

*Boundary Pipeline Corporation*

three provinces. It would seem, according to the wording of the bill that the surplus will be used outside Canada. That is exactly what we oppose. Of course in saying "we" I am possibly being a little too forward as far as expressing the opinion of the other Quebec members is concerned, but for my part I do submit that this should not be allowed.

Speaking of natural resources I must say that we from Quebec have been especially blessed by Providence in this regard. This is not said in a boastful way since we are obviously not responsible for this. We have mineral resources which have already been developed or which are in the process of so being since the last year or two especially. We possess immense forest resources. Our potential electric power is equal to more than half that of the whole country. We do know something about it.

The present Quebec government, as well as the preceding administrations, have always tried to put these resources to the best possible use. That is why we readily understand and are quite willing to admit that the other provinces, in the western part of Canada, also have immense natural resources which they have been developing to their advantage, particularly in the past five or six years.

We of the eastern provinces are very pleased to see the tremendous wealth lying in store under the earth of the three prairie provinces and we understand that they should be somewhat anxious to keep these tremendous riches first of all for themselves, which is quite normal. We know very well that the Alberta conservation board—to which reference was made a moment ago—is following the matter very closely and is making sure that these riches are not wasted or improperly developed. It sees to it in particular that they are developed first of all in the interests of its own province.

This board will obviously benefit from the experience gained elsewhere in the United States, for instance where monumental errors were committed in the disposal of natural resources.

As a matter of fact, a citizen of Alberta told me recently that development of natural gas must not be too intensive because in certain cases at least the gas exerts a certain underground pressure on the oil-sheets located nearby and in certain places, no system of pumping is necessary, precisely because of that pressure on the oil. I am told that this condition is nowhere to be found in the United States. Mechanical pumping systems have therefore been installed everywhere.

[Mr. Poulin.]

I understand the Alberta conservation board will endeavour to avoid the evils that might follow the passing of certain bills in this house.

Of course, that conservation board does all it possibly can to restrict the distribution of such assets to the province or even to the neighbouring provinces in order to attract new industries. That is perfectly normal, that is as it should be, because up to now the western provinces have not been as fortunate as the eastern provinces in that field and we must admit that they have the right to keep their assets for themselves with a view to attracting new industries.

I am even told that around Regina industries are being organized, and that some are even in operation, thanks to that natural gas. But the surplus which these provinces cannot use must be shipped somewhere else, and this is where we disagree with some hon. members both from the government benches and the opposition benches who have already taken part in this discussion.

The hon. member for Springfield (Mr. Sinnott) said Friday, among other things, as reported on page 3221 of *Hansard*:

But surely, for the good of Canada, we cannot afford at this time to hold back industry in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Any attempt to conduct a filibuster on this bill would have the effect of creating a monopoly for other pipe line companies which have already been granted charters, and would thereby prevent the company now making application from competing. It would have the effect of eliminating from the field what might very well be a most competent company and one highly capable of carrying on this great enterprise, which would result in placing natural gas at the disposal of the people of Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Mr. Chairman, I find very little to criticize in that statement by the hon. member for Springfield, except to say that I do not think I am attempting to conduct a filibuster on this bill when I participate in this debate; on the contrary.

Furthermore, I would strongly oppose any attempt to prevent the provinces situated alongside Alberta from being the first to avail themselves of the tremendous advantages that these natural resources offer.

I feel that we, the people of Quebec, would act and indeed do act in exactly the same way. We endeavour to develop the resources at our disposal for our benefit and the benefit of our close neighbours. The same thing is happening in the west and I repeat that as far as the present bill is concerned I do not in the least intend to conduct a filibuster or to prevent the western provinces from being the first to take advantage of these immense resources.