

Alberta Natural Gas Company

the result we expect, it will at least show him where we stand, and with the issue seeming to swing our way, it may do a lot of good.

By the same token, I feel that our success here in gaining so much support will have a bearing on the meeting tonight, in that it may encourage the members of the other three boards to also get right behind the idea, and get their own telegrams going.

I have also wired the McBride board of trade, chamber of commerce, Jasper, board of trade, Edson, and the chamber of commerce, Edmonton, advising them of our action, and asking for their active support. Have just received a reply from McBride, saying they were right behind us.

I should point out that McBride is in the constituency of Cariboo.

Mr. Goode: Would the hon. member answer a question?

Mr. Fulton: If I may just conclude these letters, I shall be glad to answer any question later. The other letter is dated May 10, 1950, and is from the same source. It encloses a copy of the resolution sent to the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent), and this post-script is added:

This copy sent to you for your information, in case there should be a chance to bring the matter up during debate.

Our meeting in Clearwater Monday was most successful, over 150 people there, from which fifty telegrams were dispatched to Hon. C. D. Howe at Vancouver. May say we did even better here—

That is, at Blue River.

—some sixty-five individual telegrams being dispatched to the hon. gentleman. I haven't yet received a report of the Kamloops meeting, but it will be in the newspaper tomorrow morning.

Mr. Howe: May I ask my hon. friend who paid for the telegrams?

Mr. Fulton: I will tell my right hon. friend who paid for the telegrams. The people who sent them paid for them. If the right hon. gentleman thinks the president of the Blue River board of trade, who is what I might call one of the small men of a small community in British Columbia, who is vitally affected by this whole issue, is the paid agent of one of these pipe line companies, as he deliberately suggested this afternoon, I say the suggestion is entirely unwarranted and utterly contemptible.

Mr. Howe: I made no such suggestion.

Mr. Fulton: That was the suggestion the right hon. gentleman deliberately made this afternoon.

Mr. Goode: Would the hon. gentleman answer my question now, as a matter of information? How many people live in Blue River, and how many in Clearwater?

Mr. Fulton: That is a very interesting question, Mr. Speaker. It is typical of the attitude we are fighting here. This is big interests against little interests. There are only some five hundred people living in

Blue River, and only some 180 or so in Clearwater. There are only some twelve or fifteen thousand people in Kamloops and North Kamloops. There are far fewer people living in Canada than in the United States, but by the argument the hon. member has just suggested we should sell out our interests because not as many people are concerned here as in the United States.

Mr. Cruickshank: Will the hon. member permit a question? Has he any idea how many employees Kelly-Douglas have in the province of British Columbia?

Mr. Fulton: I am sorry, I have not.

Mr. Goode: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, this is a personal matter which I do not think the hon. member for Fraser Valley (Mr. Cruickshank) should bring up in this house. I think it was a contemptible question. He is referring to a firm with which I am associated, and he has no right to do that.

Mr. Cruickshank: There is no point of order about it. I had a perfect right to ask that question.

Mr. Speaker: Order. There can be only one point of order at a time, and I do not know which point the hon. member for Fraser Valley is referring to. Perhaps we had better hear the hon. member for Kamloops.

Mr. Fulton: I regret that I have no information as to the number of people employed by the company to which reference has been made. Without in any way trying to minimize the importance of the point I must simply say I do not have the information. If I may I should like to conclude my remarks, and in doing so I repeat what I said a moment ago, that we are fighting the battle of the smaller communities; in fact we are fighting the battle of the less populated provinces. British Columbia has a smaller population than the aggregate of the population of the areas of the United States which the bill before us is primarily designed to serve. But we say steps must be taken by this House of Commons and this government to see to it that the resources of Canada, the power resources and the material resources, are preserved for this country so that our economy may be built up to a point of equality with that of the United States. But if we are to be continually condemned and betrayed by the principle that because they are bigger than we are, that because they have a bigger market than we have, therefore that market must be served first, we will never build up the Canadian economy; we will never build