

Prairie Transmission Lines

If British Columbia is to be liquidated, if British Columbia is to be considered as expendable, if the government is going to adopt in that province a scorched-earth policy, then by all means put the pipe line east of the Rockies and run it across into the United States. But, please, tell the people of British Columbia that you want to wash your hands of them, and perhaps they might even then consider that the Rockies would provide a good defence.

Some hon. Members: Carried.

Mr. Clarence Gillis (Cape Breton South): Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to delay the passage of this measure. Perhaps I would not be on my feet now were it not for the amendment moved. Perhaps the hon. member felt that by offering the amendment he would expedite matters. I would advise him however that the amendment gives everyone who has spoken the chance to speak again.

Mr. Cruickshank: Hear, hear—and we will, too.

Mr. Gillis: It merely throws a monkey-wrench into the matter. I am not particularly anxious to accept that kind of measure.

Mr. Smith (Calgary West): It is part of a pattern.

Mr. Gillis: In the House of Commons there is sufficient latitude for the consideration of any matter, and I do not like anyone to inject these methods into debate. In many organizations throughout Canada high priests have grown up, and this is the kind of method we find them adopting. They receive their orders from the head table, and carry out those orders. But we want to keep clear of that in the House of Commons.

I am interested in the principle of the bill. Thus far the discussion has been between Alberta and British Columbia, Alberta apparently wishing to sell oil and wanting a pipe line built as quickly as possible, and British Columbia, on the other hand, saying that it should be an all-Canadian route. There may be some selfishness in both arguments, but I am with the British Columbia group in their desire to have this an all-Canadian route.

With all due respect to the hon. member who presented the bill, he told us that it would go to a committee, that they want to get a franchise and want to build a pipe line. That is as far as he could go. But what happens after these pipe lines receive their franchise? We have already put five bills similar to this one through the House of Commons. On those occasions we were told that the building of these pipe lines was going to create a lot of employment in Canada for

Canadians, that factories in Canada would be turning out pipes—hundreds of thousands of tons—and that Canadians would be working on them.

Well, the Saskatoon *Star-Phoenix* states that 78,000 tons of pipe required to build the line from Alberta to Wisconsin is being imported from the United States into Canada. Those who sponsored the bill at that time, when they said it would provide work for Canadians and keep our factories and steel plants going, believed that.

Mr. Robinson: On a question of privilege, I think I sponsored the bill to which the hon. member has referred, and I made no such remark.

Mr. Gillis: There were five of those bills, and a lot of speeches were made.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order.

Mr. Green: Adjourn the debate.

Mr. Gillis: I move the adjournment of the debate, Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to and debate adjourned.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hour reserved for private and public bills having expired, the house will resume the business that was interrupted at six o'clock.

OLD AGE SECURITY

APPOINTMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE TO STUDY LEGISLATION, ALTERNATIVE METHODS, ETC.

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Martin:

That a joint committee of both houses of parliament be appointed to examine and study the operation and effects of existing legislation of the parliament of Canada and of the several provincial legislatures with respect to old age security; similar legislation in other countries; possible alternative measures of old age security for Canada, with or without a means test for beneficiaries, including plans based on contributory insurance principles; the probable cost thereof and possible methods of providing therefor; the constitutional and financial adjustments, if any, required for the effective operations of such plans and other related matters:

That 28 members of the House of Commons, to be designated by the house at a later date, be members of the joint committee on the part of this house, and that standing order 65 of the House of Commons be suspended in relation thereto;

That the committee have power to appoint, from among its members, such subcommittees as may be deemed advisable or necessary; to call for persons, papers and records; to sit while the house is sitting, and to report from time to time;

That the committee have power to print such papers and evidence from day to day as may be ordered by the committee for the use of the committee and of parliament, and that standing order 64 of the House of Commons be suspended in relation thereto;

And that a message be sent to the Senate requesting that house to unite with this house for the