

Inquiries of the Ministry

certainly the present staff can expect re-employment—at least I assume everyone now employed will have a priority when that time comes. On the other hand, while the immediate requirements for Orenda engines are satisfied, it is quite possible that further orders for aircraft will be placed which will call for further engines, but it is difficult for me to make a definite statement now in that regard.

PIPE LINES**TRANS-CANADA PIPE LINE—SASKATCHEWAN
SUGGESTION FOR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. G. McCullough (Moose Mountain): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister arising out of the text of a letter made public in the *Leader-Post* of May 26 wherein the premier indicates the Saskatchewan government is strongly in favour of a publicly-owned pipe line and the suggestion is made that Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba be sounded out as to their support for this proposal. Can the Prime Minister state whether any consideration has been given to this proposal?

Right Hon. L. S. St. Laurent (Prime Minister): No, no consideration has been given to it.

Mr. McCullough (Moose Mountain): Can the Prime Minister state what provinces, if any, have been asked as to their desires in connection with the method of constructing the pipe line?

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): There have been no consultations with provincial governments about that question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. McCullough (Moose Mountain): Can the Prime Minister say whether any governments besides Saskatchewan have indicated their wishes in connection with this trans-Canada pipe line, as to whether or not they favoured private or public ownership?

Mr. St. Laurent (Quebec East): That question has not been directed to any provincial government.

**TRANS-CANADA PIPE LINES—SALE PRICE OF GAS
IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Roland Michener (St. Paul's): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In view of the figures tabled by the minister yesterday, does the minister concur in the statement made on the C.B.C. news broadcast at eight o'clock this morning that the prices to be charged by

[Mr. Howe (Port Arthur).]

Trans-Canada for gas would be less on the Canadian side of the border than on the American side?

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): I did not hear the broadcast at eight o'clock, but under the terms of the pipe-lines bill the gas cannot be sold for export to the United States at a price lower than it is sold in a comparable position in Canada.

Mr. Michener: The statement was that it would be less on the Canadian side, and that was what I wished to draw to the minister's attention.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): I have said several times the price would be less on the Canadian side than the price for export.

**TRANS-CANADA PIPE LINES—PURCHASE OF PIPE
IN BRITAIN**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. R. R. Knight (Saskatoon): Mr. Speaker, in view of the dispatch quoted yesterday by the Minister of Trade and Commerce to the effect that Trans-Canada has placed orders in Britain for \$32 million of pipe, if this is true does that mean it is Trans-Canada which is now assured of building the pipe line across the northern Ontario section?

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): No, Mr. Speaker. Trans-Canada Pipe Lines did place the order. They were advised that if they did not do so the position would be taken by another buyer. I have been anxious and I think all hon. members have been anxious that any pipe we had to buy outside of Canada would be bought in Britain and therefore I suggested to Trans-Canada that it place the order, which it has done with the understanding that if it is not in a position to build the line the government will take over the pipe. That is clearly understood. As a matter of fact, under the terms of the agreement the government will take over Trans-Canada.

Mr. H. O. White (Middlesex East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Trade and Commerce somewhat along the same line as the question asked by the hon. member for Saskatoon. Would the government consider delaying the construction of the trans-Canada pipe line until pipe made in Canada by Canadian labour is available early in 1957?

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): Mr. Speaker, the pipe that will be made in Canada is not pipe that can be used for the western section of the line in any event and the reason is that the widest steel plate that is rolled in Canada is steel plate that would be suitable