

Prairie Transmission Lines

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|---|-----------------------------------|
| Lesage | Ratelle |
| Little | Richard (St. Maurice- Lafèche) |
| Low | Riley |
| MacDougall | Robinson |
| MacLean (Cape Breton North and Victoria) | Shaw |
| MacNaught | Simmons |
| McCulloch | Stewart (Yorkton) |
| McCusker | Stick |
| McDonald (Parry Sound- Muskoka) | Stuart (Charlotte) |
| McIlraith | Thatcher |
| McLean (Huron-Perth) | Thomas |
| McWilliam | Tremblay |
| Matthews | Ward |
| Monette | Weaver |
| Mott | Welbourn |
| Murray (Oxford) | Whiteside |
| Murray (Cariboo) | Whitman |
| Prudham | Winters |
| Quelch | Wood—98. |

Mr. Smith (Calgary West): I was paired with the hon. member for Edmonton East (Mr. Macdonald). Had I voted, I would have voted for the amendment.

Mr. Black (Chateauguay-Huntingdon-Laprairie): I was paired with the hon. member for Huron North (Mr. Cardiff). Had I voted, I would have voted against the amendment.

Mr. White (Middlesex East): I was paired with the parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. McCubbin). Had I voted, I would have voted for the amendment.

Mr. Speaker: The question is on the main motion.

Some hon. Members: Carried.

Some hon. Members: On division.

Mr. Angus MacInnis (Vancouver East): Before the motion for third reading is carried I wish to say a few words, though not with any desire to prolong what I consider to be a rather discreditable incident in Canadian parliamentary history. I was not in the house this afternoon when the debate was going on, but since coming in I have been informed that my name was brought into the debate by the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe). I want to thank the minister for what he said about me; but I want to make it quite clear to this house that during the five or six months this question has been before parliament, no outside individual representing either of the companies has approached me.

Mr. Howe: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker, if my hon. friend is answering anything I said I made no such suggestion; quite the reverse. I said I had never known the hon. member to vote in any other way but according to his convictions, and I was convinced that he thought this filibuster was—

[Mr. White (Middlesex East).]

Mr. MacInnis: That is what I am told; I am not finding fault with the right hon. gentleman.

Mr. Howe: I would not like a misunderstanding there.

Mr. MacInnis: I only want to make it clear that the whole time this question has been before parliament, while I have been told that lobbyists were very busy around this building, no outside interest has approached me in regard to either of the companies concerned. I imagine that if they were advised by representatives or people from British Columbia they would know better. I am not interested in either company. I have been told by the proponents of the bill that the other side were a bunch of crooks. I have been told by those opposing the bill that the two companies were a bunch of crooks. I have no doubt both parties are right.

I do believe, however, that in putting itself behind these private bills in the way it has done, the government has performed a dis-service to parliament. If it does not turn out to be worse than that it will be by the grace of God; because today, by passing these bills, we have left the people of British Columbia without any protection whatever except what the governor in council may find it possible in its judgment to give us. I am convinced also that this parliament could and should have given an expression of opinion as to the route these pipe lines should follow. However, parliament has failed to do that. I have done what I could by voting against the bills, and I can only hope that the interests of British Columbia still will be served, though I am not so sure they will.

Motion agreed to on division, and bill read the third time and passed.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

DILLON-BULL'S HOUSE, SASK., TELEPHONE SERVICE

Mr. Coldwell:

1. What was the amount of the lowest combined total of the tenders as originally submitted for the construction of a telegraph and/or telephone line between Dillon and Bull's House in Saskatchewan?

2. What are the names of those who placed these tenders, and what were the amounts of their separate tenders?

3. Did parliament vote \$14,000 for the construction of this line?

4. If so, on what date?

5. Has the government approved a rate of \$270 per mile for this thirty- to thirty-five-mile line?

6. If so, on what date?

7. Did the government inform the House of Commons of this approved rate?

8. If so, when?