

Trans-Canada Pipe Lines

line corporations in relation to the setting of proper prices or charges, and all such other matters as it is necessary to enquire into and report upon, in order to ensure the efficient and economical operation of pipe lines in the national interest.

The hon. gentleman nods his head. I am sure he agrees we had perfectly good justification for asking that this commission investigate the matters referred to in paragraph (b).

Mr. Coldwell: I am not disputing that. What I am disputing is the propriety of the government to refer Trans-Canada Pipe Lines, about which they held such definite opinions, to this royal commission.

Mr. Green: I want to find out how much of this the hon. member agrees with and how much he does not. He has agreed to paragraphs (a) and (b). I am going to read each one because they are important. It just is not good enough to pick out one or two and proceed to belabour us about one of them and leave the inference that the whole commission is just eye-wash and that is what the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggart did. I read paragraph (c):

The extent of authority that might best be conferred on a national energy board to administer, subject to the control and authority of parliament, such aspects of energy policy coming within the jurisdiction of parliament as it may be desirable to entrust to such a board, together with the character of administration and procedure that might best be established for such a board.

Now, the hon. gentleman apparently agrees with that function of the commission. May I point out to him that the present Prime Minister, other members of the Conservative party and myself, when in opposition, had advocated the setting up of a national energy board and we are very much in earnest about getting ahead with that policy. Surely, the practical way of doing it is to have an investigation made of the type which this commission is authorized to make. I now come to paragraph (d), and here I suppose is where the hon. member dissents. It reads:

Whether, in view of its special relationship to the Northern Ontario Pipe Line Crown Corporation and the nature of its financing and control, any special measures need to be taken in relation to Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited in order to safeguard the interests of Canadian producers or consumers of gas.

In his remarks the hon. member raved away about what we should be doing with Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited. He referred to Mr. Tanner and Mr. Coates, and what I am wondering is what he would have done to Mr. Tanner and Mr. Coates. Would he have put them in jail, or tried to put them in jail, without any evidence at all? Would he simply bring them before the bar of the house and then throw them into the basement?

[Mr. Green.]

The hon. member shakes his head. It is one thing to malign men like Tanner and Coates in this house and it is another thing—

Mr. Stewart (Winnipeg North): Who called them buccaneers?

Mr. Coldwell: That was not my word. I did not malign them. The Prime Minister called them buccaneers.

Mr. Green: What we are asking this commission to do in paragraph (d) is to go into the whole question of the relationship of Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited to the Northern Ontario Pipe Line Crown Corporation and, further, to go into the nature of the financing and control of Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited and into the question of whether there are any measures which should be taken by the government in order to safeguard the interests of Canadian producers or consumers of gas.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): And make a report after the next election?

Mr. Green: Oh, the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre just lives on and breathes suspicion. I sometimes wonder whether he has not got himself worked into the frame of mind where he believes that the only honest people in Canada are members of the C.C.F. party.

Mr. Coldwell: Nonsense.

Mr. Green: These people down in the left-hand corner, Mr. Speaker, seem to believe that nobody in this house is trying to do anything for Canada but themselves. I am surprised that after 25 years down in that corner they have not learned that that is all completely wrong; that members here of all parties are trying to benefit the Canadian people in the way which seems to them to be the best way to do it.

The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre says that this commission is just to get the Tories over the next election. May I point out to him that the Tories expect to be on the right side of the house for a long, long time.

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): Wishful thinking.

Mr. Green: We have set up this commission to help us solve these very difficult problems.

Mr. Stuart (Charlotte): I thought you had them all solved.

Mr. Green: They can accuse us all they like of just trying to shelve the problem. That has not been our record since this house began. The hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Argue) rose in his place the other day and said that never had a government moved so