Oral Questions

many parts of the province of New Brunswick and quantities of fish up to 1,000 pounds have been taken by poachers or merchants who had no business having salmon in their possession at all. Would the minister provide additional surveillance to prevent netting, poaching and merchandising of fish in an illegal way?

Mr. LeBlanc (Westmorland-Kent): Mr. Speaker, if I were to listen to the representations of some of the interests in the area of the sports fishery, I would only concentrate on their particular problems. I am not at all associating the hon. member with this sort of claim because I know he has many commercial fishermen in his riding and he defends their interests too, but the reality is that we will never be able to meet the expectation of the sports fishery lobby. I use that word advisedly because in many cases, by being such a vociferous lobby, they have turned a lot of people against the very aims that they are trying to attain.

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FINANCE

SUGGESTION RESULTS OF AID PROGRAMS SHOULD BE LESS COMPETITION FOR CANADA

Mr. S. Victor Railton (Welland): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance but first may I thank the hon. member for Nickel Belt for looking after Port Colborne so assiduously.

Mr. Rodriguez: Thank you.

Mr. Railton: I am quite certain that the cabinet is looking after the INCO situation quite well. My question concerns Atlas Steels in Welland, which objects to Canadian government funds providing a stainless steel mill in Cuba with a capacity of 50,000 tons when the domestic demand there is only 4,000 tons annually and a new Cuban mill would add to the already serious selling difficulties of stainless steel in Canada. They would like to know whether such assistance programs could be made less immediately competitive to Canadian industry.

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this question was raised on several occasions this week. Are we really working against the interests of Canadian industry when we are helping other countries? I do not think so, Mr. Speaker, because without the use of Canadian technology we would not be selling our products to build these facilities which otherwise would be built by German, French or British technicians and the profits would go to other countries. That is why I think it is a good thing for us to export our technology. This may sometimes bring competition, but international growth should normally serve Canadian national growth.

[Mr. McCain.]

[English]

ENERGY

POSSIBLE RELEASE OF FOOTHILLS FROM COMMITMENT TO BUY ALL PIPE IN CANADA—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and it arises out of the answer which the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce gave yesterday to the hon. member for Hamilton West regarding the purchase of steel for the proposed Alcan pipeline. At that time the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce stated that the policy of the National Energy Board would be to permit Canadians to have the opportunity of competing for this steel pipe and that they would be given every preference.

In view of the fact that Foothills (Yukon), in their background paper issued in July after the National Energy Board report had been published stated, and I quote, "Line pipe represents the greatest single expenditure by any of the applicants. Foothills (Yukon) proposes to purchase all its pipe in Canada", and in view of the fact that this was one of the factors that favoured Alcan as against Arctic Gas, which proposed to buy 30 per cent of its requirements from foreign suppliers, I want to ask the minister whether or not the government proposes to release Foothills (Yukon) from its commitment to buy all its pipe in Canada?

• (1202)

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce put it very well yesterday when he said that preference would be given to Canadian suppliers. Indeed, we have every reason to expect that the bulk, if not 100 per cent, of the pipe will be supplied by Canadian companies.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): That is nonsense.

Mr. Gillespie: Also I should like to point out that it might not be in the interests of Canadians if we were to create the impression that Canadian suppliers can supply that pipe regardless of the price.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): That is not what he said. You are misleading the House.

An hon. Member: Read it again, Walter.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): I have no intention of doing that.

Mr. Gillespie: It is important for Canadian suppliers to keep themselves competitive. They should sharpen their pencils when they are bidding on this great project.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the National Energy Board and