

Mr. Nesbitt: Will the Prime Minister contradict the statement that Trans-Canada Pipe Lines will not be able to complete the pipe line from Winnipeg to the Ontario boundary and from Kapuskasing to Montreal unless it gets permission from the federal power commission to export gas at Emerson, Manitoba, to the United States?

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, if the Liberal party really thinks the people of Canada are in favour of this unsavory legislation and are also in favour of the gag rule and the destruction of parliament, let them call a general election and get the judgment of the Canadian people. Frankly, Mr. Chairman, I do not think the government will call an election because it is afraid to.

Mr. Cannon: Mr. Chairman, while listening to the hon. member who has just finished his remarks I could not help thinking that he must be a comparatively new member because he referred to the fact that some members on this side of the house sang songs while the bell was ringing for a vote. He referred to that fact as if we were Neros fiddling while Rome was burning. If he knew the traditions of this house he would realize that that has been the custom for a great many years and it has never done any harm to anybody and it has never excited any indignation whatever except in the youthful breast of the hon. member. He also shows that he is rather young and is not conversant with the customs and proprieties of this house when he inserts in the text that he read so diligently several references to the Senate. He did not know in fact that it is not the custom in this house to refer by name to the other place. He learned.

His remarks about a general election also show that he has not had much experience because if he knew the temper of the people of Canada at this time he would realize that if there were an election there would not be more than 10 or 15 Conservatives re-elected to this house.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I wish to take but a few minutes to give my reason for voting for this bill and also for voting for closure. There have been so many remarks on other subjects, on procedural matters and the like, that it seems to me we have forgotten to a certain extent what this whole debate is about. The province of Alberta has great natural resources, great natural riches, I might say, in oil and gas and the eastern part of Canada needs those resources, particularly gas. I am told that in Alberta several of the oil wells are not exploited because the gas has not been disposed of. For several years now gas in the west has been going to waste. It is a terrible waste that should

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not be allowed to go on any longer. For five years, since Trans-Canada Pipe Lines was incorporated, all this gas has been wasted, and all this potential benefit for the east of Canada has gone to waste. This government has decided, and I think rightly so, that it is time to put an end to this intolerable waste, and the only way to do it is to pass the law that we are studying here today.

No one has been able to get organized to supply the gas to eastern Canada except Trans-Canada Pipe Lines. They have the pipe; they have the know-how; they have the right-of-way; they have the contracts to buy gas and to sell gas; they are the only ones that are organized.

We have heard a lot of noise about selling Canada down the river and giving away to United States buccaneers. Well, if my hon. friends on the other side who use those expressions will only reflect for a few minutes they will realize how silly, how futile and how childish they are. What is the government proposing to do by this bill? It is simply proposing to lend, note that, \$80 million to Trans-Canada Pipe Lines at a good rate of interest, at 5 per cent and for 90 days. To lend at 5 per cent and for 90 days: since when is that selling out to United States buccaneers or giving control of the pipe line to Americans? And if they do not pay us back, if Trans-Canada does not pay the money back during the 90 days—

An hon. Member: Ninety days?

Mr. Cannon: Nine months. If it does not pay back the government in the 9-months period the government has ample security. The government has all the assets of Trans-Canada Pipe Lines and will simply take over the project and build the line itself for the great benefit of the people of Canada.

What is this delay costing us? Every year of delay in constructing the pipe line increases the cost by \$25 million. It will cost \$25 million more a year every year it is delayed, and every day means a loss of \$50,000 a day to Alberta. When I say "Alberta" hon. members can read "Canada" because Canada is made up of its several provinces, and anything that is good for any of our provinces is good for this nation of ours as a whole.

There has also been a lot of talk about selling out to Americans and giving the Americans control of this natural resource. If my hon. friends had studied the contracts—I know some have but others have made speeches without studying them—they will realize that when this thing is organized 51 per cent of the stock is going to be offered for subscription to Canadians. If Canadians do not take 51 per cent—it is possible they