

Interim Supply

Board. It is not until 1970 that the company will begin the looping of the northern Ontario pipe line, and it is not until 1976, that the company has the obligation of carrying 60 per cent of the load from western Canada to eastern Canada. Then only changes will take place.

Mr. Martin (Timmins): Mr. Chairman, I am not sure but perhaps the minister has clarified things too much. Certainly, as far as northern Ontario is concerned, he has made things a little worse than they were before.

There was a reference to another article in the *Monetary Times*, though I am sorry I have not the quotation before me. If I can recall it from memory, it referred to the fact that the government had changed its mind between August 25 and October 4 under great pressure. I have had on the order paper for some months now a motion for production of papers so that we can understand how great was this pressure and from where it came. Unfortunately, to date we have not been able to scrutinize these various documents and representations, which leads me to believe that if we do not get them shortly the opportunity for discussing them will have passed, and there will be no chance of dealing with these matters.

The hon. member for Port Arthur has stated his position on the matter in this house, though I grant you he did not state it as clearly, succinctly and as strongly as he stated it before members of the cabinet when they met with the delegation from the north. We have also heard the remarks in this house of the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River, who appeared to me to agree with what the government had done but gave them hell for doing it. We have yet to hear from the hon. member for Cochrane, whose constituents are vitally interested in this matter. We have yet to hear one word from the hon. member for Fort William whose people initiated the battle to try to stop this deal before it was too late. We have also yet to hear from the honourable and genial member for Nipissing, a member for whom I have very high regard. Let me assure him that some of his constituents have been in touch with me, wondering why he has not spoken up in this house about where he stands on this issue. The same comments, as usual, apply to the very likeable hon. member for Algoma West, who unfortunately we rarely hear from in this house.

Mr. Woolliams: That is not very nice.

[Mr. Pepin.]

Mr. Martin (Timmins): I agree. Part of our problem in the north country is that, while over the years we have seen our birthrights stolen from us, we have at the same time been represented in this house by some very nice members of the Liberal party who just sit here and say nothing. They are very nice people but they just sit. I am very fond of most of them.

I do not know how much time I have left at my disposal, but I should like to put on the record some of the statements made by people from the north country. May I now refer to a letter which was addressed to the Prime Minister, a copy of which I have received. It was sent by a mining engineer from my home town of Timmins, and I should like to read what he says about this particular deal. I may say that I have a very high regard for the experience and intelligence of this particular gentleman. He says, in part, that the outcome of this particular deal will result in more profit for Trans-Canada Pipe Lines as opposed to competitive Canadian industry. He goes on:

No one is going to argue that it is not going to be more profitable for Trans-Canada Pipe Lines to build a new pipe line through the States.

No one can argue about that proposition, Mr. Chairman, but he goes on to say that building this pipe line through the United States will violate Canada's national interest. He says:

It will supply more natural gas cheaper and help the relatively larger U.S. industries in their competition with Canadian industry, in Canadian, U.S. and world markets.

Then he asks, very appropriately:

How silly can we get?

He then points out another factor:

The important thing is that Trans-Canada Pipe Lines will pay for the pipe line out of profits regardless of line location and the extra energy from an all-Canadian line would be available in northern and middle Ontario for subsequent industrial development. This is vital if Canada is ever to be a really great country, instead of a 50 mile strip development along the U.S. border.

I should like to make one or two points to back up this argument. At the present time, as a result of the Trans-Canada pipe line coming through the north, three particular industries were established within 80 miles of my hometown. Had it not been for this pipe line they would not be there today. I refer to the big iron ore development plant at Kirkland Lake, to the big plywood mills in Cochrane and north of Timmins, and at New Liskeard south of Kirkland Lake.