

Just this morning I had a notice from a friend of mine who told me this:

Presently, there are only two steel mills in the world that are capable of delivering the pipe needed for our pipeline as it is presently designed. The design will require one-half of the world's capability to produce pipe during the period of its construction. If the producers start work on the project this year, it would take until 2010 or 2011 for gas to actually reach the U.S. market. There are over 18 months of work required to complete enough of the design and permitting prior to ordering the pipe. For orders placed in 2003, the pipe materials would be delivered in the year 2007.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

VISIT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND, TARJA HALONEN

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I have the honor of presenting to the Senate the distinguished President of the Republic of Finland, President Tarja Halonen.

Mr. President, for the time between when Senator STEVENS relinquishes the floor and the time the vote starts, I ask unanimous consent that our guests be granted the privilege of the floor during the vote so they can meet Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask that the unanimous consent request be amended so that I might make a statement on the nominee who will be voted on at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. HELMS. Absolutely.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent I regain the floor after the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Wyoming.

NOMINATION OF TERRENCE L. O'BRIEN

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from North Carolina and the Senator from Alaska for their courtesies. I appreciate this opportunity to speak on behalf of the circuit court judge who we will be voting on at 5:30 p.m.

I am so pleased we are having this vote. I have known Terry O'Brien both personally and professionally for over 22 years. I am proud of my association and friendship with him. It is not often that we get to vote on a close friend in this body.

In a few minutes, I and my colleagues will have the opportunity to vote to confirm Terry O'Brien to serve on the Tenth Circuit. The Senate Judiciary Committee recognized that Terry is highly qualified to serve in this position when it unanimously voted him out of committee. While the committee members had an opportunity to review Terry's accomplishments and get to know him during his hearing, I would

like to share some information about Terry with the rest of my colleagues.

After Terry served as a captain in the U.S. Army and worked as an attorney at the Division of Land and Natural Resource in the Department of Justice, he came back to Wyoming to practice law in Buffalo at the law firm of Omohundro & O'Brien. Then in 1980, he was appointed to be a district judge for the Sixth Judicial District in Wyoming located in Gillette, WY. As a result, he moved to Gillette where he remained for 22 years.

Terry continued to be our judge until he retired from that position 2 years ago. As mayor of Gillette, I had an opportunity to observe what the local district judge just down the street from my business was doing in the community. Believe me, those who came before him let me know what they thought, too. What I saw and people observed is that Terry had a no-nonsense, fair approach to the law and to the parties involved. He made his decisions based squarely on the law, the facts, and careful consideration, and he explained his reasons for what he was doing. Even if you were the party or the attorney who lost, you always knew where he stood because he took the time to be certain to explain his reasoning and rationale to you.

My other observation is that Terry ran his court effectively, professionally, and efficiently. He never wasted anyone else's time nor let any of the parties or their attorneys waste each other's time, either.

As to his decisions, they are not full of legal jargon or unnecessary words. Instead, he explains the law so everyone can understand it. To me, this makes him a very good judge and an exceptional writer.

On a personal level, we have known each other over 22 years. We were in the same community for that time and watched each other's children grow up. Terry always cared about our community and made many contributions to it. One notable contribution is the 13 years he served as the president and a member of the board of directors of the Campbell County Health Care Foundation.

But the most important thing I want to stress is the fact that I have gotten to know Terry both professionally and personally. I can give my personal assurance that our country will benefit from his many talents. I am confident he will be a stellar judge for the Tenth Circuit Court, and I am proud to make this recommendation to my colleagues in the Senate.

He began his service to our country as a captain in the U.S. Army, and I hope you will help him to continue his service as a U.S. Tenth Circuit Court judge.

I thank the Chair for this opportunity to talk about my friend, Terry O'Brien.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I know we are close to the voting time. I recommend to all of my friends in the Senate that we approve Judge O'Brien. Certainly, no one has been as qualified, as my colleague pointed out.

In the appointment process, we had a committee sort through the judge prospects in our State, and they came up with Judge O'Brien as the judge they thought would be best qualified. I thank the committee for moving this matter along.

He is one of the few circuit judges who has been approved, and we certainly look forward to his approval by the full Senate.

