

Alberta Natural Gas Company

actually in charge of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys at the present time, and that is the department which would have to do with all these oil and gas developments.

When the vote was called the other day the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) jumped up to vote first, although this is supposed to be a private bill. Then we had him reprimanding the hon. member for Fraser Valley (Mr. Cruickshank) the other night by referring to him as "one of my erstwhile supporters on other issues." The Prime Minister's whole speech was in effect an appeal to his supporters to do as he—

Mr. Cruickshank: Mr. Speaker, may I correct the hon. member. Much as I agree with his speech, I should like to keep my record clear. The Prime Minister said he was not referring to me. I want to keep as much in clear water as I possibly can.

Mr. Green: The point I am making is that the Prime Minister appealed to the Liberals in the house. That was the purport of his speech.

It will be noticed that one of the applicants for incorporation is Austin Cottrell Taylor of Vancouver, who is a director of the Bank of Canada, and another applicant is Cortelyou Ladd Simonson of the city of New York, who is a partner in the firm of Morgan Stanley, and the firm of Morgan Stanley have been in charge of the government's financing in the United States.

Then we have the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) writing a phony letter, may I say, to the city council of Vancouver, the terms of which he himself has since contradicted. In this letter he referred to his talks with the Alberta Natural Gas Company, but not a word about a talk with the Prairie Transmission Lines Limited. It is quite clear that these people are the friends of the government and that bodes ill for the people of British Columbia because, as I say, an attempt is to be made by them to build this line through the United States.

In any event, we find evasion by the government on this question of an all-Canadian route. Oh, lip service is given by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Trade and Commerce to the policy of serving Canada first. Here is a headline from a Vancouver paper dated May 10: "Canada 'First' on Gas Pipe Line" in reporting a statement by the Minister of Trade and Commerce; but—and there is a very big "but" in their Canada first attitude—they say: "Oh, the board of transport commissioners must decide." In his speech the Prime Minister said not one word about the government's responsibility under the Electricity and Fluid

[Mr. Green.]

Exportation Act. Yet we find in section 5 of that act that in the first place the governor in council, which means the cabinet, must issue a permit before gas can be exported; but we find further this provision:

No person shall, without a licence, construct or place in position any line or wire or other conductor for the exportation of power, or any pipe line or any other like contrivance for the exportation of fluid.

That is a provision that the cabinet must give a permit before a pipe line can be built for the exportation of gas or oil; yet we have had no offer from the Prime Minister or the Minister of Trade and Commerce to restrict these permits to an all-Canadian route; and each of the three companies has an all-Canadian route. The Westcoast Transmission Company has the Yellowhead route. The Alberta Natural Gas and the Prairie Transmission Lines Limited have, through the Crownst, an all-Canadian route, and these latter two say that in addition they will now investigate the Yellowhead route; so it is not as though there were no all-Canadian routes available in each of the three cases.

Both the Prime Minister of this country and his senior minister, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, are now hiding behind the board of transport commissioners. They both know that last year before the Interprovincial Pipe Line Company could get any order from the board of transport commissioners a permit had to be issued by the authority of the government. That was proved the other night by the leader of the opposition and I have a copy of the order in council and the permit here tonight. During the debate last year the Minister of Trade and Commerce himself said, as reported at page 1560 of *Hansard*:

The board of transport commissioners will, I assume, as they have in the past, require that the company produce a licence under the Electricity and Fluid Exportation Act which is administered by the Department of Trade and Commerce.

No matter how they twist and turn, the responsibility for giving a permit for building a pipe line outside Canada rests with the cabinet. I thought it was neatly put on May 6 by Elmore Philpott, a columnist writing in the *Vancouver Sun*. He said this:

It is a downright insult to the intelligence of the people of Canada for M.P.'s, and even cabinet ministers, to wriggle and quibble when it comes to answering a straight question like this:

And here is the question Mr. Philpott put forward:

Are you for an all-Canadian pipe line to the Pacific coast, or are you for mainline-via-U.S.A.? If you are for Canada, why the hesitation about writing into the law of the land a clause saying that the pipe shall go via Canada, and serve Canada first and foremost?