

*Northern Pipeline*

One can look at the gigantic programs which have taken place throughout the history of Canada and the western world and find a pattern emerging. Not only do many of these projects cost more than the original estimate, but when there is a cost over-run, the private sector and the investors do not bail the company out. The company is bailed out by either the government of Canada, the government of some province or the government of some other country. I do not want to see that happen. Canada has given enough money to its corporations.

I am sure the hon. member for Nickel Belt will rise again to refer to how the government has assisted Inco to develop its mines in Sudbury and Manitoba. They have been provided with grants and subsidies. They were nurtured and fed to make sure their profits were large. Then Inco reinvested those large profits in places like Guatemala and Indonesia, at the same time as laying off thousands of Canadian workers.

The government sat idly by and indicated that the situation was too bad, but that it was part of our free enterprise system. Free enterprise for whom? Is it free enterprise for the large companies? That is really what it is. What about the poor taxpayer who foots the bill? Who will pay the bill if there is a cost over-run on this project? Can the Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council guarantee that Canadian taxpayers will not have eventually to pay the bill if there is a cost over-run? Can it be guaranteed that the House will not have a bill before it in the next five or ten years requesting the provision of money to the company for the construction of the Alcan line? If that guarantee can be given by the Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council, why can it not be included in the legislation? Why should Canadians pick up the tab because of careless negotiations and a sloppy government which has not been tough when defending their rights?

As I have said, the bill provides absolutely nothing for the settlement of native land claims in the Yukon. Those native people are concerned about the pipeline as well as their land claims. They would like those claims settled as quickly as possible. Once the legislation is passed and the pipeline proceeds, there will be a lessening of the bargaining position of the local native people in the Yukon. Those land claims should be settled before the pipeline bill is passed through the House.

**Mr. Nielsen:** The reverse is true.

**Mr. Nystrom:** I hear what the hon. member for Yukon is saying, but I should like to point out that it will be difficult to solve the problem once the pipeline is built.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Similar to what happened in the Mackenzie Valley project.

**Mr. Nystrom:** We should be thankful the Mackenzie Valley project did not go through. Many hon. members of the Conservative party wanted to see that pipeline built. They would have loved to see the pipeline go through.

[Mr. Nystrom.]

• (1752)

**Mr. Nielsen:** It is a crock of rhubarb.

**Mr. Nystrom:** It takes a pretty big crock to recognize another one. I believe we should be in no hurry to pass the bill today. I think we would be doing a disservice to Canadians if we did not add three or four strong teeth to the bill.

I have just come back from Saskatchewan. When the minister made the announcement in the House about the size of the pipe, there was general elation in my province and happiness that the decision has been made so that Ipsco will have a chance to bid and perhaps get some contracts. Ipsco, the people of Saskatchewan and people in the steel communities, however, would be much happier if the government had put guarantees into the legislation. For example, Ipsco is now talking about the possibility of an \$80 million expansion to the steel plant in Regina.

My colleague the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre (Mr. Benjamin) put a question to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) regarding assistance from DREE. DREE has been considering an application from Ipsco for several months for assistance to expand the steel mill. If we had some guarantees in the bill, I am sure Ipsco's case before DREE would be much stronger. So I would like to urge the minister to put teeth into the bill for that reason as well and also to make representations to the Minister of DREE (Mr. Lessard) to process the application as quickly as possible and give the money to the plant so that they can expand their facilities, hire more people and thus bring more industry to the prairie provinces.

This is one of the many opportunities we have in the country to build an economy that is more diversified and to provide jobs to some of the areas which would not otherwise have them. We should be making sure that there will be no financial commitment in the legislation for the people of Canada once the pipeline is built if there are major cost over-runs; and there should also be a settlement of native land claims in the Yukon.

Once again I should like to urge the government to put these guarantees into the bill and to urge the progressive elements in the Conservative party, if there are such elements apart from the two or three members who stand out in that category, namely, the hon. member for Egmont (Mr. MacDonald), the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald) and the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser), to do the same thing.

Perhaps we can get the government to act. They will have to go to the polls very shortly, and if they do so with a bill such as this one which does not contain the guarantees that are needed, and which the government can easily put in, then I am sure the government will be defeated. When it is defeated, members such as the hon. member for Assiniboia, who sit by idly, will go under the great tidal wave of Canadians who are concerned about developing a country like Canada. I am glad the hon. member for Assiniboia has just returned from Estevan. I heard about the winter carnival there and how he was the third guy in the parade. People were more interested in meeting the leader of the NDP, who paid a tribute to