

*The Address—Mr. McIvor*

possible, and according to rumour there is something moving. We invite the public to come here. Why should they not hear? Why should the press gallery not hear? They should be allowed to hear everything that goes on, and I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that there is little said in this house that is not worth hearing.

There is another thing I should like to suggest, and I did not see it when I came here today. When our Speaker stands up and leads this house in prayer that prayer is confined to the members. We do not let the press gallery or the public hear it, and that is not in keeping with the teachings of Him Who said, "whosoever will may come". And dear knows, if we need it the general public would be very much helped if we opened the doors at the opening of the house each day. The house will hear more about that later on.

There are two things which concern us greatly at the head of the lakes. First I would pay my tribute to the young Minister of Reconstruction and Supply (Mr. Winters) who gave today his report on housing. I have admired him for a long time, not only as a baseball player but as a tennis expert and an all-round athlete. And I see that in his activities as minister he is putting just the same punch into his work that he put into a game—and the other fellow found it out. Therefore I pay my tribute to him for his splendid report on housing.

This is one of the problems which has troubled us at the lakehead. The other day I tried to get a house for a young father and mother with two children, and I was told there were seven hundred applications ahead of them. Just think—seven hundred of them! The report the minister made today shows that now it will be possible for a man who saves a little and gets a down payment to own his own house—and that is something every young man and woman should do. They should own their own homes, and have a stake in the country.

I was greatly interested in what is being done by an Ottawa firm of bakers. The Morrison-Lamothe bakery has a scheme, which might be practised with great profit throughout Canada, under which they are helping their workers to own their own homes.

I sincerely trust that the minister will not lift rent controls. Recently I got an earful from a citizen with an office in a commercial block. He said to me, "You lifted control on these blocks, did you not?" I said that I did not do a great deal about it, but that I supposed I voted like the rest, and thought it was necessary. "Well," he said, "our rent has just gone up by 172 per cent." If rent con-

trols are lifted in respect to private homes, then we may pity those who cannot get a house, particularly if it is in a winter season. Therefore I hope that rent controls will not be lifted.

Another thing which is interesting us at the head of the lakes is the building of a pipe line. In Alberta there are tremendous quantities of oil and gas. Last session we enacted a law giving permission for the building of a pipe line. We believe we should own and control all our resources, and the people at the lakehead are much concerned about the pipe line. Perhaps they do not thoroughly understand the details, but they would like to have them. In this connection I should like to read from page 29 of *Hansard*, where a question was asked by the hon. member for Moose Jaw (Mr. Thatcher) and a reply given by the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe). The hon. member for Moose Jaw asked why the line was to be built to Superior rather than to Port Arthur. The minister's reply was this:

I have received representations from Fort William and Port Arthur, as well as from a number of surrounding municipalities. I should like to point out, however, that by virtue of the pipe lines bill which was passed by the House of Commons at the last session, all jurisdiction over the routing and location of pipe lines was placed in the hands of the board of transport commissioners.

Therefore the Minister of Trade and Commerce had practically no say as to where it would be. He continued:

The board held hearings at which representations were received from the lakehead, and a decision of the board has been rendered approving the route as filed by Imperial Oil Limited.

Mr. Thatcher: Has the minister issued a licence to this particular company to export oil?

Mr. Howe: Yes. The Department of Trade and Commerce, as a matter of ordinary routine, has issued a licence under the Electricity and Fluid Exportation Act, which permits the company to export oil for re-import into its refinery at Sarnia.

There is a refinery at Regina, and it is understood that business would not justify another refinery at Winnipeg or Fort William. If the pipe line were to run from Winnipeg to Fort William it would delay the project for two years. There is no sign yet of the building of a refinery at Duluth, but just as soon as Sarnia has more oil than it can use, I am sure Canadians would like Americans to buy our oil.

The matter of social security has been bothering us somewhat at the lakehead. I commend the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Martin), who is not here, for the splendid work he did at the last session in bringing aid in the matter of hospitalization, through the help of provincial governments across Canada. It has enabled us to go ahead with much needed building projects.