

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

been made and says that we are being asked only to approve of a method that will avoid public ownership, let us remember that that is not the proposal. It is to put up Canadian money to assure the financing of this operation in the hands of foreign interests. Then let us see what happens, as disclosed by the applications at Washington. It is shown that of the 200 million cubic feet a day that they propose to export at Emerson, 152 million cubic feet will be taken up by three companies or will be alternated in supply for other gas used by those companies.

These are the three companies, and they are extremely interesting companies in view of the broad situation that has developed. The first is United States Steel in Chicago. Its contract is filed, showing it will take 70 million cubic feet a day. The second is Inland Steel at Chicago, which will take 45 million cubic feet a day. The third is Iron Ranges Natural Gas of Minnesota, which supplies iron developments in the Mesabi area and whose contract is for 37 million cubic feet a day. This makes a total of 152 million cubic feet.

Do not let anyone suggest that this is not the use that is to be made of this gas, because those contracts are filed in support of this application for export. Whether those contracts would be filled directly by Canadian gas or whether there would be an alternation through the use of Canadian gas is unimportant. What is going to happen if that gas goes there? Let us see what an interesting thing this is.

What an interesting combination of events. We have seen what comes from the west. Let us look to the east. Canada is spending large sums of money in building the St. Lawrence seaway. A few days ago the president of the Canadian seaway authority, Hon. Lionel Chevrier, explained that the reason we now have the seaway is that the United States wants iron ore. He explained that the main cargo shipments through the seaway will be iron ore. This is very interesting. This great seaway that we are helping to build is going to carry iron ore through the lakes to mills where it will be processed with Canadian gas.

Mr. Fulton: Where is the iron ore coming from?

Mr. Drew: The iron ore will be carried to United States companies, which in turn will be using Canadian gas at less than the price for which our steel companies can get gas.

Mr. Rowe: Canadian ore, too.

Mr. Drew: Of course, that is Canadian ore from eastern Canada that I am speaking

about. It may be easier to export natural gas, but we should make sure that we have our own supply of natural gas in the future. We should remember that gas pipe lines in the United States are hardly able to keep pace with demand there. Even our enormous resources will not keep up with our demand if we get too deeply involved in that network in the United States, which is now being pressed forward at such a rate. New discoveries, in fact, are not keeping pace with demand in some areas; some contracts are actually in default because of the shortage of gas in some parts of the United States today.

Past history shows that once United States interests get control of these resources, they will protect their own consumers. That is their legitimate right. I suggest we make sure, as representatives of the people of Canada, that we protect our own consumers by the course we follow in the House of Commons. There may be difficulties, as I have said before and as the Minister of Trade and Commerce has emphasized. However, those difficulties are insignificant when compared with the difficulties faced by Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir George Etienne Cartier as they stood shoulder to shoulder at the time they brought this country together by means of another common carrier.

Had Canadians not been prepared to make great efforts and to make equally great sacrifices in the early days of Canada, we would not have survived as a nation. There can be no doubt about that fact. Today the demand is just as great, because we are at an hour of decision in this country. We have to decide not only a policy for this particular pipe line but we have to decide whether or not the time has come to follow a definite plan of conserving and developing Canadian resources for the advantage of Canadians here in Canada. Contrary to what the Minister of Trade and Commerce has said, this is the occasion to focus attention on our resources. This is the only place to do so, and this is an opportunity to declare our economic independence of the United States. This is the time to plan to make full use of the resources that God has given us.

The day may seem long past when there was any uncertainty about Canada's future as a sovereign nation, but the principle is the same. No matter how friendly any other nation may be, I submit that it is our duty as the representatives of the people of Canada to follow a course that will assure Canada's economic, as well as political, independence. That cause is not served by the resolution now presented to us.

I submit that it is not expedient that we support this plan to assist in the handing over