Again, I recommend him without any question to be a circuit court judge in the Tenth Circuit.

I yield the floor.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I repeat for emphasis that we have the President of Finland in our midst today. She will be here to meet the Senators as they come in to vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair welcomes our guests.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF TERRENCE L. O'BRIEN, OF WYOMING, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE TENTH CIRCUIT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will go into Executive session and proceed to the consideration of the nomination of Terrence L. O'Brien, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Terrence L. O'Brien, of Wyoming, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, the Senate is voting on the 43rd judicial nominee to be confirmed since last July when the Senate Judiciary Committee reorganized after the Senate majority changed. With today's vote on Judge Terrence O'Brien to the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, the Senate will confirm its eighth circuit court judge in little more than 9 months, since I became chairman this past summer.

The Senate is making progress on judicial confirmations. Under Democratic leadership, the Senate has confirmed more judges in the last 9 months than were confirmed in 4 out of 6 full years under Republican leadership. The number of judicial confirmations over these past 9 months—43 exceeds the number confirmed during all 12 months of 2000, 1999, 1997 and 1996.

During the preceding 6½ years in which a Republican majority most recently controlled the pace of judicial confirmations in the Senate, 248 judges were confirmed.

Some like to talk about the 377 judges confirmed during the Clinton administration, but forget to mention that more than one-third were confirmed during the first 2 years of the

Clinton administration while the Senate majority was Democratic and Senator BIDEN chaired the Judiciary Committee. The pace of confirmations under a Republican majority was markedly slower, especially in 1996, 1997, 1999, and 2000.

Thus, during the 6½ years of Republican control of the Senate, judicial confirmations averaged 38 per year—a pace of consideration and confirmation that we have already exceeded under Democratic leadership over these past 9 months, in spite of all of the challenges facing Congress and the Nation during this period, and all of the obstacles Republicans have placed in our path.

I ask myself how Republicans can justify seeking to hold the Democratic majority in the Senate to a different standard than the one they met themselves during the last 6½ years. There simply is no answer other than partisanship. This double standard is most apparent when Republicans refuse to compare fairly the progress we are making with the period in which they were in the Senate majority with a President of the other party.

They do not want to talk about that because we have exceeded, in just 9 months, the average number of judges they confirmed per year.

They would rather unfairly compare the work of the Senate on confirmations in the past 9 months to 2 years of work of previous Senates and Presidents. They say it is unfair that the Democratic-led Senate has not yet confirmed as many judges in 9 months as were confirmed in 24-month-periods at other times. I would say it is quite unfair to complain that we have not done 24 months of work on judicial vacancies in the 9 months we have had since the Senate reorganized.

These double standards and different standards are just plain wrong and unfair, but that does not seem to matter to Republican's intent on criticizing and belittling every achievement of the Senate under a Democratic majority.

Republicans have been imposing a double standard on circuit court vacancies as well. The Republican attack is based on the unfounded notion that the Senate has not kept up with attrition on the Courts of Appeals. Well, the Democratic majority in the Senate has more than kept up with attrition and we are seeking to close the vacancies gap on the Courts of Appeals that more than doubled under the Republican majority.

The Republican majority assumed control of judicial confirmation in January 1995 and did not allow the Judiciary Committee to be reorganized after the shift in majority last summer until July 10, 2001. During that period from 1995 through July 2001, vacancies on the Courts of Appeals increased from 16 to 33, more than doubling.

When I became chairman of a committee to which Members were finally assigned on July 10, we began with 33 Court of Appeals vacancies. That is

what I inherited. Since the shift in majority last summer, five additional vacancies have arisen on the Courts of Appeals around the country. Prior to today's vote on Judge O'Brien, the 7 circuit judges confirmed had reduced the number of circuit vacancies to 31. With today's confirmation, there will be 30 vacancies.

Rather than the 38 vacancies that would exist if we were making no progress, as some have asserted, there are now 30 vacancies, that is more than keeping up with the attrition on the circuit courts. Since our Republican critics are so fond of using percentages, I will say that we will have now reduced the vacancies on the Courts of Appeals by almost 10 percent in the last 9 months.

