

Alberta Natural Gas Company

of that statement, an oil line over the Yellowhead, down the north Thompson to Kamloops, south to Princeton along the Princeton-Hope highway, is 325 miles shorter than any other route which could be taken for oil by taking it away down through Calgary, through Pincher Creek, crossing at Kingsgate and so on. You want oil as close to the refinery as you can get it. The distance is 325 miles shorter by the northern route than it is by the southern route.

I want to say this because I am a little bit disappointed in my Social Credit friends from Alberta. Their premier says there are three classes of consumers. He says first there are Albertans, and I agree with him; and that we must have proven reserves for fifty years, having regard to increase in population and all these other factors. Second, he says the oil shall be used by Canadians. These are public statements that no one can deny. Third, he says if we have gas for export, we go ahead and export it.

I pause here to ask this simple question. If this company whose bill is before us now intend to use a Canadian route, why do they not say so? This is the time to say so. This business of passing the buck to the Alberta government, to the transport board or to the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) is a lot of arrant nonsense. We members are sitting here in this deliberative assembly. In this bill we are going to decide one thing: Do we want an all-Canadian route or do we not? That is all there is to be decided at the present moment. Last year I said again and again—and I am sure that some hon. members may think I had too many “again and agains”—that if a five-word amendment were made in this bill to the effect that the line be built on Canadian soil between Alberta and Vancouver, I would withdraw every opposition, that I would welcome it. I made that plain. I do so again now. Could any proposition be fairer than that?

The answer of course is plain. While the sponsor of the bill, with his great honesty and frankness, told us he did not know where it was going, I know their one intention is to take the line out of the south end of our province, through Kingsgate, Spokane and so on, leaving Vancouver on the end of a little stub line. They have their plans so prepared. There is not any question about it. I will say that outside if there is any question of liability. I know where it is going. It is going out the south end to serve the United States, and the rest of western Canada be damned. That is the bill that we are likely to vote on. I think this will come to a vote. I say that because I am not in complete control of whether it will or not. But if these men

behind this business will in their bill come out for an all-Canadian route, I will vote for it with both hands.

Mr. Cruickshank: Hear, hear.

Mr. Smith (Calgary West): You are looking at me, Mr. Speaker; but I also noted my time. I will accept your calculation, of course; you are so accustomed to race tracks and that sort of thing, yours will be exact. Are you suggesting that my time is up?

Mr. Speaker: I had not suggested it, but it will be up shortly.

Mr. Smith (Calgary West): I have apparently been given second sight or something of the kind; because I looked at the Speaker a moment ago and the expression I saw in his eye was not friendly toward my continuing my discourse, although he did not say one single word about it.

At this time I am not going to ask for any indulgence from the House of Commons, but I want finally to make this plain. Here we are sitting in this chamber. We were sent down here. Nobody needed to twist our arms to get us to come. We came down here to represent the people at home and also to represent the interests of the Dominion of Canada. This is a time when every Alberta member and every British Columbia member should stand up in order that he may be counted. On what? Does he favour an all-Canadian route or does he want to go outside Canada by way of Kingsgate? Let us have no nonsense about the thing. That is the simple proposition on which we shall vote.

An hon. Member: Time.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I will inform the hon. member, or any other hon. member who may have the floor at any time, when his time has expired.

Mr. Smith (Calgary West): I think the voice I heard must have been that of a distant relative of yours, Mr. Speaker, because I thought it was your voice just a moment ago. We come to this simple proposition. I want to answer the silent attitude of my Social Credit friends who received a telegram from Mr. Manning, their excellent premier in Alberta, saying that he would like to see lots of companies incorporated in order that they might make the best deal they could. The government of Alberta has not a choice between A, B and C of saying to them, “Will you produce this gas for so much money?” There is only going to be one pipe line, a monopoly, if you like. There are lots of monopolies. The government of Alberta has a whisky monopoly and they do not fail to get a profit from it—\$10,300,000 from that sparsely populated area last year. The situation is just this. The