

believe, however, that the recommendations that will be made by the special inquiry will fall within the present mandate of the Correctional Service of Canada.

REQUEST FOR RELOCATION OF MATSQUI INSTITUTION

Mr. Alex Patterson (Fraser Valley East): Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question. In view of the fact that the municipal councils of Abbotsford and Matsqui have unanimously voted to request that the Matsqui institution be moved out of the area and have indicated this by a telegram to the minister that is still awaiting a reply, can the minister advise the House if he will give careful and serious consideration to this particular request made by the councils of those two communities?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General): Madam Speaker, I am not prepared to consider moving those institutions. Wherever they are moved to, they remain, and the problems associated with them are problems that Canadians have to face up to and with which the Correctional Service has to deal. I do not see how we solve these problems of incarceration simply by moving an institution, at great expense, from one part of our country to another.

The approach I should like to take is to reduce, as much as possible, the risks to the surrounding community. I do not think that is achieved simply by picking up the problem of one community and making it the problem of another community.

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PIPELINES

ALASKA GAS PIPELINE—FINANCING OF PROJECT

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Madam Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. One year ago today—I think it was on a quiet Friday—I asked the Minister, in fact I warned the minister not to approve the pre-build of the Alaska Gas Pipeline as there were not sufficient iron-clad guarantees in place for the financing of the whole line. Last night, one year later, there appeared the following headline in the *Toronto Star*, "Jittery Bankers Put Alaska Gas Pipeline in Jeopardy". So we are a year down the line and still no further ahead, in spite of the iron-clad guarantees.

What new scheme of iron-clad guarantees does the minister propose to bring forward so that we will have iron-clad assurances and guarantees that will finally get the whole pipeline built from Alaska and that we do not have a permanent pre-build pipeline that just sucks out Canadian gas?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Madam Speaker, the arrangements and assurances that Canada can provide have been provided under the treaty and under the implementation of the pre-build project. A lot of progress has been made in the last few months. The rest of the issue lands in the hands of the United States

Oral Questions

authorities, utilities, and producers concerned. A lot of progress has been made in this regard in the last couple of months. An agreement has been reached between the producers and the utilities in the United States as to the financing project and participation by producers in the project. This plan is being proposed now to the banking community and the financial community. Some requests have been or will be made to Congress to make adjustments to allow producers to participate in the project.

These are very encouraging developments. Obviously the financing of the project is still being debated and discussed. We will see how this evolves. There has been significant progress in the last few months. When the President of the United States was here a few months ago, he reiterated the commitment of the United States administration to completion of the project, which will be of great benefit to Canada.

Mr. Waddell: Madam Speaker, compared to what the minister told us last year, he just does not look credible on this issue at all. Perhaps I shall have to ask him the question a year from now.

NORMAN WELLS—NATIVE COMMUNITY INTERESTS

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver-Kingsway): Let me ask the minister about another matter with respect to his credibility, Madam Speaker. Today he is meeting with representatives of native and northern people with respect to the Norman Wells Pipeline. In the government's bill on oil and gas in the north, Bill C-48, the minister specifically excludes Imperial Oil's \$640 million expansion at Norman Wells. How is he going to tell the native people today that the bill is neutral toward their interests, as he has been telling the committee? What does he propose to tell them that will give them some iron-clad guarantees that there will not be this expansion right over their native land claims?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Madam Speaker, I have already had a meeting with representatives of the aboriginal peoples this morning and we reviewed this issue. As a matter of fact, as the hon. member knows, some of those representatives would like to suspend or avoid the application of Bill C-48 to themselves.

In effect, by amending Bill C-48 and making sure that Norman Wells does not come under it, we are answering, at least in part, some of their concerns, in that the Norman Wells situation would not be affected by Bill C-48. I explained that to them this morning. I said that the amendments that will be introduced to Bill C-48 will make it quite clear that, as far as the Canada Oil and Gas Act is concerned, Bill C-48 does not affect the agreement under which Norman Wells is operating. The people in the Western Arctic can be assured that nothing is changed by Bill C-48, concerning Norman Wells, at the present time.