

Alberta Natural Gas Company

not the courage to come into the chamber and ask me questions, they should not ask them. This committee was dominated, in my opinion—and I am expressing my opinion only; anybody who wishes may contradict it—it was dominated and dictated to by one individual who was the sponsor of a bill.

It was stated in the house—and this can be checked in *Hansard*—that the Westcoast Transmission Company, for which company I had the privilege of sponsoring a bill last year, have an application before the transport board for a United States route as well. I said at the time, and I repeat it, that when you are in a battle the first thing you learn to do is to protect yourself in the clinches. That is exactly what that company did. I want to point out through you, Mr. Chairman, to the members of this committee that what was stated yesterday and what was stated in the committee is absolutely not correct. Over two weeks ago that company withdrew from the transport board their application for the United States route. Do not forget that. They withdrew that application over two weeks ago.

An hon. Member: Why?

Mr. Cruickshank: For the good and simple reason that they have on the record before the petroleum conservation board an application for an all-Canadian route, a route laid out by competent engineers. The most competent firm, it is thought, in that line in Canada, have gone over every foot of that route; and it has been gone over by a firm of the most eminent pipe line engineers in the United States. That route is recorded in the application at the present time, and that application was withdrawn two weeks ago; but apparently some of my junior friends from my own province have not awakened to that fact. It was withdrawn two weeks ago. That application is on record, with every mile of the route laid out, even to the number of feet that it may be necessary to tunnel in order to put this line through.

As far as I know, there is only one engineer in the house. There may be more. If so, I will stand corrected. But as far as I know, there is only one engineer in the house and last night I heard him say this. Incidentally, both he and I have been over every foot of the route; but he happens to have engineering ability that I do not possess. But he happens to have engineering ability and I have not. The most capable engineers that can be hired in the Dominion of Canada have approved the route and it is on record in the capital of Alberta. The most eminent firm of engineers in the United States in pipeline construction, which had more to do with the building of pipe lines in Louisiana and

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in other states than any other firm, have approved the route. That approval is on record in the capital of Alberta today. But I had to sit in the committee and hear two eminent engineers speak of it. One said that he had gone over the route by train and that he would go over it again by October.

I say to the sponsors of these bills that if they had happened to be where I was last Saturday they would have heard a lot. I do not know whether I have said this before or not, but I will repeat it. Last Saturday I went down to Montreal. I sat in a chair car and two of the prominent United States witnesses sat next to me. Naturally I knew who they were because I sat in on the committee, although some of my friends from British Columbia would not let me be a member of the committee. But I sat in there and listened to what was going on in the committee. I sat next to these United States witnesses on the train. I will give some advice to the sponsors of the bills. I advise them to tell their witnesses not to talk so loud and not to give away so many secrets. That is very good advice to the sponsors of the two bills. As I say, I sat in the committee and I recognized these two witnesses. I have supported Quebec long enough, and some hon. members from that province should try to get on the bandwagon for British Columbia.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): Applesauce again.

Mr. Cruickshank: As I say, I sat next to these two gentlemen, and it was very interesting to hear their conversation.

It was said in the paper the other day—and I admit it—that I got up by mistake and voted for this motion. They said that the face of the member for Fraser Valley was red. I admit that; but, Mr. Chairman, if the sponsors of these two bills could have heard their witnesses talk in the chair car, their faces would have been a lot redder than mine. I do not want to take up any more of the time of the committee—

Some hon. Members: Go on.

Mr. Cruickshank: I heard one of my Quebec friends over there interrupt.

Mr. Gauthier (Portneuf): Now you are mistaken.

Mr. Cruickshank: I should like to know of any member who has been more loyal to, or supported the ambitions and often unfair desires of, Quebec than those from the province of British Columbia. I have had to listen to speech after speech of forty minutes of stupidity from that hon. member. He ought to listen to at least twenty minutes, if he calls it stupid, from me.