

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

did you not rise? I say to him: I never believed that you were indeed the captive of the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) who recently said in effect, "After all, rules never concern me very much". When I listened a moment ago to the lesson read by the Minister of Trade and Commerce—

An hon. Member: It was not read.

Mr. Diefenbaker: —on Canadian investment and the lack of danger in Canada from an uncontrolled investment from another country—

An hon. Member: What about the C.P.R.?

Mr. Diefenbaker: —I wondered whether or not he had read those words of Mr. Lapalme, the leader of the Liberal party in the province of Quebec, who today goes up and down the province of Quebec arguing that to too great an extent the resources of Quebec are being shipped out of that province. Here are his exact words:

I am not opposed to the investment of American capital . . . In fact, I am in favour of foreign investment. But first we must be sure that the interests of the province are protected . . . The riches of the province are being carried away in boats flying the Stars and Stripes.

Mr. Speaker, as to these proponents of closure, what attitude do they take? They have one type of speech in parliament and then those three musketeers—the three ministers of this cabinet—go down to the province of Quebec and, chameleon-like, change their attitude as they campaign in a provincial election. I need not say who the three are. The Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources (Mr. Lesage) leads them. The Minister of Transport (Mr. Marler) and the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. Lapointe) follow. These are the ministers of the government—

An hon. Member: You missed one.

Mr. Diefenbaker: —who speak with one voice here and another voice there.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Diefenbaker: I ask the Prime Minister this question: Will you explain that capacity for double talk? I commence with that.

Mr. Garson: What has this to do with the pipe line?

Mr. Rowe: It seems to have something to do with you.

Mr. Pickersgill: Talk to the hon. member for Three Rivers (Mr. Balcer).

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I did not believe that closure would be applied. Of course, I did not realize this fact. As was said of Wolsey in the biography of Henry

[Mr. Diefenbaker.]

VIII, I did not realize that the Minister of Trade and Commerce was not only head of a number of departments but also the actual man in control of the cabinet. I know of no other person in history since the days of Wolsey who ever occupied that position. These are the words in the life of Henry VIII:

He (Wolsey) stood at the crossroads of every negotiation and openly demanded his perquisites.

The perquisites here are that the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) should abdicate his belief in democratic principles and deny those in opposition the right to advance their arguments and to educate public opinion or to find out why there is such solicitude on the part of the members of this government. For five long years this pampered pet, Trans-Canada Pipe Lines, by deviation, by change of direction, by protestation, by alteration in course, has postponed that estimable end of securing a market for Alberta gas and the making available to other parts of Canada of that necessary form of energy. I ask the Prime Minister today to tell this house why he is so fearful of the facts; why he was afraid to allow the true facts of this nefarious scheme to be elucidated? I ask why he found it necessary, and the members of his government found it necessary, to muzzle the representatives of the people in advance of anything in the nature of a filibuster or an interference on the part of the opposition with the policy and program of the government. I ask him to explain that today, for certainly the day of silence is past. Are they afraid of the truth over there? Is that why they hide behind the caricature of parliament which they have substituted by the adoption of the parliamentary form of closure in a way that it has never been adopted before? Only once in history was it ever adopted in our country during the progress of a resolution, and then only after more than 10 days of debate.

Mr. Rowe: A month from the time it was introduced.

Mr. Diefenbaker: And after some 10 days of debate. Why did they adopt this measure in anticipation? The Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe) said that I had made some statement. The statement I made was this. We in the opposition would see to it that this indeed would be no skirmish if the rights of parliament were in any way to be interfered with. They are afraid of the truth, afraid of an election.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Yes, they are afraid and we challenge them, sir, through you, Mr.