

Now, this part of Canada is all right; we know about it and we have surveys going on with regard to the movement of ice. I do not think we are informed enough about the possibility of winter navigation past Montreal and up the Great Lakes. I will get more information for you from the geographical branch, and I will let you know the exact state of research in that area.

Mr. ANDRAS: Perhaps you could add to that your knowledge of any other type of research which is going on in the field anywhere in the world. I would like to be as fully informed as possible.

Mr. DROLET: Well, there is a great deal of research done in other parts of the world; as a matter of fact, in Scandinavian countries, and we are well aware of that. The data which these people are compiling have been used by us for northern transportation for all our ships going up north along the Labrador coast. There are a lot of reports published on this matter. As a matter of fact, it is not a research project any more; it is an operation, and we know the movement of ice. The problem was to know the approximate movement of these big ice flows, and also be able to predict those, and we can do this now.

Mr. ANDRAS: Of course, it would be much different in the Great Lakes.

Mr. DROLET: That is right, because of the closed water.

Mr. ANDRAS: I will pass. If you can give me some of this information as soon as possible, I would appreciate it.

The CHAIRMAN: I would like to make a comment at this point regarding the direction of ice flows. If there is anything you can do to direct them further away from Newfoundland it will be greatly appreciated.

Mr. ANDRAS: So long as you do not direct them to the Lakehead or in that direction.

Mr. DROLET: They were pushed towards that area of Labrador because you were not part of Canada.

The CHAIRMAN: We might try and get some extra compensation from the federal government. Mr. Aiken, you indicated that you had some questions?

Mr. AIKEN: Mr. Chairman, I am very happy to see the minister here. I wonder if I could ask him a couple of questions with relation to the conference on pollution.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Well, I may just say at this point, Mr. Aiken, that I am sure the minister will be very anxious to answer these questions. However, with regard to the normal conduct of our business, I believe it was agreed that we would proceed by a vote to vote study. I am just pointing this out to the committee as a suggestion, that perhaps it might be advisable for us to conclude our vote by vote consideration before asking the minister questions. I realize the specific question which you are asking about does deal specifically with the votes that we are dealing with now.

Mr. AIKEN: Mr. Chairman, may I explain that I had intended to ask these questions of the departmental officials, but I was in some doubt as to whether they might feel that they ought to answer them. I could direct them to the