

MINES AND MINING

INDUSTRY'S CONTRIBUTION TO COUNTRY'S ECONOMY

Hon. Bob Layton (Lachine): Mr. Speaker, our resource industries in Canada have been under fire and pressure for several years. It is often stated that they cannot be depended on for our economic development in the future. However, Canada leads the world in the production of many minerals and the technology to mine them safely.

Mining and processing contributed over \$15 billion to our GNP, nearly 80 per cent in foreign exchange last year, and all this in spite of extreme international competition and uncertainties in the markets.

The Mining Association of Canada, representing over 70 companies and 110,000 workers, expressed optimism in its annual review recently published.

Canada will retain its position among the world's largest and lowest cost producers. Growth will be fuelled by new discoveries and new mine developments. We will continue to enjoy the reputation as a stable source of supply, which our foreign markets demand.

The Mining Association of Canada is encouraging better coordination and more co-operation among educational institutions, governments, and industry to reach this goal. Such efforts will brighten the future of our mineral industry, of the people who work in it, and all Canadians. Our Government is committed to sharing in this effort.

HEALTH

AIDS DISEASE—SUPPORT URGED FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, AIDS is the most serious health problem facing the country, and the two-pronged approach to eliminating it must include education as well as research. That is why I was so shocked earlier this week when the Premier of British Columbia stated that he felt the best approach was abstinence, and proceeded to suggest that contraceptive education be taken out of the school system.

To his voice was added the voice of the Member for London East (Mr. Jepsen) who suggested that the Ontario Government, in embarking upon a public education program in the schools to prevent this life-threatening disease, was in fact contributing to deviant behaviour.

The Government is sending out mixed messages because this week a public education program on AIDS was announced. That program will only spend \$600,000 this year and \$800,000 next year, at a time when the United Kingdom is spending up to \$50 million for education about AIDS.

I ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Epp) to clarify that his position and that of his Government is

not the position taken by the Member for London East who naively suggests that the Government of Ontario is guilty of contributing to deviant behaviour by asking for public education in the schools to prevent AIDS.

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SOVEREIGNTY

PROTECTION BY PROPOSED POLAR CLASS 8 ICE-BREAKER

Mr. Terry Clifford (London—Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, since the trespassing of our waters in August, 1985, by the American *Polar Sea*, our Government has acted to reclaim our sovereignty.

From the announcement on September 10, 1985, to build a Canadian Arctic class 8 ice-breaker, our Government has acted to provide this sovereignty platform in the Arctic.

Canadians should know that this escort type multi-mission vessel is no ordinary ship. The design specifications are beyond the Beaufort type design and will ensure its ability to go where no ship has gone before. It will carry out scientific studies, escort missions, emergency and logistical support to our remote communities, and provide surveillance of Arctic shipping.

Clearly this initiative will lead to new Canadian shipbuilding technology and new shipping patterns, and this leadership can only enhance our position with our Arctic neighbours.

The Americans have not abandoned the Arctic. Last fall their Congress approved funds for additional ice-breakers. However, we are not standing by. Our ship, the most powerful ice-breaker in the world, will stand for Canada in the Arctic.

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PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION—EMPLOYMENT OF FORMER LIBERAL CABINET MINISTER

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, the appointment of Judy Erola, the former Liberal Cabinet Minister responsible for setting up the Eastman Commission on Drug Patent Law, as president of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada, is significant new evidence that the Liberal Party and Liberal caucus are only half-hearted in their opposition to the Tory drug patent changes, acting in response to New Democratic Party leader-ship on this issue rather than out of any real conviction.

When a prominent and currently active Liberal like Judy Erola signs up to speak for the very people who oppose the position her Party is taking in the House of Commons, it does not take a genius to figure out that the Liberal stance on this