While the Republicans' Senate majority increased vacancies on the Courts of Appeals by over 100 percent, it has taken the Democratic majority 9 months to reverse that trend, keep up with extraordinary turnover and, in addition, reduce circuit court vacancies by almost 10 percent.

Alternatively, Republicans should note that since the shift in majority away from them, the Senate has filled more than 20 percent of the vacancies on the Courts of Appeals in a little over 9 months. This is progress.

Rather than having the circuit court vacancy numbers skyrocketing, as they did overall during the prior 6½ years more than doubling from 16 to 33—the Democratic-led Senate has reversed that trend and the vacancy rate is moving in the right direction, down.

It is not possible to repair the damage caused by longstanding vacancies in several circuits overnight, but we are improving the conditions in the 5th, 10th and 8th Circuit, in particular. Judge O'Brien will be the second judge confirmed to the 10th Circuit in the last 4 months.

With today's vote on Judge O'Brien, in a little more than 9 months since the change in majority, the Senate has confirmed eight judges to the Courts of Appeals and held hearings on three others. In contrast, the Republican-controlled majority averaged only seven confirmations to the Courts of Appeal per year. Seven.

In the last 9 months, the Senate has now confirmed as many Court of Appeals judges as were confirmed in all of 2000 and more than were confirmed in all of 1997 or 1999. It is eight more than the zero confirmed in all of 1996.

We have confirmed eight circuit court judges and there are almost 3 months left until the 1-year anniversary of the reorganization of the Senate and the Judiciary Committee and we have already exceeded the annual number of Court of Appeals judges confirmed by our predecessors.

Overall, in little more than 9 months, the Senate Judiciary Committee has held 16 hearings involving 55 judicial nominations. That is more hearings on judges than the Republican majority held in any year of its control of the

Senate. In contrast, one-sixth of President Clinton's judicial nominees—more than 50—never got a committee hearing and committee vote from the Republican majority, which perpetuated longstanding vacancies into this year.

Vacancies continue to exist on the Courts of Appeals in part because a Republican majority was not willing to hold hearings or vote on more than half—56 percent—of President Clinton's Court of Appeals nominees in 1999 and 2000 and was not willing to confirm a single judge to the Courts of Appeals during the entire 1996 session.

Despite the newfound concern from across the aisle about the number of vacancies on the circuit courts, no nominations hearings were held while the Republicans controlled the Senate in the 107th Congress last year. No judges were confirmed during that time from among the many qualified circuit court nominees received by the Senate on January 3, 2001, or from among the nominations received by the Senate on May 9, 2001.

The Democratic leadership acted promptly to address the number of circuit and district vacancies that had been allowed to grow when the Senate was in Republican control. The Judiciary Committee noticed the first hearing on judicial nominations within 10 minutes of the reorganization of the Senate and held that hearing on the day after the committee was assigned new members.

That initial hearing included a Court of Appeals nominee on whom the Republican majority had refused to hold a hearing the year before. We held unprecedented hearings for judicial nominees during the August recess. Those hearings included a Court of Appeals nominee who had been a Republican staff member of the Senate. We proceeded with a hearing the day after the first anthrax letter arrived at the Senate. That hearing included a Court of Appeals nominee.

In a little more than 9 tumultuous months, the Senate Judiciary Committee has held 16 hearings involving 55 judicial nominations including 11 circuit court nominees and we are hoping to hold another hearing soon for half a dozen more nominees, including another Court of Appeals nominee. That is more hearings on judges than the Republican majority held in any year of its control of the Senate. The Republican majority never held 16 judicial confirmation hearings in 12 months.

The Senate Judiciary Committee is holding regular hearings on judicial nominees and giving nominees a vote in committee, in contrast to the practice of anonymous holds and other obstructionist tactics employed by some during the period of Republican control. The Democratic majority has reformed the process and practices used in the past to deny committee consideration of judicial nominees.

We have moved away from the anonymous holds that so dominated the

process from 1996 through 2000. We have made home state Senators' blue slips public for the first time.

I do not mean by my comments to appear critical of Senator HATCH. Many times during the 6½ years he chaired the Judiciary Committee, I observed that, were the matter left up to us, we would have made more progress on more judicial nominees.

