

*Inquiries of the Ministry***ENERGY****PROPOSED GAS PIPELINES FROM ARCTIC TO HAMILTON AND MONTREAL—ABILITY OF INDUSTRY TO SUPPLY PIPE**

Mr. Rod Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. In view of the new gas strike in the Arctic and in view of the suggestion regarding pipeline routes to Hamilton and Montreal, would the minister say if studies are being made to determine whether Canada's pipeline manufacturing capacity will be adequate to supply pipe for any such lines?

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I could not answer that question on the spur of the moment. I will look into it and try to provide an analysis.

PROPOSED GAS PIPELINES FROM ARCTIC TO HAMILTON AND MONTREAL—GOVERNMENT ROLE IN RECONNAISSANCE AND ECOLOGICAL STUDIES

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Can he say briefly in what manner his department is involved in the reconnaissance study that is being carried out, what efforts will be made to undertake ecological studies and what other involvement there will be?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I should point out to the hon. member that it is Panarctic that is involved in this matter and it falls under the responsibility of my colleague, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, who also has responsibility north of the 60th degree of latitude for the area over which the pipeline would pass. I suggest that the hon. member might direct this question to the minister when he returns to the House next week.

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FISHERIES**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON RESULTS OF ICNAF MEETING**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Fisheries. As the annual meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries is to conclude today, is the minister able to tell the House what success Canada has had in getting its position adopted? If not, can the minister tell the House when he will make a statement on the outcome of the conference?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, we have had considerable success in Washington. We have managed to get the principle of sustained yield management endorsed by all 15 nations. Quotas are being established. Canada's special coastal state position will also be recognized. The details will be announced this afternoon,

[Mr. Pepin.]

I expect, in Washington at the conclusion of the annual meeting of ICNAF.

Mr. McGrath: Can the minister say what happened to our proposal to ban salmon fishing on the high seas?

Mr. Davis: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, we were unable to obtain the necessary 10 votes out of 15. We will, of course, continue to press for our policy involving a total ban on the high seas fishing for salmon.

POSSIBILITY OF LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE IN 1973 AND RESOLUTION OF DIFFICULTY RESPECTING ATLANTIC SALMON

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the minister. Since persistent, deep differences among some 91 nations preparing for a 1973 Conference on the Law of the Sea to rewrite imprecise and outmoded laws has threatened to delay action that is urgently needed to prevent serious international conflict over the uses of the ocean and the ocean floor, has any indication emanated from the recent conference, or from any discussion in which the minister may have taken part, that there will be a Conference on the Law of the Sea in 1973 to help to resolve these difficulties and, hopefully, to encourage the Danes to realize that conservation measures must be adopted to preserve our Atlantic salmon?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, the Law of the Sea Conference is still scheduled to be held in 1973. I hope it will be held next year. In preparation for this conference we are hosting an international conference of all those nations interested in conserving the living resources of the sea in Vancouver next February to help reinforce Canada's position by explaining it to other fishing nations which we hope adopt our policy for the Law of the Sea conference itself.

REQUEST THAT BAN ON ATLANTIC SALMON FISHERY BE REMOVED IN LIGHT OF INABILITY TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT WITH DENMARK

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of our inability to achieve a ban on salmon fishing on the high seas, is the minister now prepared to end what amounts to discrimination against Canadian commercial salmon fishermen and permit them to catch salmon until the Danes are prepared to cease catching salmon on the high seas?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): No, Mr. Speaker. I think that would be suicidal so far as the large salmon are concerned. We are offering our fishermen a formula, which most have already accepted, under which they will enjoy an income equivalent to that of their three best years in the 60's. Remember also that they will not have the expenses of going out to fish.