

concerned, but that act did not protect them at that time. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, we have doubt as to how our interests are protected under this Act. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I would urge upon members of the committee from British Columbia to consider whether or not the provisions of this act as it now stands will afford them the protection of Canadian interests which they would like to see. May I say further, that those of us who have been discussing this question, whether from British Columbia or Alberta, have been trying to put our position plainly before the committee, to show where we stand in protecting Canadian rights in respect to this important national product. I can assure you of this, Mr. Chairman, that without doubt we are expressing the opinion of the great majority of people of British Columbia. There is no doubt about that.

Mr. McIVOR: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to correct the honourable member; oil is not being shipped to Superior, it is being shipped to Sarnia via Superior.

Mr. MAYBANK: Mr. Chairman, I think if you will read the amendment it leaves us just exactly where we were. I am skipping a word or two which you will have to fill in for yourselves; may export gas only to an amount in excess of an amount required by—and I will just change it to say, Canadians. That is not the precise wording but you will get the idea; it is not a real violation of the wording the way I have given it. Just taking that as it is how do you determine what is required and who determines it? The same no doubt as under the Fluid Export Act. The Fluid Export Act has this in it, maybe not word for word but this is the whole basis of the Fluid Export Act. Some persons will say that that is a power they will get from the Board of Transport Commissioners. The amendment does not say so. It might be from the producer, it might be from the Alberta government; who is it that determines this? It might be said that it is the individual consumer who determines it, that you have to ask him how much he requires. The amendment proposed is about as effective as a hole in a tank of water. It would not protect anybody at all, if you do put it in. Then, in the next place, it does not protect anybody for this reason, that if this law were passed with that amendment in it it would only mean that this particular artificial person was bound by whatever binding force that has; it has no effect whatever on other artificial companies already in existence, because they, not having this in their law, would not be so bound. If there is any binding power in it at all, and I doubt if there is, it extends to the discretion of some person in the last analysis, as is the case with the law now. So that if you put that into the law you really have nothing in at all; and if that statement were not there, then you put it in and you say it has some force, but there are six or seven other artificial persons with precisely the same powers as you have here extant in Canada at the present time and not one of them is subject to this or that caution which you are now proposing to put in this bill, and you have by no means protected the people of Canada by amending this particular private statute. If you regard the other private companies which you have incorporated as being an entirely different kind of animal than this artificial person will turn out to be; and if that is the reason why you feel you can trust these others without putting that in their law yet you can't trust this one; well, that might be some reason for putting them under special restrictions; but I do not think that any person would say that he believes that one artificial person who has been created is any more to be depended upon than any other. They are all coming to us to be enchartered in order to go into a business in which it is expected there will be a reasonable profit; and they will all act, no doubt, according to the same motives that move most people in such circumstances. In this connection, however, it may be that you have a certain confidence in some of the other companies which have been enchartered without any such restrictions being put upon them; still you have no guarantee that these other enchartered