

He said: Mr. Speaker, this bill is very similar to the previous one, the only difference being that it involves the production of gas and, hopefully, oil in the western part of Alberta on the British Columbia border. Federal charter is necessitated again because an interprovincial line will have to be built. The companies interested are engaged in the exploration and production of oil and gas in western Alberta.

This bill is designed to provide the means of gaining access to markets by tying into existing transmission lines in the British Columbia-Peace River area. The distance involved is 20 miles. Again the applicants will have to appear before the National Energy Board as well as similar boards in the two provinces concerned before they will have permission to construct the line.

This is again a wholly owned Canadian company and it is intended that it will remain that way. After second reading this bill will be referred to the House of Commons committee at which time members will have the opportunity to question representatives of the company.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, there is an obvious connection between those seeking incorporation of Vawn Pipe Lines Limited and Cabri Pipe Lines Limited in that the Chieftain Development Company Limited and the Blue Crown Petroleum Co. Limited are involved. I am wondering whether that is the reason the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Jorgenson) made such a point of referring to Canadian ownership in respect of Cabri Pipe Lines. He did not make the same point in respect of the Vawn company. I am wondering whether this is entirely Canadian owned and whether there is any intention to make shares available in the future to anyone else other than a Canadian citizen. I put this more in the form of a question to the hon. member than a speech.

Mr. Jorgenson: Mr. Speaker, I thought I had made that point to which the hon. member refers. In any event that is precisely the situation.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the standing committee on transport and communications.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tardif): Pursuant to a special order made this day this sitting stands suspended until eight o'clock.

SITTING SUSPENDED

Amendments Respecting Death Sentence

SITTING RESUMED

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING DEATH SENTENCE AND LIFE IMPRISONMENT

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Pennell for the second reading of Bill No. C-168, to amend the Criminal Code.

Mr. Pennell: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. During the course of my remarks I advised the house that in the period 1957 to 1967 45 convicted murderers were paroled and that 43 of them were still on parole. My officials have brought to my attention the latest information in this respect, which is that five had their parole revoked, so really 40 are on parole now who were granted parole in that period. I thought it only ethical that I bring this to the attention of the house at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Matheson: Mr. Speaker, we are fortunate in a debate of this kind to be able to make fairly exact and precise scientific comparisons between homicide rates in different countries of the world. To a considerable degree we are more knowledgeable in this field than we were ten years or a quarter of a century ago. I note that in figures published in the Demographic Year Book of the United Nations in 1952 we have a comparative homicide death rate, based on the year 1948, of some countries with and without the death penalty for murder. These are rates per 100,000 population. I discover that Belgium, without the death penalty, has a figure of 1.4, which is precisely the same rate as Spain, with the death penalty. For Western Germany the figure of 1.2 is exactly the same as Canada, with the death penalty. Sweden, without the death penalty, has a figure of 0.8, which is precisely the same as France, with the death penalty. For abolitionist Norway the figure is 0.5, which is exactly the same as England and Wales with the penalty. The Netherlands has the extraordinarily low rate of 0.4. And of course, some countries with the death penalty have very much higher rates. El Salvador has a rate of 44.3 per cent. This is one of the reasons why public opinion in scholarly institutions has shifted toward abolition and with it has shifted the views of western society.

In the 30 years between the first Gallup poll on capital punishment of April, 1936,