

or five of the provinces in this country—before that can be done. That is something, of course, similar to the wish of the Leader of the Opposition to turn this matter over to a committee, which would delay the building of the western section of the pipe line this summer. I submit that from the arguments we have heard presented to the house the urgency which has been stressed has been proven, and consequently if you are going to have a commission set up or if you are going to turn it over to the provinces, as my hon. friends would suggest, it will mean a further delay in the pipe line, and surely that is not desirable at this point, Mr. Chairman,

We have heard a great deal about the so-called "iniquitous" arrangement concerning the western section of the pipe line being built this fall. Well, Mr. Chairman, it seems to me if the government of Canada is going to lend up to \$80 million to build a pipe line there is a great deal to be said for that. The \$80 million, which is the maximum amount, must be paid back by April 2, 1957. Now, if this section of the pipe line is built this year and if Trans-Canada can meet its obligations by April 2, 1957 the Canadian people will get back \$80 million plus interest at 5 per cent. On the other hand, Mr. Chairman, if Trans-Canada does not meet its obligations, the government by bringing in its mortgage against all Trans-Canada assets will be getting the line. First of all the line will be built this year and secondly the government will be taking over the line at 90 per cent of the cost. As the Minister of Trade and Commerce has said, certainly that would seem to be a good deal for the Canadian people. There is certainly no subsidy. This is an investment in western Canada. As I say, the Canadian people are not going to lose in any way and we are going to have the pipe line built this year in the west.

Finally, I think some of my hon. friends in the Social Credit group mentioned that the pipe line will be a development for the whole of Canada. It has been estimated that the whole development of the pipe line is going to mean an investment of about \$1 billion in Canada. Of course, that is tremendously important. In Alberta alone a brand new petrochemical industry is going to be established. I understand there is already a petrochemical industry in Alberta but it is going to be greatly expanded.

Before the gas can go into the pipes it must be made dry and as a result of that process there are several by-products which result. These include butane, ethane and propane. I understand that Polymer of Canada alone will use half a million barrels of

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butane every year. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, one can quite readily see the tremendous development which is going to take place in the province of Alberta. Not only is the province of Alberta going to be assisted but, as was pointed out, in my own province of Ontario in which I am primarily interested the power shortage will be corrected. It is going to help industry in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and in northern Ontario and therefore I submit, Mr. Chairman, this pipe line is something that is going to be good for all of Canada. We have to look above any sectional interest in dealing with this matter. If it is going to help Alberta and Ontario it is also going to help the maritimes and Quebec. I would urge—

Mr. Bell: How is it going to help the maritimes?

Mr. Hollingworth: I would urge all hon. members, regardless of their differences to support this measure because this is something for the benefit of all Canada. So on with the pipe line.

Mr. Rea: Mr. Chairman, I think at the outset we can all agree on one thing. Alberta has a surplus of gas and there are other parts of Canada which want to use it. The natural thing to do is to bring those two factors together. I think we will all agree on that. But I am a little bit, in fact I am more than a little bit, I am greatly concerned about the method of bringing this gas from Alberta to other parts of Canada.

We have heard a nice speech by the hon. member for York Centre who has said that this gas is going to help industry. You can just see factories blooming up all over the place. However, no one has stopped to tell those industries what the gas is going to cost. I know if I were going to build a big factory I would certainly want to know what the gas was going to cost me. But no one seems to know.

They picture bringing the gas across the country to the edge of a town, and then what happens? Who is going to pay for laying pipe down the streets of that town? One house may want to buy gas but other houses may not want the gas. Somebody is going to have to do it. That town will find its tax rate will start to go up. They will have this gas at the edge of the town but someone will have to distribute it.

No one knows whether it is a good thing for a housewife to change her electric stove for a gas stove, to change her electric refrigerator for a gas refrigerator, to change her oil-burning furnace for a gas-burning furnace. No one has come out with that information in an effort to try to sell the consumer.