

*Inquiries of the Ministry***NATURAL GAS**STATEMENT AS TO TABLING OF AGREEMENT
PROPOSED LINE THROUGH U.S.

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): I would like to correct information I gave the house yesterday about the agreement between Trans-Canada Pipe Lines and myself on the great lakes gas pipe line. I said yesterday that I would table that agreement on Friday. I should have said Friday, October 28, at the latest. I will then make on motions a statement which will give all those who might want to express their views the opportunity to do so.

[English]

FISHERIESFRASER RIVER—RECONSIDERATION OF DE-
CISION RESPECTING CLOSURE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Fisheries. In view of the economic hardship imposed on Fraser valley gill net fishermen, would the minister reconsider the decision resulting in the closure of the Fraser river for the balance of the season?

Hon. H. J. Robichaud (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows, the salmon season in British Columbia this year has been excellent, one of the best, if not the best, in decades. However, there is need for conservation, particularly in the case of certain runs of salmon frequenting the Fraser river. I expect to be on the west coast this week end and I will discuss this matter with our area director there.

[Translation]

LABOUR RELATIONS

FREEDOM TO JOIN UNION OF CHOICE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Gilles Grégoire (Lapointe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to address a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Could he tell us whether he will see to it that employees hired through his department will have freedom of choice concerning union affiliation, contrary to what happened in the case of the employees of the Angus Company, in Montreal, who wished to join the CNTU?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, no legislation on labour relations nor any provision of the Criminal Code come under my jurisdiction.

[Mr. Lachance.]

[English]

FARM MACHINERYREPORTED INTENTION OF MANUFACTURERS
TO INCREASE PRICES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. C. S. Smallwood (Battle River-Camrose): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture. I have it on good authority that the machinery companies are planning a substantial increase in the price of machinery by the spring, one which the farmers cannot afford. Would the minister, on behalf of Canadian farmers, confer with these companies and try to persuade them to hold the line for the time being?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member has made his plea to the minister. He also mentioned that the increase he fears is not due to happen until next spring and it would appear therefore that his question is properly one for the order paper.

Mr. Smallwood: It will be too late.

NORTHERN AFFAIRSTUKTOYAKTUK, N.W.T.—REQUEST FOR
TELEPHONE SERVICE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport. Can the minister indicate when the community of Tuktoyaktuk will have telephone communication with Inuvik and the south following the completion of the telecommunication facilities last summer?

Mr. Speaker: I would suspect that the community to which the hon. member has referred has been deprived of telephone communication for some time. Perhaps the question is not urgent and should be placed on the order paper.

Mr. Dinsdale: The urgency arises from the fact that the network to the MacKenzie delta is now being completed. I believe the minister wishes to reply. This is a very important matter.

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, as a matter of fact, I did participate, along with the Prime Minister and a lot of other eminent people—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Pickersgill: I am trying to cover up the confusion of the senior member for Halifax. I did take part in the opening of the service for Inuvik. I shall have to make inquiries about