

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

will not hear any more twaddle about the opposition being opposed to investments from the United States.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

An hon. Member: What, again?

Mr. Drew: It would not have been quite right if the anvil chorus had lacked the voice of the Minister of Trade and Commerce. It did not in that case, because I heard the Minister of Trade and Commerce giving the lead to the senseless noise that was made just now when I said those words. No, the Minister of Trade and Commerce knows perfectly well that any suggestion that we have opposed such investment is utterly untrue and deliberately untrue.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Drew: No well-informed Canadian is unaware of the fact that this country has been dependent upon outside investment, not only from the United States but from Britain and from other countries as well. We are not talking about investment from the United States on this occasion. We are talking about investment of Canadian money, the Canadian taxpayers' money, in a venture which is then to be handed over to United States control by this government. That is what we are talking about.

An hon. Member: Unquote.

Mr. Drew: Once again may I ask if any of the members of this house, in spite of the sounds they think it is appropriate to make under the circumstances, really think that any such proposal as this for the advancing of United States funds to finance a similar Canadian venture in the United States would even be heard on the floor of congress in Washington? Even the loudest and noisiest of the members opposite knows perfectly well that any such proposal before the congress of the United States would be greeted with laughter that would be heard by the Americans on the D.E.W. line in the north.

Mr. Rowe: It would not even be heard on the streets of New York, let alone in congress.

Mr. Drew: I have said that the first issue raised is the authority of parliament itself, and that is before us in all its reality. Every hon. member knew that the agreement with Trans-Canada Pipe Lines called for the completion of its financing by April 30. Certainly it was of the utmost importance to the members of this house, and particularly to the government, that any alternative proposal should be made known and given consideration.

[Mr. Drew.]

The Minister of Trade and Commerce has gone out to find the McMahon letters now.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

An hon. Member: That is pretty cheap.

Mr. Hees: Let us know if you find them.

Mr. Drew: I hope he will find them, and I hope he will find the replies he sent to Mr. McMahon. We would have liked to have that information, and I think the Prime Minister might have liked to have it.

Mr. Rowe: The Minister of Agriculture would have liked to have it too.

Mr. Drew: Nevertheless, in answer to a direct question in regard to proposals from Mr. Frank McMahon of Calgary—

An hon. Member: Who is he?

Mr. Drew: I hear from someone opposite, "Who is he?" Ask the Minister of Trade and Commerce. He has been dealing with him for some time.

Mr. Rowe: Does he not tell you anything?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Drew: The Minister of Trade and Commerce—

Some hon. Members: Ask Frost.

Mr. Rowe: Does he not tell you anything at all?

Some hon. Members: Ask Frost.

An hon. Member: You had better brighten up.

Mr. Rowe: Has the minister told you?

The Chairman: Order. May I remind hon. members once more that it is very difficult to hear the hon. member who has the floor unless they give him complete order.

Mr. Drew: Mr. Chairman, I shall do my best to make sure they hear me. I assure you I shall pause an adequate length of time so that my remarks may be heard.

An hon. Member: Until ten, George?

An hon. Member: You are going to pause after the next election too.

Mr. Rowe: You just pause naturally for noise. You have nothing else to contribute.

Mr. Drew: Actually it is restful to have these pauses once in a while, Mr. Chairman.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Drew: In answer to a direct question in the house the Minister of Trade and Commerce said that he had no written communications from Mr. McMahon. I think we are