

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

received the verdict of parliament, we shall proceed with the construction of this project."

Instead of that, they used this phony deadline and this excuse about the availability of pipe and so forth as a big stick to try to force members of the opposition, and incidentally the private members who support the government also; they are in exactly the same position as we are, they are gagged and bound, being forced to support a government on an issue about which they themselves are not very happy.

Thirdly, I would make this statement, that whether the government is successful in bulldozing this measure through parliament, in the manner in which they are attempting and have been attempting to do so, they have already lost on this issue. The people in the country are aroused and resentful. The people in the country are resentful not only of the fact that the government is asking this parliament to give them permission to dip into the public treasury to the extent of \$130 million for the purpose of setting up a private monopoly but they are perhaps even more resentful of the fact that the government has the colossal nerve to come to this house and say, "We have made an agreement, which is not even part of the bill before us, we have made an agreement which can be changed and varied at the will of the government itself, without the wishes of parliament being consulted; and because we have made that agreement, then you who are the representatives of the people will have to be bound and gagged and, after a certain date, to have no more opinions to express."

The people of Canada are not going to stand for that and they are going to express their will in no uncertain terms when they have the opportunity to do so. I think the people of Canada also are resentful of the fact that the only role that has been played by the private members supporting the government and by my Social Credit friends to the left of us is the role of Murchison's minions and Tanner's tomboys.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): Mr. Chairman, some hon. members who have spoken in committee have indicated that they did not fully understand what was really meant by the statement I made at the opening of the sitting on Monday about the time available for debate on the pipe-line bill when I used the words, "there will be all this week for it to be continued on its remaining stages."

The remaining stages of the bill were the consideration of all the clauses in committee and the third reading of the bill. In that connection I want to make it quite clear that it would have been possible, and it would

[Mr. Zaplitny.]

still be possible, for hon. members opposite by the simple expedient of postponing successively the consideration of the remaining clauses of the bill to bring the committee back, in a quite regular fashion, to the consideration of clause 1, if that is what they feel would be the most effective way to continue the debate.

Now, it must be apparent to all members of the committee that since the government did not give notice yesterday under standing order 33, we are not now in a position to bring on a vote on the third reading of the bill earlier than Monday evening, which is one day longer than the time I indicated on Monday last would be available. In other words, the opposition is now in a position to prolong the debate on the bill for one day of next week, whatever the government's wishes may be in the matter.

The government has been anxious from the moment this measure was proposed to give the opposition the maximum time consistent with the deadline the government has to meet to consider the bill in all its stages, of which consideration in committee of the whole is an important one. We had hoped to have the bill under consideration in committee last Wednesday, and at the close of Tuesday's sitting, hon. members will remember, the house had ordered it for consideration on Wednesday. And it was certainly no fault of the government that it was not considered on Wednesday afternoon.

But all that is past, and I want to tell the committee now that in order to increase the time available for the committee stage we, on this side, are prepared to sit this evening and to sit all day Saturday, if hon. members will agree unanimously to a special order of the house which would provide for the conclusion of the committee stage at the close of the sitting on Saturday and for the conclusion of the remaining stages of the bill at the close of the sitting on Monday next.

Such a procedure would provide another two days in committee stage, if hon. members opposite so desire.

Mr. Fleming: On those terms.

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): I noted, with some surprise, what the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart said in concluding his speech in committee on Monday, as reported at page 4399 of *Hansard* in the following words:

I very sincerely hope, because it is not in the best interests of Canada, that the opposition will be strong enough to prevent this bill from going through before the deadline.

Now, sir, if all the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart meant was that he hoped the opposition would be able to convince, by its