

Oil Pollution

anything while he was in Ottawa because of the attitude of the government toward that province.

I speak with a deep sense of feeling with regard to this institution. It has become a puppet in the hands of this government as far as the majority is concerned. It has become a memory of what a House of Commons should be. What do government members say? Apparently they agree with the Prime Minister that Members of Parliament are nobodies. Certainly that appellation reflects the attitude of the government toward them.

I pass to the next matter, Canada's natural resources. Where do we stand in relation to the United States? We send them notes. The air is full of notes—going one way! What are the replies? I remember the days of the First World War when Woodrow Wilson said, in effect; "We send notes because we are too proud to stand." Apparently that is the attitude today. Mention has been made of the possibility of an offer to build a pipeline down the Mackenzie Valley. The government found this out only yesterday, apparently. Yet a few weeks ago in Edmonton the Prime Minister announced in stentorian tones the building of a Mackenzie highway to extend 1,000 miles. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien) said a pipeline could be built over the highway.

Did the United States agree, before that announcement was made, that it would build such a pipeline? The Prime Minister estimated it would cost \$100 million. According to the estimate given to me, it would cost five or six times that amount. It is simply a means of befogging the thinking of the electors in Alberta and the Northwest Territories by pretending that something will be done.

• (1530)

What about our resources? We are today a "have" nation; the United States is a "have not" nation of those things required in the modern technological age. Imagine the position of affairs as revealed recently by Dr. Preston Cloud, Professor of geology at the University of California: he says that the world will run out of natural gas, zinc, tin, gold, silver and platinum in 20 years. He went on to say:

In 30 years there will be no uranium 235, the basic atomic fuel. In about 50 years, oil will have ceased to gush from the last well. In less than a century we will have used up all our supplies of nickel, minerals are in similar danger. Only iron has a life expectancy of 400 years.

We have these elements to a degree that the United States has not, but needs. Surely the government, instead of sending notes, should be endeavouring to bring about agreement on the basis that we in Canada have these assets and they have not. The President of the United States made a statement after he was here, part of which apparently was written by one Head. It has the earmarks of such production. That is one Canadian production but the words used were obviously not written in Washington. He said, in effect, "We are going to get along very well." Earlier the Prime Minister spoke about a breakthrough. What about the great industrial concerns of the United States? The president of the United States National Coal Association, when giving evidence to the United States Senate, said:

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

Our government considers Canada our own for energy purposes.

Surely a government of Canada that is worth its salt will, instead of making roseate statements such as those by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and others, stand up for Canada and assure us that this nation shall receive the fairness and consideration it deserves. There is no use trying to press this government to do anything. It just will not act. It is self-satisfied and secure with its majority. It continues its course, which already has had the effect of seriously weakening the Canadian economy.

Northern development was mentioned in the most admirable speech of the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams). I have listened to him on many occasions, but his speech today was a mine of information concerning oil and Canada's problems arising therefrom. I congratulate him. I think this is the first time I have ever done that to anyone, but it was a speech worthy of the House. The Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce was reading while the speech was being delivered. That is the interest he showed in this admirable speech which was worthy of the House.

Mr. Pepin: I agreed.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I have never been able to compete with the terpsichorean way the minister has of dancing with his hands.

Mr. Pepin: I learned that from you.

Mr. Diefenbaker: What of our northern resources? When I decided to bring before the people of Canada a plan for the development of the north, it was ridiculed. Liberal members, including Mr. Pearson the then leader of that party, said we were going to build roads and railroads from igloo to igloo. Apparently he had been reading what was said in 1874 regarding Macdonald's plan to support the building of the CPR: the Minister of Finance of that day suggested that Macdonald was endeavouring to build railroads from wigwam to wigwam.

We opened up the north and provided \$7.5 million to each province in Canada for the construction of roads. I remember when we decided to support the building of the railway to Pine Point. Liberal members then jeered and said it was ridiculous. It was a nightmare to them. But today it is the best paying railroad in any part of Canada. This has been the attitude of the Liberal party throughout the years from the time of Macdonald right through to the present. It is always speaking about development, but has failed to act.

We now have this danger to our shores, and what action do we get from the government? None. We receive the same interest which the government shows in respect of our other resources. It is dumping them in the United States. Mention has been made of exports. Let us look at our record of exports, in large measure contributed to by raw materials sent out of Canada.

Mr. Pepin: That is absolutely wrong.

Mr. Diefenbaker: If the minister wants to speak and give us the facts, which he cannot do and does not dare to, I