I thanked him during those years for his efforts. I know that he would have liked to have been able to do more and not have to leave so many vacancies and so many nominees without action.

I hope and intend to continue to hold hearings and make progress on judicial nominees in order to further the administration of justice. In our efforts to address the number of vacancies on the circuit and district courts we inherited from the Republicans, the committee has focused on consensus nominees for all Senators. In order to respond to what Vice President CHENEY and Senator HATCH now call a vacancy crisis, the committee has focused on consensus nominees.

This will help end the crisis caused by Republican delay and obstruction by confirming as many of the President's judicial nominees as quickly as possible.

Most Senators understand that the more controversial nominees require greater review. This process of careful review is part of our democratic process.

It is a critical part of the checks and balances of our system of government that does not give the power to make lifetime appointments to one person alone to remake the courts along narrow ideological lines, to pack the courts with judges whose views are outside of the mainstream of legal thought, whose decisions would further divide our Nation.

The committee continues to try to accommodate Senators from both sides of the aisle. The Court of Appeals nominees included at hearings so far this year have been at the request of Senators GRASSLEY, LOTT, SPECTER, ENZI and SMITH of New Hampshire five Republican Senators who each sought a prompt hearing on a Court of Appeals nominee who was not among those initially sent to the Senate in May, 2001.

In contrast to past practices, we are moving expeditiously to consider and confirm Judge O'Brien, who was nominated in September, 2001. The committee did not receive his ABA peer review until the end of October. He participated in a hearing in March, was reported by the committee on April 11th and is today being confirmed.

Judge O'Brien comes to the Senate highly recommended by friends and colleagues. I was pleased to have him participate in a confirmation hearing at the request of Senator ENZI. Judge O'Brien has more than 20 years of experience as a State court judge, has served on his home state's judicial ethics commission, and has a record of community service with organizations

such as the United Way and the Rotary Club. I congratulate his family on his confirmation to the Circuit Court.

I am extremely proud of the work this committee has done since the change in the majority. I am proud of the way we have considered nominees fairly and expeditiously and the way we have been able to report to the Senate so many qualified, non-ideological, consensus nominees to the Senate.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in favor of the Senate's confirmation of Terrence O'Brien to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

I am glad that today we have voted on Terrence O'Brien to serve the people of the West in the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. I am proud to say that Judge O'Brien began his career of public service in the United States Army, rising to the rank of Captain.

I might also point out that Judge O'Brien was first appointed to the Wyoming State bench by a Democrat Governor, once again showing that, despite what Senator Democrats and their special interest groups would have the American people think, President Bush is nominating diverse and non-partisan men and women who reflect all the American people, not just some.

I am proud of this nomination. The President has done right by the states that make up the Tenth Circuit, including my state of Utah.

Terrence O'Brien comes to this nomination after a distinguished 20 years of public service as a State district judge in Wyoming. In that capacity, he has heard approximately 13,000 cases and has also managed to find time to serve on task forces and commissions to help develop the practices and laws of Wyoming in areas which are of great interest to me, including the use of drug courts, child support, judicial ethics, and split sentencing.

A majority of the American Bar Association's Standing Committee has rated Judge O'Brien "well qualified." He is a distinguished former State court judge with decades of legal experience. He sat for 20 years on the District Court for the Sixth Judicial District in Campbell County, WY, and on occasion by designation to the Wyoming Supreme Court.

First appointed by merit selection to the State bench in 1980 by Democrat Governor Edward Herschler (D), he was retained by the voters in 1982 and every 6 years thereafter until his retirement in 2000. Judge O'Brien is not just a distinguished jurist. He is the kind of civic leader we like in my part of the country. He has been an active in local civic and philanthropic affairs, having served on the Wyoming Community College Commission, the Campbell County Corrections Board, the Board of Directors of the United Way of Campbell County, and the Board of Directors of the Campbell County Health Care Foundation.

This nominee is just one of the several excellent jurists nominated by

President Bush, and I am pleased that we have confirmed him today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Terrence L. O'Brien, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit? The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) is necessarily absent.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 68 Ex.]

