

United States had taken the same attitude as you are asking us to take today Canada would be a very poor country. Every bit of gas or oil that came into this country came from the south of us, from the United States. I remember well being in Boston in 1945 when people were sitting in their homes with fur coats on because there was no fuel. That never occurred where I lived even during the war; and in the maritimes, if it were not for the people to the south of us, we would have moved out long and long ago.

I have heard these same who are opposing the incorporation in this committee, members stand up and preach political autonomy; and it would seem here there are two or three members from Alberta doing that this afternoon. I believe the people in Alberta should have something to say about the natural resources of their province, for without these markets in the United States it would be utterly impossible to deliver gas to the west coast. You have to have the American market to get that gas to British Columbia at a reasonable price. I have listened to this flag waving and I want to assure you that the people where I live are more generous towards the people in the United States.

I have no hesitation in voting against the amendment because I believe these people down there will be the same friends to us in the future as they have been in the past.

Mr. GOODE: I am going to speak directly to the amendment, Mr. Chairman. I came into this committee with a neutral attitude. As I said before, I wanted to find out about the submission of the gentlemen who are interested in this company and then to form my own opinion. I find that although a certain pledge was given to Mr. Green when the charter was granted to the Westcoast Transmission Company, that the pledge, if it was a written one, was not worth the paper it was written on. So I must judge for myself just what is going on in this committee, and make up my own mind. I look at the bill for the Westcoast Transmission Company and I find out that the words are exactly the same as those in the bill before us, exactly word for word. Mr. Green at that time made no suggestion that there should be an amendment to that charter and I am not going to penalize this company because he omitted to propose an amendment to a charter that has been granted. We should be fair. We are only judging if this company should receive a charter. I am going to vote against this amendment for the one reason that I do not think Mr. Green has been fair in this matter and I am going to form my opinion from that fact.

The VICE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

Mr. SMITH: I assure you I am going to be very brief. I intend to deal with one of the arguments made by my friend Ralph Maybank and then I will say a word to Wes Stuart here because he brought some Alberta members into the discussion. Mr. Maybank's argument is this that the amendment is worthless. It strikes me as very strange for so very able lawyer as he is to become so enthusiastic in opposing an amendment which in his own language means nothing. Then, with respect to the broad picture of different companies—and he says there are a lot of them,—which have been organized on similar lines, to my knowledge there is only one company, the Westcoast Transmission Company.

Mr. MAYBANK: The oil companies are much the same, are they not?

Mr. SMITH: I am speaking with reference to gas.

Mr. MAYBANK: This is an oil company.

Mr. SMITH: This includes both gas and oil.

Mr. MAYBANK: So do they.

Mr. SMITH: But the others do not include gas. Now, we who have been opposed have been opposed for one reason and that is that we offered in the House of Commons and again here to let this charter go through in one minute