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would be known as a North American, or continental, energy policy. One Senator said that its objectives would be to permit continental planning, to reduce transmission costs, and to rationalize supplies. On the surface that sounds good, but it really represents another attempt by the United States to obtain unlimited access to Canada's natural resources and to further its unspoken policy of treating Canada as a resource colony, or a milk cow, for the United States.

It may seem attractive to Canadian energy producers who are anxious to increase their sales and are hungry for new markets, but in the long run any merging of the Canadian and U.S. energy markets would only result in the United States swallowing our precious non-renewable resources such as natural gas which is now at bargain basement prices, while leaving Canada high and dry to pay higher prices in the future.

The Government of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) has already taken Canada down the road to losing our independence. We must not do it in an energy policy. Energy is a key area, and we should not have a continental energy policy.

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[Translation]

AGRICULTURE**DAIRY INDUSTRY—GOVERNMENT POLICY**

Mr. Gilles Bernier (Beauce): Mr. Speaker, this morning, 32 Conservative Members from Quebec were able to meet with the Executive of the Fédération des producteurs de lait du Québec.

The federation submitted its views to us in a very comprehensive brief on the long-term dairy policy. Personally, I can assure producers that the brief will not be set aside and forgotten, since it contains a number of constructive recommendations. In our election platform, we in the Progressive Conservative Party promised to put in place, with the co-operation of the sector concerned, a long-term dairy policy that would consider the needs of our Quebec producers.

The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) has set up a committee that will be reporting soon, and I may add that there is constant consultation going on between the Department, the organizations concerned and Quebec Conservative Members with respect to the needs of our farmers. Dairy producers and all farm producers in Quebec can rest assured that the Member for Beauce (Mr. Bernier) and his Quebec colleagues promise to listen to what they have to say and to support them at all times. We are visible, we are available and we are accessible. We consult a great before making decisions. Quebec farmers may be sure that we will support their cause, provided their demands are fair, equitable and above all reasonable.

[English]

HARBOURS AND PORTS**SIZE OF SMALL CRAFT HARBOURS BUDGET**

Mr. George Henderson (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, small craft harbours all across the country are in a sad state of disrepair, and fishermen know that things are going to get a lot worse under this Government. This year's budget forecast is \$60 million, or less than a third of what it was last year and what it should be. The Government is allotting a paltry sum to Canadian fishermen. My hon. colleague, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Fraser), knows that the money in the small craft harbours budget is totally insufficient to honour the Department's mandate to maintain and upgrade small craft harbours.

When I toured fishing ports in my riding of Egmont this summer, I saw holes in the docks, holes big enough for a grown man to fall through. Those wharves are dangerous places to work. In my riding alone \$3 million is needed to fix the wharves to make them safe. That is not an exaggerated figure; it is the Department's own estimate. The breakwaters need work, the docks need repair, and the harbours need dredging. The list goes on and on.

Everyone in the industry knows that the major problem with small craft harbours is underfunding. The budget should be tripled. It should be at least \$160 million per year if the Government intends to honour its promise to maintain those harbours. It is time for the Minister to fight with his Treasury Board colleagues for more money for small craft harbours before fishermen lose their lives because of unsafe working conditions.

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[Translation]

NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY**CONSTRUCTION OF ICE-BREAKER—ASPIRATIONS OF LÉVIS
CITIZENS**

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of State for External Affairs announced yesterday in the House a Government strategy concerning Canada's sovereignty in Arctic waters. Canada has for many years considered the continent and the Arctic archipelago as an integral part of its territory.

Mr. Speaker, as the Member for Lévis, I am the proudest citizen in my riding and in Canada, because yesterday's statement by the Secretary of State has demonstrated the continuing significance of the official act of possession of Arctic lands and waters by Captain Joseph Elzéar Bernier, a citizen of Lévis. Captain Bernier took possession of this territory on behalf of the Government of Canada on July 1, 1909.

In so doing, Captain Joseph Elzéar Bernier added 500,000 square miles to Canada's territory. In 1909, Captain Bernier's ship had left Lévis to conquer the vast territories of the Arctic.