

The Address—Mr. Green

its plan and bring in a measure amending the Old Age Pensions Act by raising the ceiling to correspond with the increase in the pension itself.

Finally, I hope consideration will be given at this session to means of furthering certain promising developments in this nation. I have in mind, first of all, atomic energy. Canada is fortunate in being a producer of uranium, and being one of the big three in the development of atomic energy. I believe that atomic energy is just as important today as was the development of the steam engine over one hundred years ago; I think it can mean just as much to the world. It may be the one thing that will put Canada in the forefront of the nations.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) has just returned today from a meeting in Washington at which there were discussions concerning a new agreement between Canada, Great Britain and the United States on atomic energy. A few weeks ago reference was made in the press to the giving out of information concerning atomic energy, the question raised being how far the United States should go in disclosing information to Great Britain and Canada.

I submit that the Minister of Trade and Commerce should make a full report to this house concerning the situation on atomic energy. I have here a press dispatch of July 28, 1949, headed, "Congress authority on A-bomb granted. Release of secrets outside President's right." The first paragraph reads:

Washington—President Truman has conceded the right of congress to pass upon the release of atomic bomb secrets to Great Britain and Canada, according to word sent to Capitol Hill through State secretary Acheson.

In the press reports of yesterday we find that during the negotiations which took place this week the President made it clear that he is committed not to enter into any atomic agreement without consultation with congress. Right from the start, back in 1946, the United States set up a committee composed of members of the senate and house of representatives to advise on atomic questions, a watchdog committee. I urged on behalf of the official opposition that Canada should have a similar committee. The Minister of Trade and Commerce—I forget what minister he was then because he has been so many in the meantime—refused to have a committee set up. In subsequent years he has softened a bit. Last year when I suggested that there should be a similar committee in Canada he said it was a good idea and we could have it. But week after week went by and no committee was set up. Then there was an election, which perhaps some of you have heard about. In any event no committee was set

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up, but what do we find? I quote from a dispatch dated August 22 as follows:

U.S. atomic energy officers study Chalk River layout.

The external affairs department today disclosed that five U.S. atomic officials spent the last two days at nearby Chalk River talking over the administration of the atomic pile there with Canadian officers.

Two of those five officials were members of the congressional committee, Senator W. F. Knowland of California and Representative H. M. Jackson of Washington. They came up here and were told what Canada is doing, yet the Canadian House of Commons knows nothing about it. President Truman goes to congress to consult them after this conference and the Minister of Trade and Commerce comes back to Canada and consults himself as the member for Port Arthur. That is the ridiculous situation existing in Canada today. I repeat that there should be a committee of this house to go into the whole question of atomic energy.

Another promising development is that in connection with oil. There have been great oil discoveries in Alberta. Last year we passed a pipe lines bill providing for the establishment of pipe lines to carry this oil. When the bill was sent to the committee on railways, canals and telegraph lines I was surprised to learn from the representatives of Imperial Oil Limited that perhaps that pipe line would go through the United States. We now find that such is to be the case. This pipe line is to go from Alberta to Regina and then, instead of going to Winnipeg and the head of the lakes through Canada, it is to by-pass Winnipeg, go down into the United States and end up at Superior, Wisconsin, from which place the oil will be carried by ships to Sarnia.

Surely it is in the national interest, regardless of cost, that the main pipe line carrying Canadian oil should be laid in Canadian soil. Think of the difference in employment in Winnipeg, Fort William and Port Arthur. Think of the potentialities for development. I see by the press that it would cost more to run the pipe line that way. I have no objection to a branch line going to the United States or to our selling to that country oil we do not need, but I do suggest that the main pipe line carrying Canadian oil should be laid in Canadian soil. I regret that that is not to happen in this case. I think this is a great mistake in national policy. I suspect one reason it is being done is that Imperial Oil want to sell oil in the United States.

Mr. Smith (Calgary West): I am sorry to disagree with a member of my own party, but I do.

Mr. Green: I think the plan is to sell a great deal of oil in the United States.