

Alaska Pipe-dream

The following is an impression which Ferlinghetti wrote yesterday after glancing through the Gazette yesterday morning. It is written in the style which made the Beats as famous as they were infamous.

By LAWRENCE FERLINGHETTI

One fine day like the day after tomorrow while the Canadian Energy Minister was minding his own business by saying the Alaska oil pipeline was really an **internal matter** in the USA and not for Canadians to jump into one fine day in the not very distant future while the Energy Minister was talking he suddenly noticed that one leg of his trousers was wet and hoping it was not what he thought it was he reached down and determined that in fact it was not an internal matter at all but an external matter of oil and yet not pure oil for when he inspected his hand he found it not only oily but bloody and when he rushed to the lab to find out why blood was mixed with oil and whether or not it was **his** blood mixed with **their** oil or **their** blood mixed with **his** oil or whatever he was informed by the Lab hired by the oil company that there was really nothing to worry about at all since the blood would not stop the oil from working perfectly in American war machines and automobiles not to mention the Mayor of Montreal's Ford and in any case the blood was not the Canadian minister's blood and it was not the American people's blood it was simply the blood of one billion waterfowl who had been unable to feed in the tundra which had been disrupted by the perfectly innocent Pipeline and it was simply the blood of one billion fish in Canadian waterways and one billion fish in Canadian seaways who were no longer able to eat the plankton now flavoured with salted oil and it was simply the blood of one billion deer in the Northern Territory and one billion other wild animals in other frozen territories in the Siberia of Canada which had gradually become unfrozen for the first time in recorded time due to the world's largest Oil Spill which had resulted from earthquake pipeline rupturings which caused a great wash of hot underground oil to pour Eastward from Alaska all over the geologic underground strataface of Canada so that the St. Lawrence dripped both oil and animal blood into the water supply of the City of Montreal but this was strictly an Internal American Matter and we were not concerned at all at all