

have to be individually called before they are passed by the committee, and closure does not bring about the passage of any one of those clauses. I think that there was no objection raised at the time that the putting of the three clauses in one motion was not a procedure that would establish a precedent, but I submit to you, sir, that when we have here a precedent set by the presence and discussion of the matter by as eminent parliamentarians as Mr. Bennett and Mr. King, we are entitled to regard it as a valid precedent and we are entitled to ask that it be applied to future cases.

Now, it has been stated that there was not even technical consideration of clauses 1, 2 and 3. On each of those clauses there has been a reference to the house, and the house has by its vote asserted that they had been considered in such a manner as to justify—

Some hon. Members: Oh.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): If you will refer to the *Journals*, you will see that that is so in fact. As far as the operative clauses are concerned, of course, we shall admit that there were not many gentlemen on the other side of the house who have deigned to discuss any clause of this bill.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Rowe: Nobody has been allowed to.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): They have preferred to concentrate upon their discussions of the procedure that was being recommended to the house by the government. But all those who have, even in discussing the procedure, referred to the bill have referred to the purposes of the crown corporation, to the method of financing the crown corporation, to the loan the crown corporation might make to Trans-Canada Pipe Lines, and those are the purposes of clauses 5, 6 and 7, which have not been specifically called for the consideration of the house.

Mr. Diefenbaker: We have not been able to get any answers at all. You have been as silent as the tomb.

Mr. Rowe: What is the load factor on the steamroller?

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): The load factor in the house has been 100 per cent.

Mr. Drew: One hundred per cent tyranny.

Some hon. Members: Oh.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): I do not know that we advance the business that is before the committee at this time, or even advance the respect each one of us has for parliamentary institutions, by the use of violent language.

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

Mr. Rowe: There are not many left.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): There are methods by which one's opinions about the procedure that is being followed can be expressed—

Mr. Diefenbaker: Why don't you follow that?

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):—without reverting to the kind of language we have heard, I think, all too frequently in the course of this debate—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): We realize the responsibility we are taking in doing our best to bring this matter to a division where all members of the house will have, and be able to exercise, their right to express by their votes their opinions upon the measure.

Mr. Rowe: Just by their votes.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): We do not dispute the rights of hon. members to try to persuade. We do not even dispute the propriety of the statement made again yesterday by the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart in which he said, as found at page 4465 of *Hansard*:

... I believe that, if one feels as strongly as I do that this is not in the best interests of the country, anything I can do to stop this going through, under proper parliamentary procedure, I am right in undertaking.

Mr. Rowe: Is that not all right?

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): We do not dispute that—

Mr. Diefenbaker: Just deny it.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):—but we do think that the opposition should not question the right of the government, feeling as strongly as we do that this is in the interests of the country, to do everything we can—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):—under proper parliamentary procedure—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East):—to give every hon. member the opportunity to vote on this measure.

Mr. Rowe: You will let us vote on it, will you?

Mr. Sinclair: If you are here.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): We do think that the precedent set in the time of Mr. Bennett and Mr. King as to the manner of applying properly this closure rule is a valid precedent and one we are entitled to rely upon.