

other involved people are going on right now. It is not an easy situation with which to deal. I am aware of the hon. member's concern and sympathize with it. Nobody will be happier than I when I am able to find and announce some wise solution to this problem.

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** In view of the statement by the president of CMHC that the arrears on the mortgage are over \$250,000 is the minister discussing this very important matter with those who he has indicated are involved with the intention of issuing a writ of foreclosure or of adopting any other legal means whereby the interests of CMHC can be protected?

**Mr. Andras:** All those kinds of options are being considered.

**Mr. Alexander:** Mr. Speaker, I would ask the minister whether the agencies involved have discounted the issuance of a writ of foreclosure, and is it the policy of the government not to issue a writ of foreclosure?

**Mr. Andras:** No such action has been discounted, nor has any precise decision been made along that line up to the moment.

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#### OIL

##### POSSIBLE MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE—DANGER TO WILDLIFE—PROBLEMS IN LAYING LINE ON PERMAFROST

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. I would ask him whether the fears which have been expressed publicly by officials of the wildlife service about the dangers to the wildlife of the north if oil or gas pipelines are built down the Mackenzie Valley have been communicated, and whether steps have been taken to make available the information which his officials have to the National Energy Board, or to anybody else who will be dealing with this question if an application to build a pipeline is made?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, we are giving this matter very serious consideration and at the present time there exist a couple of public servants committees representing the various departments concerned, such as the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, my own department and others to insure that there will be concerted action and that no mistake will be made in the development of the final policy.

In August, my colleague and myself have outlined the general principles which will prevail in the construction of a pipeline in the Canadian north and we are still studying this problem. There are consultations taking place at all administrative levels in this respect.

[English]

**Mr. Orlikow:** As a supplementary question I would like to ask the minister whether his officials are studying the

#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

problems involved in the laying of a pipeline on permafrost, because my information is that very little research has been done on that problem?

[Translation]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, I do not think that it is exact to say that there was no research. Many people from Canada, the United States as well as Europe came to Inuvik to see the research performed in this field on permafrost, but also on the effect which the construction of a pipeline would have on the movement of wild animals in the north. All those matters are studied by department officials and the House can rest assured that they will provide all relevant information when final guidelines become available.

[English]

##### POSSIBLE MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE—COMPENSATION TO INDIANS

**Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, will the Canadian government be taking the same position with respect to compensation for the lands of the Indian peoples, over which a pipeline will possibly be travelling, as is being taken by the United States government?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, it is not necessary to proceed always according to the methods used by the Americans. In Canada, we can find original formulas and that is one of the problems that concern us. I am sure we will be able to find a solution that will satisfy Indians and Eskimos and will meet the economic needs of Canada.

[English]

**Mr. Nielsen:** Will the minister say whether the Canadian native peoples will be compensated for their lands over which any pipeline travels?

[Translation]

**Mr. Chrétien:** Mr. Speaker, I think it is possible to establish a corridor that would not be detrimental to the native population of the North.

Besides, the famous columnist of Old Crow, Josie Edith, said that at this time most of the people of Old Crow are working for the companies—

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#### AGRICULTURE

##### DAIRYING—MEASURES TO COMPENSATE PRODUCERS FOR LOSSES

**Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Agriculture.

As the price of powdered milk and cheese was increased as of February 8, 1971, and as the powdered milk and cheese in storage at that date were sold at the former price, can he tell us whether the producers will