

use of detergents which would be rather hard to reverse. I think it would be rather difficult to sell the steaming washtub and the scrub board back to the housewife.

Mr. HALES: Let us put the question this way, then. Is there not a detergent in the United States called Basic H—I think this is its trade name—which has a base that is not of the same chemical composition which is harmful, and could replace the harmful ones? Have we made any progress in this regard?

Mr. PRINCE: I am not familiar with this particular Basic H compound, at least the material that is referred to. There has been quite a lot of work done on the question of mild degradable soaps in detergents which is the question of the frothing problem. Whether they have actually substituted another sort of base in the sodium tripolyphosphate compound which is the common one used in detergents, I do not know. I would rather hope that they might have.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, excuse me. I think we got a little far afield there on a supplementary question. The procedure we have tried to adopt on the supplementary questions is that they be of a specific nature and related directly to the questions being asked. So perhaps Mr. Hales will permit Mr. McCutcheon to continue, and I have one or two other men. I will put your name on the list to pursue this matter.

Mr. HALES: I will abide by your ruling, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. McCUTCHEON: Now, we are dealing with three votes and I trust I will still be in order. This is supplementary to the questions which were asked of Mr. Patterson two weeks ago about the Harricanaw project in the north, and just for a moment I would like to know what is being done up there currently.

Mr. T. M. PATTERSON (*Director, Water Resources Branch, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys*): On the Harricanaw?

Mr. McCUTCHEON: Yes. Are these people up there working, or what is going on?

Mr. Patterson: Not on the Harricanaw.

Mr. McCUTCHEON: Do you have any up in that country, in the James Bay area?

Mr. PATTERSON: We have work going on in the northern slopes of Ontario.

Mr. McCUTCHEON: Well, referring back to Harricanaw—and this is just purely for my information—who would decide eventually on the feasibility of a project such as that?

Mr. PATTERSON: Well, the feasibility could only be decided after a very extensive study. This would involve a great deal of field work and a great deal of office work.

Mr. McCUTCHEON: And who would be the body charged with the final decision as to feasibility? Who would make recommendations pro or con?

Mr. PATTERSON: I would suggest that that would depend on the way it was set up. If the government created a board to study that through one of the existing departments, and if it did I would assume it would be the Department