

*Westspur Pipe Line Company*

Manitoba boundary line. Any company seeking to do this must be incorporated by special act of parliament, and this bill is to provide for that sort of thing.

It will be noted first that the authority is limited to the four western provinces and the Northwest Territories. Second, it will be noted that the persons seeking incorporation, as indicated in clause 1 of the bill, are all personnel of Imperial Oil Limited. In other words, it is a request to parliament to permit the incorporation of this company so it can set up gathering and branch lines to serve the producing wells.

**Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver-Quadra):** The explanation just given by the hon. member for Ottawa West (Mr. McIlraith), Mr. Speaker, indicates that it is the intention of the applicant to apply for a charter to construct a gathering system or something of that kind in the western provinces. He went on to say that the bill only referred to the Northwest Territories and the four western provinces, but in addition these applicants are asking for power to construct pipe lines outside of Canada. Of course this brings up the old pipe-line battles that we have had in this house during recent years.

I notice that during the debate which took place in the other chamber, to be found at page 318 of Senate *Hansard*, the sponsor there indicated that the purpose was to construct a pipe-line gathering system or branch lines crossing provincial boundaries in the four western provinces. A secondary possibility was the construction of a pipe line to cross the British Columbia-Alberta provincial boundary to accommodate deliveries from the Peace river area. Then he also referred to a small pipe-line gathering system with branch lines which cross provincial boundaries. In concluding his remarks he pointed out that this bill was in the form which had been followed throughout since the original Pipe Lines Act was passed in 1949.

Actually the bill is not in the form of the other bills which have been passed within recent years. For example, I refer the hon. member for Ottawa West to the Mid-Continent Pipelines Limited charter, which is contained in chapter 68 of the statutes of 1953. The applicants there applied for incorporation in 1951 under the name of Border Pipeline Corporation, but their bill was talked out that session. They applied again in 1952 for a charter for a company to be known as Boundary Pipeline Corporation, and that bill was also talked out. The reason was that they proposed to build their pipe line through the United States. However, they came back

in 1953 and applied for a charter under a different name, Mid-Continent Pipelines Limited, and on that occasion they had decided to build their pipe line in Canada.

We find that according to section 6, clause (a) they only asked for power to construct within Canada, purchase, lease or otherwise acquire, and so on. Then any reference to international pipe lines was deleted, and what was left were the words "interprovincial pipe lines". They also agreed to the insertion of this proviso:

Provided that all pipe lines for the transmission and transportation of gas and oil shall be located entirely within Canada.

The bill went through with these changes having been made. The changes followed the course which had been adopted in the session of 1951. I would refer hon. members to several pipe-line charters granted in that year. The first was Canadian-Montana Pipe Line Company, as set out in chapter 87 of the statutes of 1951. The next was Champion Pipe Line Corporation Limited, set out at chapter 88 of the statutes of 1951, and the third Independent Pipe Line Company, chapter 91 of the statutes of 1951. The fourth was Trans-Canada Pipe Lines Limited, as contained in chapter 92 of those statutes, and the fifth was Trans Mountain Oil Pipe Line Company which, as Your Honour knows, is actually piping oil from Edmonton to the west coast, and whose charter is contained in chapter 93 of the statutes of 1951.

In each case a provision was written into the charter, that the main pipe lines would be within the borders of Canada. I would suggest to the hon. member for Ottawa West that he take up with the Imperial Oil company, or whoever is behind this present application, the question of whether or not they are insisting upon having the charter go through in the terms in which it comes before the house.

As I said a moment ago, the charter contains the power to construct pipe lines outside of Canada, and it does not contain the proviso that the main pipe line must be constructed within Canada. I should think there would be no objection to having these changes made when the bill goes to the standing committee on railways, canals and telegraph lines, in view of the statement made by the hon. member for Ottawa West in introducing the bill.

**Mr. McIlraith:** Would the hon. member permit a question, so that I may understand his point more clearly? Does he suggest, for instance, that in respect of those wells now being drilled in southern Manitoba, the branch lines should be brought backward