YEAS—98

Akaka	Dorgan	Lott
Allard	Durbin	Lugar
Allen	Edwards	McCain
Baucus	Ensign	McConnell
Bayh	Enzi	Mikulski
Bennett	Feingold	Miller
Biden	Feinstein	Murkowski
Bingaman	Fitzgerald	Murray
Bond	Frist	Nelson (FL)
Boxer	Graham	Nelson (NE)
Breaux	Gramm	Nickles
Brownback	Grassley	Reed
Bunning	Gregg	Reid
Burns	Hagel	Roberts
Byrd	Harkin	Rockefeller
Campbell	Hatch	Santorum
Cantwell	Helms	Sarbanes
Carnahan	Hollings	Schumer
Carper	Hutchinson	Shelby
Chafee	Hutchison	Smith (NH)
Cleland	Inhofe	Smith (OR)
Clinton	Inouye	Snowe
Cochran	Jeffords	Specter
Collins	Johnson	Stabenow
Conrad	Kennedy	Stevens
Corzine	Kerry	Thomas
Craig	Kohl	Thompson
Crapo	Kyl	Thurmond
Daschle	Landrieu	Voinovich
Dayton	Leahy	Warner
DeWine	Levin	Wellstone
Dodd	Lieberman	Wyden
Domenici	Lincoln	

NOT VOTING—2

Sessions Torricelli

The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, today is a very proud day for the State of Wyoming and Terrence L. O'Brien. Just a moment ago, the full Senate confirmed Mr. O'Brien for Wyoming's vacant seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit by a vote of 98-0.

As Wyoming's senior Senator, the responsibility of forwarding judicial nominees to the President is a job that I take very seriously. I am honored to have had the opportunity to assist in the filling of Wyoming's seat on the court. In May of 2001, Wyoming's previous judge on the Tenth Circuit, Wade Brorby, announced his move to senior status.

Following that announcement, I quickly formed a selection committee in my home State to review qualified candidates. After an extensive process, the selection committee presented me with three candidates all with exceptional backgrounds to serve on the Tenth Circuit. Terrence O'Brien was

one of the three candidates I forwarded to President Bush.

On August 3, 2001, President Bush formally nominated Terrence O'Brien to the Tenth Circuit and the President's decision reaffirmed what I believed all along—that Judge O'Brien is an outstanding selection to fill Wyoming's seat on the court.

For 20 years, 1980–2000, Mr. O'Brien served with distinction as a State district court judge in Wyoming. During his tenure he earned tremendous respect from those who argued cases before him. I cannot imagine a finer individual who will join other notable Wyoming jurists on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, including; Wade Brorby, James E. Barrett, John Jay Hickey, and John C. Pickett, who by the way, was Wyoming's first judge to sit on the Court.

I also want to thank Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman LEAHY and fellow ranking Republican Senator HATCH for their work in reporting Mr. O'Brien's nomination. While our Federal judiciary current has 95 vacancies, today's confirmation of Terrence O'Brien is a step in the right direction. I look forward to the Senate's consideration of other article III U.S. Circuit and U.S. District Court judges.

If the mark that Terrence O'Brien left in Wyoming as a district court judge is any indication of his resolve and sharp judgment—our Nation can expect great things from a man who's appreciation and respect for the rule of law are without question. Without reservation, I know that Mr. O'Brien will serve with honor and distinction on the Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is laid upon the table, and the President shall be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate shall return to legislative session.

(Ms. STABENOW assumed the chair.)

Under the previous order, the Senator from Alaska is recognized.

THE ALASKA NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

Mr. STEVENS. Madam President, before the distinguished visitor entered the Chamber, and before the vote and the statements were made by the Senators from Wyoming concerning their nominee, I was discussing problems in relation to the Alaska natural gas pipeline.

I think it is something on which the Senate ought to concentrate because we are clearly going to have to have a gas pipeline to bring to market the gas which was reinjected into the ground as Prudhoe Bay oil was produced. To bring that to market—50 to 70 trillion cubic feet of gas—we need a pipeline 3,000 miles long, gathering pipelines up to 1,500 miles long.

