

national program if there were some consolidation in these departments so that people would know who they were dealing with, et cetera, et cetera?

Mr. PATTERSON: Yes, I think that is a fact, and I think federally the government has taken steps in the bill which the House has just recently passed to achieve some of this consolidation.

Mr. McCUTCHEON: I would like to thank you very much for your answers, and I trust I have not held the committee up too long, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your questions, Mr. McCutcheon. We will move on now to Mr. Andras, I believe.

Mr. ANDRAS: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, this is departing almost entirely from pollution: Is your department conducting any research in the control of ice, for instance? I know this crosses into the area of transport too. However, with water research for the Great Lakes as an objective, for instance, to keep the Lakehead ports open year round, is there any significant research which you are doing?

Mr. J. P. DROLET (*Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys*): There is some work done in our geographical branch, and they made quite an extensive survey in the St. Lawrence Gulf. I know the marine science division is also involved in that. Mr. Gray, do you have any information on this?

Mr. N. G. GRAY (*Dominion Hydrographer, Canadian Hydrographic Service, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys*): I can only add to what Mr. Drolet has stated just now, that research on ice is carried on under the geographical branch of the department.

Mr. ANDRAS: Are there any encouraging developments that you hope will eventually lead to such a thing as being able to keep Great Lakes ports open the year round?

Mr. GRAY: I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, that I do not have this information to the extent that work has been done in the lakes on this.

Mr. ANDRAS: There is some work being done though; there is some research being done?

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps at this time they could not give you the extensive answer which you might require. However, I think Mr. Pack has indicated that this information could be available in the future.

Mr. ANDRAS: Well, I would be most appreciative if that could be answered more fully.

Mr. DROLET: I can give you a partial answer on the St. Lawrence Gulf, not on the Great Lakes.

Ice surveys are made by the geographical branch in conjunction also with the Department of Transport. For instance, the Department of Transport has helicopters located at various spots along the St. Lawrence River and the St. Lawrence Gulf, as you have noticed, shipping is done the year round now from most of the ports along the St. Lawrence. Iron ore from the north shore goes to Europe or around the Gaspé Peninsula to the various ports of the United States.