

Alberta Natural Gas Company

Turning again to what I said before, the member for Lethbridge has been wiser than the leader of the opposition (Mr. Drew)—

Mr. Blackmore: I hope so.

Mr. Pouliot:—in that he has mentioned facts. The United States is producing more mica and more jute. Instead of importing rubber, they are making so much synthetic rubber. These are facts. The leader of the opposition gave us the opinion of Mr. Eden, delivered in a pre-election speech. What was that? Mr. Eden was just boosting his chances, and the chances of his party, in opposing the policy of the Attlee government which had just recognized China. It is worth little to quote the opinion of an expert, unless we know the circumstances in which that opinion was delivered.

Mr. Blackmore: That is right.

Mr. Pouliot: The circumstances are important. This was an important occasion for Mr. Eden, who probably wanted to again become the foreign secretary of the United Kingdom. His opinion was delivered during the election campaign, when he intended to censure the government for what it had done.

Now, there is an illustrious professor with a peculiar name who has been mentioned. His name is Lauterpacht. He may be a brilliant man, but he is not as great a man as Grotius.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

PRIVATE BILLS

ALBERTA NATURAL GAS COMPANY

The house resumed, from Tuesday, February 28, consideration of the motion of Mr. Maybank for the second reading of Bill No. 7, to incorporate Alberta Natural Gas Company.

Mr. A. L. Smith (Calgary West): Mr. Speaker, I heard some rather imposing sentences expressed, but having the floor I still think I should give further reasons for favouring one sentiment which was expressed rather than another, and which happened to come from close to me on my right-hand side.

When I adjourned the debate on this matter a week ago tonight I had discussed the uses which might be made of natural gas. In the interval something has happened, sir, which I feel compelled to bring to your attention. If the paper which I hold in my hand is to be believed I am now a very rich man.

[Mr. Pouliot.]

I hold in my hand the *Calgary Herald* of March 3, and I shall read from a dispatch from Edmonton. The first paragraph reads:

Arthur Wray (Ind. S.C.)—

I will explain that in a moment.

—Banff-Cochrane, started a hubbub in the legislature Thursday afternoon, when he quoted a "man in Calgary" as having told him \$200,000 in bribes has been paid out by the Westcoast Transmission Company to pave the way for its franchise.

Reading the article further down I find that the names mentioned are those of my brother and myself. It says that my brother, who is the solicitor and counsel for the board in Alberta, which deals with the export of natural gas, had stopped this gentleman from answering questions before the board which was sitting, and which I shall discuss later. Then he went on to say that this fellow, C. E. Smith, was a brother of A. L. Smith who had conducted the filibuster against this particular bill in the House of Commons. I confess that this bad man is my brother. He is one of His Majesty's counsel, one of the ablest lawyers I know—and sir, that is a plug for my firm; we are not doing so well these days since I left there, but that is what the man says. Well, I have not got the \$200,000 yet. My only suggestion is that I should adopt the method of the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner) who, when he was asked about the sale of butter yesterday, gave one of those lucid and clear answers. He said that he would sell it if, as and when he could. Therefore I am going to make an assignment of my \$200,000 to this Mr. Wray if, as and when I get it. I think that should satisfy him. On the other hand, sir, I am inclined to think that he should pay for the trouble and the legal fees incurred in making the assignment because although I have not got any money, and I have no hope of getting any, I do not want to be out of pocket on the \$200,000 deal that I am supposed to have now.

I admit, sir, with great frankness that I have never seen \$200,000, although if I stay in this house long enough, a matter of thirty or forty years, and I get the \$6,000 with which we are honoured here, and I do not eat anything in the meantime and I do not pay for a house to live in, at the end of those thirty-five or forty years I may get close to the \$200,000. Of course I realize I am making some assumptions there which perhaps I am not entitled to make, because if I lived that long I would be one hundred years old. In the second place, I will probably be licked at the next election that takes place in the community from which I come.

I want to pay a compliment to the hon. member for Fraser Valley (Mr. Cruickshank). He crossed the floor yesterday and came to