

not sufficient gas coming through the pipe line to be able to supply Trail and Spokane, would it be practical to turn off the gas to Spokane and let the gas go to Trail? And in a similar way, supposing route B is constructed, and the gas reaches the terminal at Munroe, and a decision has to be made as to whether a sufficient quantity of gas can be sent to meet the needs of Vancouver or Portland, would it be practical to turn off the supply of gas going to Portland?

Mr. GOODE: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I think this is a matter for the Board of Transport Commissioners, and it cannot be answered sensibly by this committee. When the time comes the Board of Transport Commissioners will make the final decision as to the disposal of the question.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Question?

Mr. PEARKES: Mr. Chairman, let me suggest that my question is perfectly in order. I am not capable of voting on this amendment until I have an answer to my question.

Mr. MAYBANK: Mr. Chairman, I submit that the question is in order, but it is a question for the honourable member to answer for himself. It is a question for his own judgment to determine how he should vote, and not a question to be determined for him by the sponsors of the bill.

Mr. PEARKES: Can you tell me whether or not the gas will be turned off en route? I cannot.

Mr. MAYBANK: I think the honourable member should consult the honourable member who is sitting on his right and ask him if he knows. It may be that he will be able to tell him, but I do not think it is a question to be answered by the sponsors of the bill.

Mr. WYLIE: Mr. Chairman, this is the first time, I think, that I have spoken on this matter. Coming from Medicine Hat, where we had the first gas from the province of Alberta, I think I should say a few words.

I do not know what the amendment is, but when I came in, Mr. Maybank was referring to irrigation and irrigation through pipe lines. Now, Mr. Chairman, there is no comparison to be made between irrigation and gas pipe lines. If the honorable member came from Alberta I would perhaps excuse him. But seeing that he comes from Manitoba where they have no irrigation schemes and no gas pipe lines, I must take issue with what he says.

He mentioned that if he were on an irrigation system and if he did not want that irrigation, he would just shut the water off. But irrigation is not quite so easy as that. Those honourable members who come from irrigation districts will remember that a contract has to be signed in the spring, to the effect that you are responsible for the payment for so many acres of arable land. And and as far as gas is concerned, we have no pipe line in the city of Medicine Hat. Gas is not piped there. What we do in the city of Medicine Hat is drill our wells underneath the city. We may have to drill down 1,000 feet, 11,000 feet, or 12,000 feet, but we have our natural gas. It is true that if you do not pay your tolls, the city may shut you off.

I wanted to ask Mr. Dixon a question this morning, but my good friends over here excluded me from doing so. I wanted to know if Medicine Hat was on the grid system? But whether it is or not we in Medicine Hat have our gas fields and it must be realized that as our city expands we must also expand our gas fields.

Instead of having all our wells in the city of Medicine Hat, as they are at the present time, this year we drilled two new wells which will be 12 miles from the city. It is the policy of the Alberta Conservation Board to see to it that our gas pressure is kept up. That is something we have to look after to see that we are supplied with natural gas, and I would certainly commend the Alberta