

Supply—Northern Affairs

the planning shelves of the previous administration were fairly bursting with activities just ready to be undertaken. I am wondering if those shelves were as empty as the shelf upon which the great plans for public works were supposed to be kept.

Mr. Pickersgill: I do not know what that silly question means, but I do know that in 1956 a filibuster was carried on in this house to prevent one of the greatest works that was ever undertaken in this country. Fortunately that filibuster failed and that pipe line was built, otherwise we would have had a much worse recession in 1958 than we had.

Mr. McGee: I will tell the hon. member precisely what that question is all about, because he and his colleagues stumped this country in the latter part of the 1950's telling the people that there was a shelf of public works and activities ready to be undertaken in case of a recession, and in 1957 there was nothing on that shelf, as the hon. member knows.

Mr. Pickersgill: Nothing but 12 years of full employment.

Mr. Henderson: Mr. Chairman, there is a road called the Alaska highway that runs 1,000 miles or more through the territory I come from. It leads to Dawson, where this wonderful festival is going to be held that will mean millions and millions of dollars being spent in that part of the country. My people would think I was dead if I did not say something about that. I am going there this summer.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): We are all going.

Mr. Henderson: I am pleased to hear you are going to be there too.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): We are all going, particularly we who have done so much to promote this.

Mr. Henderson: Hon. gentlemen talk about spending money. Think of the millions of dollars that were taken out of that country. I love to recite, even to myself, about Dan McGrew, pitched on his head and pumped full of lead. That is a real country; real people live there. I had better not say too much about that.

When you come up, come through my territory. It is 1,000 miles or more of the most wonderful country you ever saw, the Cariboo. The old boats are lying there; they are being fixed up and waiting. You will have a wonderful time, and while the lady known as Lou may not be there—

An hon. Member: Don't go too far.

Mr. Henderson: No, I will not do that.

[Mr. McGee.]

Mr. Martin (Essex East): We want to make sure that the man called Gus is there.

Mr. Henderson: He will be there. I have been 50 years in that north country. I am proud of it and I love the north.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Chairman, I hope you will allow me the same latitude that you allowed the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate in the remarks he imposed on this committee. Before the hon. member spoke I simply dealt with a very backhanded slap that he took at the policies of this government in developing the north. I say to you, sir, and to all hon. members of this committee that what the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate has said about increasing the budget of the department of northern affairs, about the activities of the Liberal administration when they had control of the department, about this so-called huge backlog of plans that they had, about the present Minister of Agriculture swiping those plans, making publicity and political capital out of them, all those statements are a blatant misrepresentation of the facts.

Mr. Pickersgill: Sir, on a question of privilege, I made a statement on my responsibility as a member of this house, but not just as a member of this house. I was a privy councillor, I was a member of the government, I was a member of treasury board. Anybody who cares to examine the public accounts or the estimates for those years will find that what I said about the increase in expenditure is absolutely accurate, notwithstanding the characteristic remark of the hon. member for Yukon.

Mr. Nielsen: I suppose that is why the three bridges across the three main rivers of the Yukon were turned down three times by the privy council of which the hon. member was a member.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Is that what the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate would call from igloo to igloo?

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Chairman, I have been very interested in this debate. I had a particular interest in what was said by the hon. member for Cariboo. He said he would be there next summer when this festival is held. May I add, because of some of the comments which have been made by members of the opposition, that after the next election he will also be here. There has also been some comment on the question of northern development. Because of the extent of the attacks by members of the opposition in this regard I wish to point out that actions speak louder than deeds—