted me to depart from my intention it is probable that hon. members will understand that there are some things that need to be said under stress. We have heard a great many excuses given for the procedure which is now proposed on Bill No. 298. We have had quoted to us the words of many persons. As a matter of fact, almost always when anybody speaks in this house he refers to so and so who is an expert in his field. Experts! Many of them have been quoted to us. I do not know under what conditions they become experts, Mr. Chairman. I only know that just the other day, in the course of my reading, I found a modern definition of the word "expert" which said that "ex" is a has-been and "spurt" is a drip under pressure. We have been suspicious of those experts and I think it is only natural that we should be suspicious. All the circumstances have been suspicious.

The hon. member for Nanaimo made some excuses for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. Well, I am quite willing to go along with them. Possibly, in the words of the street, he was "had". It seems to me there are a few things we should bear in mind, and I would like to mention three or four around which my own suspicions have centred.

In the first place there is the length of time which has elapsed since the first charter of this company was procured. There has been a great deal of talk about the necessity for haste. It seems to me, however, the necessity for haste is something that has developed in very recent days. There seemed to be no necessity for haste back in 1951; and even granting that some hon. members of this house might think this thing really only started in 1953 after the company was forced into its present alliance, it seems to me there was no particular need for haste in 1953 or 1954 or 1955.

The early assertions of financial competence on the part of this company, which made a very fine plea before the committee when it was endeavouring to procure its charter, have