

*Supply—Indian Affairs*

addition, the department added two temporary classrooms and four sets of new living quarters. I understand that the power supply was inadequate for the new construction and somehow or other there was no co-ordination to provide a hook-up between the government-owned buildings and the Indian housing. I hope that by the time Christmas rolls round the Indian houses and the new classrooms as well as other new homes will have electrical services.

I should like to talk about economic development. The minister has talked about resource development, and we have heard him make many speeches about this with which I agree. The future of Canada and of the north rests in the resources to be found in the north. We believe they are there. We see on North Baffin Island the Mary River project which is an attempt to exploit hundreds of millions of tons of high grade iron ore. There are difficulties in mining the ore and bringing it to market, but we see the example set by the members of the community at Pine Point.

We know there is the possibility that oil exists. Finds such as the Rainbow field may extend throughout the Northwest Territories. We know of major mineral deposits. There is a development fund which is intended to encourage resource development, possibly on a smaller scale, in the territories. We must not forget, nevertheless, that people are still living in the north who will not participate in this resource development. I am referring to the development of other economic ventures and specifically to arts and crafts.

We have communities engaged in arts and crafts at Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet. Regrettably, difficulties have arisen. It is almost impossible to find people to go into the arts and crafts business which has been developed at Baker Lake. This program received tremendous press coverage outside the territories but because no one was able to carry on the project it failed, the result being that the drop-off affected the economy of the area. At Rankin Inlet, because of disagreement between two or three people involved in the promotion of a certain type of handicraft, the articles made could not be brought to market. There is a ceramics project at Rankin. One year ago it appeared that the industry would do excellently by selling in southern Canada, but nothing has happened so far.

I wish to draw attention also to the development of service industries in northern communities. Those of us who were on the northern affairs committee met some of the people

involved in the delivery of water and the provision of sewer services under private contract at Frobisher Bay. We also met the members of Inook Limited, an Eskimo company at Frobisher Bay engaged in janitorial services in the community. While on the subject we must not forget the programs having to do with fishing and the development of like resources at Hay River and Fort Resolution. The problems existing have to do with the fish packing plants and conditions in those plants. Another thing to be looked at is the co-operative development by those fishermen who are fishing in Great Slave lake. We must see to it that they receive an adequate return for their work.

I want to refer to the welfare services throughout the Northwest Territories. Welfare is primarily a territorial responsibility. Because of the peculiar nature of the divided responsibility in the territories, Indians and Eskimos are the responsibility of the federal government at this time. There have been suggestions that as many functions as possible of the federal government which are territorial in nature be taken over by the territorial government. Welfare services in the past have suffered because of there being three or four programs, one for Indians, another for Eskimos, another for territorial residents and another still for residents of certain municipalities.

There is co-ordination now between the various services but I believe there is a lack of trained local people participating in welfare services. Let me tell the minister a little story about a small community called Igloolik situated in the Foxe basin about 75 miles north of a main D.E.W. line site. The only way to get there in the summer is by boat, and if you hit it at this time of the year it gets a little cold. The Eskimo council spoke to me this year and they said that they want to see the administration of welfare become the responsibility of the people themselves, and that they would form a committee to decide which persons would be eligible in their opinion for welfare assistance. I draw this to the attention of the minister, despite the fact that I know that professional social workers may think what is happening there is heresy. Perhaps times are changing.

I ask the minister, in spite of his many problems concerning parks, conservation, wildlife and Indian affairs, to come to the north. We want to see more of him. Let him take a trip by himself or with a few other