We are now in the position where there are only two steel mills in the world that are capable of delivering this steel pipe as it is designed.

Before the vote, I outlined the number of jobs that we have lost in the steel industry and the situation with the American steel industry. For this gas pipeline, we need 5.2 million tons of steel. We need \$3 to \$5 billion in steel orders. We cannot get that steel unless the U.S. steel industry gets back on its feet.

So for that reason, I started to think about how we could use some of the cashflow from the development of ANWR to start the process of the gas pipeline. As we examined that, we found the problem was not the steel industry as much as it was the rights of those who have been employed by the steel industry to have their medical care maintained. And that promise was a benefit that was agreed to many years ago for the contribution these workers had made to the military and civilian infrastructure of the country. It is, as I understand it, a potential lien against the steel industry as a whole.

We need to find some way to prevent these retirees from losing their health care coverage so that it will not be a lien against the assets of the steel industry as it tries to undergo consolidation now. The consolidation must be done if we are going to have the steel necessary to build the Alaska pipeline to bring our gas down to somewhere in the Midwest.

I was commencing to tell the Senate about two messages that I received today from a great friend whom I think is one of the most capable engineers in the oil and gas industry, particularly with regard to the pipelines and their design.

As I said, he told me there are only two steel mills in the world that are currently capable of delivering this pipe. He further told me that the pipe will require one-half of the world's capability to produce the pipe during the period of this order.

If the producers restart their work on this project this year, it would take until 2010 or 2011 for the gas to actually be delivered to our Midwest—9 years from now.

There is over 18 months of work required to complete the design so that it would be possible to order the pipe. For orders placed in 2003, the last pipe materials would be delivered to the field in 2007. That would enable the gas, if everything else goes well, to start being delivered in 2010, as I said.

Now, we have linked these issues together because of both the funding standpoint and the impact on national security and because of our absolute need for steel to build our gas pipeline.

Opening up the North Slope of Alaska to the drilling in what we call the 1002 area will bring a cash bid in 2003 and 2005. We propose to make some of that money available to initiate the process of rebuilding the industry and

taking the first steps to assure that the legacy fund of the steelworkers and the coal workers would be made whole.

Madam President, many people have argued with me about this. The House bill put money into the conservation account. An interesting thing about it is, if the amendment we have is defeated, the oil industry will not proceed, the steel industry will not proceed, the natural gas pipeline will not proceed, but not one of these radical environmentalists will lose their health care coverage. The American steel retirees are going to be the ones who pay the price in the long run.

I received a second message from my friend just before I came back to the Chamber, and that is that 30 percent of the pipeline materials will need to be delivered to the site by 2005, with the remainder to be delivered in 2007, as I said. I did not realize the steel chemistry for pipelines of this size has never been used. It will be what we call an X80-plus steel pipeline.

If the project proceeds in the first year, some of the pipe material needed to be manufactured will need to be tested for weldability and for fracture and burst analysis to assure the material chemistry in the pipe is correct. The timing and cost of all of this is critical to the pipeline project.

In addition to the pipeline pipe, there is a huge amount of normal steel materials required for compressor stations and the largest processing plant ever to be built.

The Alaska natural gas pipeline should be called the "Full Employment Project for 10 Years," maybe 15 years. It will require every person who is capable of working on such an endeavor in the United States and Canada for a period of over 8 years. It will not be built unless we realize the preliminaries must be completed before this pipeline can be built. It will bring down to what we call the South 48 the equivalent of a million barrels of oil a day, but it will be natural gas—high pressure gas pipeline, 52 inches in diameter, 1-inch thick.

I find it very interesting that as I talk about this subject, the commentators in the newspapers and whatnot say this is just a lot of baloney. These people are trying to link two subjects together. These are two subjects that have no individual answer. At the present time, we don't have 60 votes on the amendment to allow the drilling to commence in the 1002 area. We know that.

But the steelworkers and coal miners have no other cashflow either. They can't look for another source of money to meet their needs for at least 30 years. There are over 600,000 of them, and our proposal would start a cashflow from this new oil brought into our market. And it is money that is payable for the bidding process and from royalties on this oil that would help the steelworkers, the coal workers, and the industry to reconstruct itself.