

*Protection of Privacy*

embarrassed a good many of her colleagues. I suggest that she exemplified a reaction of anti-unionism and many other things that, if I were not an old-fashioned gentleman from New Brunswick, I might accuse her of because I thought it was one of the most reactionary speeches I have heard in this House. If she wants to give us another example, I will listen.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Fairweather:** Hon. members may laugh, but many of the hon. member's colleagues were not very happy about the example of Liberalism we were treated to the other night. If the minister has a question, I will be glad to defer to him.

**Mr. Gray:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the hon. member how, in view of his reference to the remarks of the hon. member, he gets along with some of the members of his own caucus?

**Mr. Bell:** How do you get along with the NDP at your caucus?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Fairweather:** I do not get along with every member of my caucus, and I think it would be a very unusual and boring caucus if I did. I had not thought a caucus was the place for a love fest. I find a caucus very challenging in trying to persuade people I do not happen to agree with, and it is one of the most stimulating activities that one takes part in here. Apparently the hon. member does not have any trouble with the members of his caucus. If he could get along with Beryl Plumptre as well as he gets along with his own caucus, God bless him for that.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** And God help us.

**Mr. Baker:** And God help the country.

**An hon. Member:** Are there any more questions?

**Mr. Baker:** What is the next question?

**Mr. Fairweather:** If the hon. member wishes to ask a question, I will be glad to listen to him.

**An hon. Member:** At least we had music during the question period.

**Mr. Lang:** Would you like more violins?

**Mr. Fairweather:** It is a good thing I have a check-rein on my emotions. I hope the minister will reply to my remarks because I would be delighted to have my position challenged.

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, I waited with interest to hear what the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Fairweather) would say. Having heard the kind of remarks made by the hon. member for Broadview (Mr. Gilbert), I knew the hon. member would have to make some reply. He was pressed, pressed and pressed by that hon. member in this House. I was not completely sure whether he was supporting the motion moved in the name

of the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggett). I found this interesting in one respect because a couple of his colleagues suggested that it is a terrible insult to come into this House and move an amendment to restore a position which had been taken by the committee. This was a position taken in the committee which friends of the hon. member for Fundy-Royal felt was important.

It has been suggested that what was involved here is a matter to be treated in this country in a very careful way. If that is what is involved in this particular section of the act, then I suggest there may be an inadvertent attempt to destroy one of the very foundations of this country and that attempt could well be avoided. It is my feeling that this section was carefully written to ensure that the responsibilities of the Solicitor General in connection with any attempts to obtain evidence are observed. It was also written in recognition of the fact that it is important to the state that these side efforts to destroy the state should not be allowed to continue.

I know I have said this before, but the remarks I make in response to what has been said by the hon. member for Fundy-Royal existing in an ivory tower were made because I have had the same kind of thing said about me. So I thought I would put it forward to him and some of his colleagues, although some of his colleagues clearly qualify.

• (2100)

The fact is that we must look at the practical situation we are in. Here is a case where if the security of the state itself is threatened, we must expect to take appropriate action with regard to it. The hon. member's colleague, the hon. member for St. Paul's (Mr. Atkey), recognized this in a section with which we were dealing earlier by carefully treating specially and separately each proceeding that is carried out under cover of the Official Secrets Act. There was there at least a recognition of the fact that where there is espionage, sabotage or subversive activities, or where there is a most organized attempt to destroy the basis of the state, sometimes very special measures are needed.

The thing that disturbs me about the attitude of the hon. member for Fundy-Royal is his willingness to share in a doubt about the importance of the integrity of people in elected political office, as though our political process could survive unless we could bring forth elected people in our political process who could have that confidence placed in them. He is making a terrible mistake when he turns to any other country or any other example and says it does not work there, and therefore we must do something differently here. I think the hon. member has shown a lack of confidence, in this way, in the political process. We did, in the committee, make an important change in this area. We had an attitude which is now being characterized as rigid. We put forward, at the request of hon. members in the committee, changes which redefined the words "espionage", "sabotage" and other specific or subversive activities.

It was the hon. member for Fundy-Royal who indicated that basically he saw the need of this kind of section but he wanted those words more precisely defined. We did so in the committee, and that now is being characterized as some form of rigidity. We know that is the kind of politi-