

The passionate opposition refused to initiate any substantial action on behalf of the fishing industry when they were in office.

**Mr. McGrath:** That is not true and the hon. member knows it. He should not continue to mislead the House.

**Mr. Perrault:** They tell us we are not doing well enough.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** I am one of the most broadminded members in the House of Commons and I do not want to restrict—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member should state his point of order.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Quite simply, Mr. Speaker, the motion before the House does not have anything to do with the topic which the hon. member is discussing.

• (4:50 p.m.)

**Mr. Perrault:** If there is one thing that hon. members opposite have yet to learn, it is when to sit down. Let me put some of it on the record.

**Mr. Forrestall:** Some of what?

**Mr. Perrault:** Some of the assistance that has been given to east coast fishermen. The government is fully aware of the need for facilities of the type referred to in the hon. member's motion and has been actively supporting this approach over a period of many years. Despite the many accomplishments of the past it is fully recognized that in many areas, especially the more isolated ones, there is need for facilities that will enable fishermen to sell and obtain income from all the species which they now land and for which a demand exists. That there is a demand is admitted by the department.

Programs already undertaken by the fisheries services of the environment department have introduced fishermen to many new types of gear and larger, more mobile boats. This has in turn increased the proportion of their catch which is made up of species other than cod which fishermen cannot process themselves and which must therefore be transported to a plant where more sophisticated processing equipment such as freezers is available.

**Mr. McGrath:** A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. The hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) on a point of order.

**Mr. McGrath:** I think the hon. member has an obligation to the House to identify the document from which he is reading.

**Mr. Perrault:** Unlike some of the speeches made by the hon. member, I am presenting to the House facts in the form of extended notes to make sure that they are absolutely accurate. At the same time, the demand in the market for species other than cod has increased a great deal during the past decade. Resulting from this we have been bringing into production species and product forms hitherto not generally processed in Newfoundland.

Already many steps have been taken to provide collection facilities to enable these species to be delivered to the nearest plant having facilities to process them. There are

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many so-called community stages and fresh fish collection centres scattered around the coastline. While initially the community stage program was intended for the production and storage of salted fish, some of these have now in fact been upgraded and altered so as to enable them to become collection centres where all species can be assembled, sorted and held prior to being transported to a processing plant.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Would the hon. member permit a question?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member has indicated that he will not accept a question until he has concluded his remarks.

**Mr. Perrault:** In addition, many of the fishermen in my hon. friend's riding can obtain loans through the Fisheries Improvement Loans Act to construct new shore facilities or improve existing ones as well as to obtain new boats, gear and other seagoing facilities. Under the program of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion there are a number of sources of financial assistance—

**Mr. Marshall:** A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is seeking the floor on a point of order.

**Mr. Marshall:** May I point out to the hon. member that under the Fisheries Improvement Loans Act three loans were granted in Newfoundland last year.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall) is raising a matter of argument, not a point of order.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I do not know how a point of order can arise when the parliamentary secretary has not spoken since the previous point of order was raised.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Then I raise a question of privilege.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for Gander-Twillingate on a question of privilege.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** The hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour (Mr. Perrault), like all hon. members, has a responsibility to present the facts. The community stage program was discontinued years ago.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. McGrath:** He is deliberately misleading the House.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. Hon. members must observe the rules of the House. The parliamentary secretary has the floor.

**Mr. Perrault:** Another thing I have found out about Newfoundland is that the people there believe in democracy. That is another reason—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. McGrath:** The Liberal party of Newfoundland does not believe in democracy.