

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

I was stumped, and I am sure all members of the house were stumped, in trying to find exactly what policy, if any, the Leader of the Opposition had in mind on the various occasions when he addressed this house.

An hon. Member: He never had any.

Mr. MacDougall: It is quite evident, according to their tenets of faith, that the socialist party stands for public ownership. I can quite understand their attitude and the attitude of their leader on that occasion. But if the day ever comes—and I hope it will not—when the people of Canada and the government of Canada will of necessity have to take over the Trans-Canada Pipe Lines, I can assure this house that they will do a much better job than has been done by so-called crown companies in the province of Saskatchewan. I should like to point out that there have been five crown companies in Saskatchewan that have gone down the drain. There have been more than that, but I am only including five in my remarks tonight. They are the leather products factory, the box factory, the woollen mills, the fish board, and the tannery.

Mr. Ellis: Tell us about the insurance company.

Mr. MacDougall: I have pointed those out, and I also want to say that it is a most intriguing thing for me that, when the socialist government of Saskatchewan has been asking and receiving foreign aid to come and develop the resources of that province for the past two and a half years to the extent of approximately \$50 million a week, some of my socialist friends here from Saskatchewan get up and condemn it. Now that we all recognize, Mr. Chairman, that that great race horse, Citation, is dead, now that we have invoked closure, I am very happy to see that for the duration of this debate citations are also largely dead.

With that idea in mind I should like in the few minutes at my disposal to satirize the situation as far as my good friends of the Tory and C.C.F. parties are concerned. About the most concrete suggestion we have had from the Leader of the Opposition has been that we might consider running the trans-Canada gas line on railway property from Alberta to Quebec. I wonder whether the Leader of the Opposition has ever considered for a moment how volatile gas is, and how much additional insurance the railroad companies would have to bear if by any chance this suggestion as to the route of the trans-Canada line were ever carried out? So to me it has been most difficult to plot what might be considered a statement

[Mr. MacDougall.]

of policy on the basis of any of the utterances of the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Harkness: You are always a little dull, Jack.

Mr. MacDougall: I admit it. The only unfortunate part about that interjection on the part of my hon. friend is that he is a great deal duller than I am.

Mr. Hees: Grade 5 humour.

Mr. Ellis: Another Bob Hope.

Mr. MacDougall: It has been stated that the rules have largely gone by the board.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. MacDougall: That condition now being a matter of history, I wonder whether I might be permitted to summarize and satirize the positions of the government and the Tory and C.C.F. parties by naming batteries for these opposing teams in the House of Commons. If that is permissible, Mr. Chairman, for the government side I would announce as pitcher that veteran speedball artist, C. D. Howe, and as catcher—

Mr. Fleming: He is throwing curves.

Mr. MacDougall:—that pipe line specialist, the Conservative gentleman who sits behind me—Carl Nickle. For the opposition it is a little more difficult to select the battery mates but I cannot help remembering that the other night the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggan nearly burst a button—

An hon. Member: Is that all?

Mr. MacDougall:—when he rose to speak on the resolution after the Leader of the Opposition. I think his closing word was “buccaneer”. Therefore, for the opposition I am naming as pitcher “buccaneer Coldwell” and as catcher “I am working on the railroad Drew”. There is a gentleman behind me, Mr. Chairman, who said he would like to play outfield. I should like to play shortstop or second base on the government team because I am quite sure I would be able to put across many double plays.

An hon. Member: This is a real double cross.

Mr. Harkness: This government is expert in double plays already.

An hon. Member: Double shuffles.

Mr. MacDougall: Mr. Chairman, as I said when I rose, I am not going to go into the intricacies of gas distribution in Canada.

An hon. Member: You have not.

Mr. MacDougall: I profess to know very little about it.