

[English]

INDUSTRY**CHEMICALS—INQUIRY AS TO REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON PROBLEMS**

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia-Lambton): I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce in connection with the chemical industry and the fact that they would employ many of these graduate students. Has the minister's department heard yet from the joint government-industry committee which was set up to study the problems being faced by the chemical industry? Has that committee made a report to the government yet?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Again I respectfully suggest to the hon. member that the supplementary is not related to the original question. The question will be allowed, but the Chair will recognize the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands on a different subject immediately thereafter.

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, that study is very well known in my department because my department is taking part in it. The report on the necessity of having more foreign markets in order to build a viable base in Canada, has not yet reached me. I am waiting for it.

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ENERGY**PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE—AVAILABILITY OF BASIC INFORMATION TO PUBLIC**

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources arising out of his speech in Vancouver to the Canadian Pipeline Constructors Association in which he called for a great public debate on the question of a northern pipeline on the ground that an informed public was needed in order to advise the government so that the latter could produce sound and lasting decisions. In view of the fact that public participation in such a dialogue requires certain basic information to be furnished, can the minister tell us when we may expect, first, the white paper on energy resources, second, the ecological studies of the effects of a pipeline in the Arctic and, third, a report on the economic impact of a project of this magnitude?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I am not sure what the hon. member has in mind when he refers to a white paper. No such paper is contemplated at the present time. With regard to the many studies which are being made in connection with the economics and the ecological safety of a pipeline through the Mackenzie Valley, both I and, I believe, some of the organizations in the private sector which are undertaking such research, have disclosed at considerable length what is going on. Whether the scientific papers will be disclosed or whether they will be left for use

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should an application be made has not yet been decided, but certainly the nature and extent of these studies has been disclosed by me here in the House, at Vancouver and other speeches and also by the pipeline researchers themselves.

CANADIAN COMMUNICATIONS CORRIDOR FROM ALASKA TO UNITED STATES

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): In view of the fact that the report of the minister's speech indicates that he spoke of a Canadian corridor from Prudhoe Bay to the United States border through which would run oil and gas pipelines, a highway and a railway, I want to ask whether the government has any plans for constructing a highway and a railway through the Arctic or whether this reference was merely a manifestation of the minister's exuberance?

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I do not believe the speech itself dealt with the specifics of what would be in the corridor but reference was made to one of the guidelines issued by the government in August in anticipation of the pipeline question and after two years of research. This indicated there would not be pipelines or roads or rails all over the north but that there would be a single corridor concept through which all the various avenues of communications would be directed.

Mr. Douglas: In view of the statement by Mr. Edward Patton, President of Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, when he was appearing before a legislative committee in Alaska, to the effect that the Alyeska Company was not interested in building a pipeline through Canada, may I ask the minister whether there is any group presently evincing an interest in the construction of such a pipeline or whether the debate which is contemplated is going to be about a pipe-dream rather than about a pipeline?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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[Translation]

THE CENSUS**INQUIRY RESPECTING APPOINTMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS**

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Could the minister say what procedure was followed by his department for the appointment of census commissioners, a list of which he has just tabled in the House, since for the constituency of Shefford, for instance, I note that all six commissioners are officials of the Liberal party organization in Shefford?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the answer is very easy. I simply followed the procedure described in section 5(1) of the Statistics Act. At one time, I did consider consulting my hon. friend to ask him for names but as I know, first