

*Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation*

failed to provide, or from the circumstances cannot provide, adequate services at reasonable cost, the utility or service to remain a government enterprise only until the changed situation warrants private development.

What does that mean? It means simply this. As a Social Credit principle we believe in individual enterprise. We believe in private enterprise. We believe in the private enterprise system. But if in the national interest private enterprise cannot do the job, we believe there can be some reason for a government-owned pipe line until such time as private enterprise can take over.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, may I say that I think I will let the matter rest at that point for the present. We may have something further to say at a later stage. I suppose that some of my colleagues will want to enter into the debate, perhaps at the moment. We will support the resolution in the hope that it will facilitate getting the bill before the house.

I believe the minister should send the bill to the appropriate committee—and no doubt he will do so—where witnesses of one kind and another can be brought to give evidence in respect of finance, Canadian investment or foreign investment, costs, procedures and what not. I believe the government should send the bill to the committee where a complete investigation can be made of it, so that interested parties can come and lay their case before the committee. Those in the opposition as well as on the government side will have their chance there to question those witnesses. I hope the minister will give us the assurance that the bill will be sent to the appropriate committee.

In the meantime I would appeal to all hon. members not to delay the passing of this resolution. If anything is to be done by way of starting the construction of a trans-Canada pipe line this year, a bill providing some assistance to the building company will have to be through this parliament within the next few weeks.

**Mr. Coldwell:** Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. It is extremely awkward for a member to rise and object to an extension of time, but there are some of us in this house who keep our eye on the clock and try to end at the appropriate moment. In fairness, I think the rules should be enforced. I am not criticizing my hon. friend. He asked for the extra time. It was given to him. That is all right. But if we are going to have rules in this house, I think they should be enforced. Because we do not like to deny a colleague the opportunity of extending his remarks for another ten minutes, those who try to keep within the limit are in reality discriminated against.

[Mr. Hansell.]

I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that you do not ask whether the house will give permission. The situation was different with the minister this afternoon. If I may just intrude for one moment, may I say that I think it is an extremely anomalous position in connection with this rule that the minister introducing some measure in the committee is limited to 30 minutes, whereas the Leader of the Opposition—and I am not making any criticism of him—has unlimited time. The rest of us are limited to 30 minutes. I think the rule needs changing in respect of the minister introducing a resolution. However, I believe that the chair should not ask the house for an extension of time.

**Mr. Hansell:** Mr. Chairman—

**Mr. Coldwell:** I am not critical of you.

**The Chairman:** Order. I am somewhat glad that the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart raised this point of order, in view of remarks which several hon. members made to me following my action this afternoon in interrupting the Minister of Trade and Commerce at the expiration of 30 minutes and, at the same time, allowing the Leader of the Opposition unlimited time. It became apparent to me that some hon. members did not apprehend the change which had taken place in the rules by which the members of the house and myself are bound. The present rule in committee is the following, standing order 59, paragraph 3:

No member, except the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, shall speak for more than 30 minutes at a time in any committee of the whole house.

By unanimous consent the Minister of Trade and Commerce was extended permission to exceed that time this afternoon. The Leader of the Opposition, by right, exceeded 30 minutes this afternoon. This evening the hon. member for Macleod was interrupted by myself at the exact expiration of 30 minutes. Some hon. members then said, as I thought I heard, "Let him go on", and in accordance with past custom, I then asked hon. members if the hon. member for Macleod had unanimous consent, and I understood that that consent was freely granted. I hope these few remarks will clear up that situation.

I again draw the attention of hon. members, as the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart has done, to the provisions of the new rule as set forth in standing order 59, paragraph 3.

**Mr. Hansell:** May I offer one comment only. Since we do not debate the resolution when the Speaker is in the chair, perhaps some leeway could be given to leaders of the other groups.

**Mr. Coldwell:** No.