

*Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation*

underlying core of the whole thing. On April 7 the *Ottawa Journal* in its editorial had the following heading:

Why All the Mad Rush Over This Alberta Gas Line?

I want to emphasize those words "this Alberta gas line". The editorial stated:

Mr. Frank McMahon, described as "Alberta's multimillionaire oil and gas promoter", bobs up to say—

I like that word "bobs".

—that he and his associates will undertake to build an all-Canada gas pipe line without government assistance.

Note this. Here follows the crux of the whole thing:

But even if some delay did occur what vital difference would that make? Reading certain newspapers and listening to certain politicians one might get the impression that if this Alberta gas pipe line is not built within the next two years half the people in eastern Canada are going to freeze to death for want of gas fuel and most of our manufacturing plants close down for the same reason.

This is plain nonsense; almost a form of hysteria. No one in eastern Canada, Toronto or elsewhere, will perish from cold and not a factory chimney will go smokeless if not a single cubic foot of Alberta gas reaches the east this year or next year or the year after; there are too many other available forms of fuel.

That is exactly the same position the Conservative party in this house is taking. They do not want Alberta gas down here to assist the provinces in western Canada. They do not even want to have that cheap fuel here for industry in Ontario and for the assistance of the people of Ontario. There is their whole argument in a nutshell.

**The Chairman:** I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but I am obliged to advise him that his time has expired. May I say that I charged up a goodly portion of the time consumed on the point of order to myself and a small proportion to the hon. member.

**Mr. Johnston (Bow River):** I am only about half way through. I shall take another opportunity to finish it.

**Mrs. Shipley:** As most hon. members know, I come from the part of Ontario that has caused a good deal of the difficulty in the financing of this line. You will well understand how keenly interested I am. During the course of the discussions I watched all the changes and disappointments very carefully. There were no stages that were not of keen interest to my people. We have had power shortages in the province of Ontario before, as is well known to the Leader of the Opposition. At the present time the government of Ontario is determined that this shall not happen again.

[Mr. Johnston (Bow River).]

Today, at this particular stage of this debate, I wish to deal primarily with the criticism of the opposition. I have noticed—and I have been in this house for only three sessions—that the weaker the position of the official opposition and the fewer their arguments, the more vicious becomes the attack of the Leader of the Opposition. Yesterday, I would say, he reached an all-time low. His paucity of arguments reduced him to personal attacks on our leader and our cabinet ministers.

I was very pleased today to hear the chairman call a halt to such terms as "trained seals." I gather I cannot refer to that particular term again. I think it has been ruled out, but I was including that statement. I want to refer to the abuse that has been heaped on the backbench members of this party by the Leader of the Opposition. I see no reason in the world why the men and women of Canada who have been elected to come here because their constituents felt they were capable of looking after their business, should have to sit here, and simply because we show loyalty to our leader and unity amongst ourselves, be called "trained seals", "an anvil chorus", "sheep" and an "organized cheering gang" and told that we are "toeing the party line".

**The Chairman:** Order.

**Mrs. Shipley:** Am I out of order?

**The Chairman:** May I express the hope that the hon. member will refrain from this type of discussion. I found a short time ago that we reached an impasse very quickly in that regard, and I should like to express the hope that she will confine herself to the terms of the resolution.

**Mrs. Shipley:** Mr. Chairman, I had armed myself with quotations from this debate and previous debates where all these statements had been made by the Leader of the Opposition and I thought I would be in order, but I shall certainly agree to do exactly what you tell me.

**An hon. Member:** Trained seal.

**Mrs. Shipley:** Oh, I would never do anything that you might suggest. I suppose, Mr. Chairman, I may refer to the shout that went up yesterday when closure was announced. We heard shouts of "dictatorship" and so on. I had heard closure mentioned a few weeks ago and I wondered what it was all about. I took the trouble to read about it.

**Mr. Fulton:** Who mentioned it first?

**Mrs. Shipley:** It is unfortunate that it did not suit the purposes of the Leader of the Opposition and the leader of the C.C.F. party