

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

had reached a high estate, which imposes a corresponding obligation. I copied out of the Bible on the table of this house, from the acts, the quite natural statement of Festus:

"It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have licence to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him."

At this point I broke in. "What are you reading?" I asked. "Wait till you hear the rest of it", he said; and he continued:

There was no statute; there was no law which required that this be done; but there was the concept in the Roman conscience that it was the proper thing to do.

If it is fair; if it is just; if it is proper according to the standards of human decency, it will be done; if it is unfair; if it is unjust; if it is improper, all members of this house will say, "It is not our manner to do such things".

The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre said, "That was our Prime Minister; don't you remember back in 1946"? I must confess I had forgotten about the incident. I do not know of any person in Canada who would have remembered that speech for ten years and would have thought of finding it and using it in this particular debate other than the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. I recall the incident. Our late friend Art Smith from Calgary directed a very difficult question to the then Minister of Justice, the present Prime Minister, who without any preparation and without any notes made this remarkable reply.

I must express real sympathy for the Prime Minister of Canada for having had to go through experiences which I am sure have been most distasteful to him during the past two or three weeks. I have a similar feeling for the Minister of Trade and Commerce. They both entered public life after they had done their share of the world's work. They both had achievements of which they could be proud. The only explanation I can give is that they have had very bad advice.

The hon. member for Nanaimo said that the only person he could think of on the government benches or in the cabinet who could conceive and give such poor direction was the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. I cannot think of anyone else either on the government benches who could use such poor judgment and who could convince his elders to pull so many boners. I think the majority of the government members are embarrassed as a result of the leadership they have been forced to follow during these difficult days. I am sure the majority of them were unhappy when some of their colleagues made no contribution whatever to this debate except to stand up and vote and call out "Shame" when the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre was performing his

[Mr. Nicholson.]

duty. I am also convinced that when the committee has made its report it will be demonstrated beyond a shadow of a doubt that the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre was right as usual.

Another thing; when the hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr mentioned the fact that three of our colleagues had gone to hospital since this started, hon. members on the other side laughed.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Nicholson: It is on the record. Two members stood up and said, "I did not laugh." I am sure there is no hon. member opposite who will stand up and identify himself as having said "Shame" on May 22 when the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre was performing his parliamentary duty, not one. I am sure that hon. members who said "Resign" will not stand up and identify themselves as having made that remark. It is a sorry day for Liberalism when the only contribution some hon. members are prepared to make is to cry "Shame" when the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre is making the outstanding contribution that he is.

My second point is to pay tribute to the press of Canada. The press of Canada has been able to do what the elected representatives of the people were unable to do. The elected representatives of the people pleaded with the Prime Minister to give extra time, but what were they told? The answer was "No." But as a result of the press reaction across Canada the government has been forced to give us two extra days. Is it not significant that although two members have placed on the record tonight press dispatches which prove from their point of view that the government has the press behind it, only two papers were quoted, one article being quoted by both hon. members, the *Financial Post* and the *Financial Times*.

An hon. Member: The *Globe and Mail*.

Mr. Nicholson: Yes, I shall come to the *Globe and Mail*. But what about the *Winnipeg Free Press*?

Mr. Rowe: The *Toronto Star*.

An hon. Member: The *Calgary Herald*.

Mr. Nicholson: Referring to the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, the *Winnipeg Free Press* had this to say:

All political differences can be set aside to say of Mr. Knowles, in his home city of Winnipeg, that he is the hero of the present debate and that the position he has taken on the parliamentary issues—on the way to do things, as distinct from what is being done—is the position in which any liberal and democrat must rejoice to be with him.