

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

Mr. Rowe: You certainly do not know anything about it.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): How do you know?

Mr. Drew: Mr. Chairman, how true it is when the Minister of Trade and Commerce says that only one agency has been placed in a position to proceed this year. Only one agency has been in a position to proceed at any time.

I want to refer to some of the comments made about Mr. McMahon in the speech by the Minister of Trade and Commerce. He was rather scornful of Mr. McMahon today. Mr. McMahon is no fly by night promoter. Mr. McMahon happens to be the only Canadian who has financed a gas pipe line in Canada. Of course he is dependent on the government for certain considerations, and on that account he may be called upon to exercise certain caution in some of the things he does. But Mr. McMahon has actually been responsible for financing Westcoast Transmission, a venture that involved \$153 million. He brought in a large amount of capital from the United States.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): That is bad.

Mr. Drew: May I hear what was said?

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): I say that is bad according to your views.

Mr. Drew: No, that is untrue, utterly untrue. That is another typical misrepresentation by the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Rowe: And all the rest of you over there.

Mr. Drew: I am glad he has made that statement in front of me so I may brand it as a falsehood to his face.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): I shall quote your Hamilton speech before we get through.

Mr. Drew: The Minister of Trade and Commerce—

Mr. Rowe: You never read it. You just misrepresented it.

Mr. Drew:—apparently has been telling some people about that speech as well, I would gather from some of the things that have been said publicly on different occasions, and telling them inaccurately as is his custom. I would point out that in that Hamilton speech to which he refers I emphasized my belief that we should assure full protection to United States investment in this country but that I did not think it was anti-American for Canadians to show some

[Mr. McCann.]

concern about their own resources and their own welfare in the years ahead.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Drew: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Trade and Commerce in his scornful reference to Mr. McMahon today says that Mr. McMahon never disclosed his definition of "Canadian". Mr. McMahon knows what a Canadian is. Perhaps that is what is wrong. He is a Canadian, born in Canada. He can define what a Canadian is by everything associated with his own life. He does not need any artificial definition of the word "Canadian".

Mr. Pickersgill: Some baby!

Mr. Hees: Well, if it isn't fisherman Jack.

Mr. Drew: It is worth while to have some lighter interjections in this debate by such comments as that just made, but this subject is not one that invites levity when you realize what the government is doing in handing over control of one of our greatest natural resources to investors outside of Canada.

Mr. Murphy (Lambton West): He will start braying pretty soon.

Mr. Drew: Just whom is this government trying to fool or, shall we say, whom is the Minister of Trade and Commerce trying to fool?

Mr. Dickey: Nobody.

Mr. Drew: On the one hand, he came forward the other day with a great show of boastfulness when he talked about what the government was willing to do and got some applause from some of his supporters when he talked about the possibilities of development under public ownership. He backs away from that today. He tells us today that he does not know of any case where there has been successful operation by a government of a gas pipe line. Of course he admits that he might be prepared to consider it if all else fails.

But I was interested in the fact that this was thrown forward as more than a casual remark. Just whom is he trying to fool? Trans-Canada Pipe Lines? His associates in the government? His supporters? I agree with the hon. member opposite who said he cannot fool anybody. In the end I think everybody will come to that conclusion. Nobody is being fooled by this pretence now before us. This is a sell-out under the power of the government. We were told on different occasions that Canadians could not finance this project. Just today we have been told of the reluctance of Canadians to support this venture. Well, Canadians are going to be