

this resolution, that the government will build parts of the pipe line, the most difficult part and the easiest part, and Trans-Canada will lease-purchase the government-owned parts and eventually own them.

Where does that leave us? According to a well-known Canadian oil expert whose name has been mentioned several times today in this house, Frank McMahan, it leaves us with a pipe line subsidized by Canadian public funds and controlled by United States financial interests. The chief concern of those interests will be to sell gas as cheaply as possible in the United States. It is a government sell-out of Canadian resources to powerful United States interests.

Yesterday the minister accused the opposition of scaring the goose that lays the golden eggs. Well, Mr. Chairman, we in this party are only too happy to sell the golden eggs. But I believe the government is not killing the goose that lays the golden eggs; instead it is putting it on a silver platter and handing it to the United States.

Mr. Rowe: And they are not even getting the platter back.

Miss Aitken: Let us look at the bewildering facts. Five years ago this house was asked to grant a charter to Trans-Canada to build an all-Canadian pipe line. Parliament was given assurance by the officials of the company that the undertaking could be achieved without government assistance. A representative of Trans-Canada appeared before the committee on railways, canals and telegraph lines to say that this project, and I quote, "would be entirely economic and go along by itself". And so, in 1951, the parliament of Canada gave Trans-Canada the franchise to build an all-Canadian pipe line on the company's own assurance that it would be entirely economic and would go along by itself.

A moment ago I suggested that we look at the bewildering facts; today we must look upon them not as facts but as fiction. Today, without any detailed facts, with no clear explanations, we can only assume that this project, so economically sound in 1951, is no longer entirely economic, nor can it go along by itself.

If Trans-Canada cannot fulfil its undertaking, why does it still have the exclusive franchise to build the pipe line? Why were Canadian companies not encouraged to finance it? The government has given us no evidence that this project cannot be financed in Canada and nothing will convince me there are not a good many Canadians who would be only too happy to take on such an attractive project, one part entirely financed

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

by the government and the other part 90 per cent financed by the government.

One has only to look at the entire pipe line business during the past eight years to feel confident a trans-Canada pipe line could be financed by Canadian enterprise. Millions of dollars have been spent in building pipe lines in Canada and handsome profits have been made by all concerned—builders, investors and operators. The government ignores these basic facts which are not fiction.

I believe there is an overwhelming national opposition to this plan whereby foreign industry grows fat at our expense. The Minister of Trade and Commerce is showing complete contempt for that national opposition just as he is showing contempt for parliament in introducing closure. But I believe that better men than he have seen the wisdom of changing their minds. Indeed, one of the most interesting examples of this sort of thing—not a man but a newspaper in this case—occurred recently when a newspaper changed its mind, therefore showing bigness. The newspaper in question was the *Calgary Herald*, which was mentioned earlier today.

Last month the *Herald* reversed its previous editorial stand declaring that this may yet be one of the most important issues of our generation. In explaining its reversal, the *Herald* admitted that nationalist sentiment is more important than pure economics. The Minister of Trade and Commerce obviously has no intention of changing his mind nor has he any intention of listening to the voice of parliament.

An hon. Member: He changed it last year.

Miss Aitken: The guillotine has been introduced. Earlier today I detected something of a sensitivity in the back benches of the Liberal party when they were being called trained seals. I am not going to call them trained seals because I think it is an extremely sad state of affairs that there is no opposition in the government ranks.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

An hon. Member: The only divided party is the Tory party.

Miss Aitken: There are no trained seals over here. What has happened to the great Liberal party of yesterday?

An hon. Member: It is united.

Miss Aitken: Surely there must be at least a baker's dozen in that vast Liberal majority who have the courage to speak up for the future of Canada.

Mr. Hees: No, not one. They are all dead; all gone. Pouliot has gone.