

by the Liberal party out of the time allotted to it in debate and was not taken out of the Conservative opposition's time. It was all done by the Liberal whip.

Mr. Castleden: Mr. Chairman, I think May 15 will be remembered as the date on which we witnessed democracy reach its lowest ebb in Canada since confederation.

Mr. Hamilton (York West): It is the 16th.

Mr. Castleden: It will be a sad day only if it is forgotten. Today we witnessed the denial of the rights of the representatives of between one-third and one-half of the Canadian people to speak in parliament. Seldom in Canadian history has there been such a betrayal of Canadian rights and Canadian interests and never has democracy in this Canada of ours been so brutally set aside to perpetrate that betrayal.

Forty-five years ago the Canadian government, dealing with a matter of reciprocity between this country and the United States, after debate in this house took that question to the highest court of the Canadian people in the land, and therefore they voted as to whether or not Canada should carry on trade with the United States, whether there should be restrictions and a cutting down of tariffs for both countries to permit the free trade of goods. At that time the government believed the proper thing to do was to let the Canadian people decide the issue on those grounds.

Some 30 years ago the Liberal party applied closure in this house but it was only after there had been weeks of debate.

Yesterday we had notice given that closure was being applied in this house even before the resolution had been introduced by the minister who introduced it. What is this resolution? The Canadian people should know what this resolution contains. It calls for about five things. Under this resolution the Canadian government in co-operation with the Ontario government is building through a government corporation a pipe line from the Manitoba border to Kapuskasing which will cost the taxpayers about \$113 million. After it is built it is to be handed over to the Trans-Canada Pipe Lines company with an option to buy it after a number of years. If it is a paying proposition, Trans-Canada Pipe Lines picks it up; if it is not, then the Canadian people can have it and pay for it.

On top of that, this resolution makes arrangements for the Canadian government to loan to Trans-Canada 90 per cent of the cost of constructing the pipe line from Alberta to a point near Winnipeg, a sum totalling between \$70 and \$80 million. There is a specific provision under the arrangement

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

to be set up following the adoption of this resolution for a lead-off of 200 million cubic feet of natural gas per day from Manitoba at a point near Emerson. The corporation to be set up is to have the power to do such things.

In case the company defaults, the government is to take over the assets of Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited and operate the whole thing as a government enterprise. The government thus admits that there is a possibility that they may have to operate this as a crown corporation. In heaven's name, if they are building the eastern portion of the line and lending the company 90 per cent of the cost of building the western portion, they should take it over for the benefit of the Canadian people.

That is the indisputable argument which this government cannot escape. If Trans-Canada Pipe Lines wishes to build this line, then it should be allowed to operate it. If the government intends to build it and to provide the money for building it, then the government should operate it. This infamous resolution calls upon the Canadian people to lend the money to build it and then it is to be handed over lock, stock and barrel to United States interest.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce built the Polymer Corporation with Canadian money for the purpose of making artificial rubber during wartime. The government did not build the Polymer Corporation and then hand it over to the Canadian rubber companies. If they had done so the Canadian people would have objected. The Minister of Trade and Commerce did not build up a fine Trans-Canada Air Lines and then hand it over to Canadian Pacific Air Lines. The Canadian people would have objected strenuously if he had done so.

What do the Canadian people think of this proposition? We are going to practically build this line and then hand it over to United States interests, the big world oil combine boys from Texas who own and control such vast quantities of the world's supplies of oil. Canada is to help them out.

Who is this fine favoured friend called Trans-Canada Pipe Lines? I had hoped that the hon. member for Vegreville would have told us something about them in his introduction of the bill to establish Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited in 1951. At that time he told the house that this was to be an all-Canadian company, it was to build an all-Canadian pipe line and there would be 100 per cent consumption of gas by Canadian consumers. That was the commitment made to the house, that was the commitment made