

Border Pipeline Corporation

final result may be that there will be refineries at Seattle and at Portland, while Vancouver and the rest of British Columbia may be getting their Canadian oil by tanker from the United States.

If the plan of this company is followed out the Vancouver area will be the only portion of British Columbia to get this crude oil by pipe line. There will be no chance to have refineries in any of the interior cities of our province, and at all times the oil which eventually may come to Vancouver will be subject to control by the federal authorities of the United States, and also by the state authorities of the state of Washington, because, as I have pointed out, the line would run through the United States before coming to the Canadian west coast. All this would take place although it is Canadian oil from the adjoining province of Alberta. Furthermore, British Columbians, being at the end of the line, will be paying the highest price for this Canadian oil.

Another very important feature is that if this oil pipe line is built through the United States it is practically certain that a natural gas pipe line will go by the same route. A year ago we thought that the gas line would be built first, but now there is a rush to get an oil pipe line to the Pacific coast, and it seems certain that the oil will be there ahead of the gas. Should this oil line go through the United States the result will be to make it cheaper to put a gas line by the same route, and we are very likely to find both our oil and our gas going through the United States, and we will only get what there is to run out at the end of the line.

I oppose this bill just as strongly as I possibly can, because I believe it should be a fundamental policy of this nation that Canadian resources must be made available to Canadians first. There could be no objection whatever to selling our surplus to the other nations, and in particular to our good friends of the United States; but they have built their nation on the very policy that I am advocating this evening, and they would be the last people to criticize us for doing the same thing as they have done since the founding of the republic.

Last year in the discussions on the natural gas bill we were met with the argument that there would be a monopoly; that it was not fair to have only one company incorporated. Incidentally, one very important point that I have omitted is that there will be only one oil pipe line to the coast, and only one gas pipe line. I think that is admitted by everyone interested in the question.

Mr. Murray (Cariboo): That is an unfair statement to make.

[Mr. Green.]

Mr. Green: Perhaps the hon. member for Cariboo is an authority on this question whom I have overlooked. All the rest of the authorities take the position that there will be only one trunk oil pipe line and one trunk gas pipe line to the Pacific, because there is a market there for only one line for each of those commodities. The hon. member may have misunderstood me. I may not have made my statement clear.

Mr. Murray (Cariboo): There are other opinions on that subject, and they are very strong opinions. Many experts have other opinions.

Mr. Green: The hon. member for Cariboo is the member for the constituency which will benefit the most if my arguments are successful in impressing the house.

Mr. Cruickshank: Hear, hear. Give him a chance to speak.

Mr. Murray (Cariboo): Mr. Speaker,—

Mr. Green: Sit down, now. I am always surprised at the way the hon. member has jumped in from the start of these debates, and is always against those people who are trying to advocate a policy which will benefit his people more than the people of any other portion of British Columbia.

Mr. Cruickshank: Hear, hear; why does he not make a speech on the subject.

Mr. Murray (Cariboo): We got the pipe line in spite of you.

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Green: If the hon. member for Cariboo wants to make a speech, he may do so.

Mr. Cruickshank: Not he.

Mr. Green: I would be delighted to hear him on this question. There are already two other companies incorporated, which have committed themselves to build an oil pipe line to the west coast by an all-Canadian route. I refer first to the Westcoast Transmission Company Limited, which was incorporated in 1949; the other is the Trans Mountain Oil Pipe Line Company, which was incorporated just a few days ago. Both these companies are prepared and anxious to build an oil pipe line to the west coast by an all-Canadian route. Their policy of course is to supply British Columbia first and then to sell any surplus to the United States.

Incidentally there is, I believe, a third company seeking incorporation, known as the Champion Pipe Line Corporation Limited. The bill respecting that company has not yet gone through the Senate. However they are planning to build an oil pipe line to the west coast by an all-Canadian route. If any one