

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

To give you an idea of the problem of those doing this research, even today there are cages of cod at different levels of the bay which are perfectly healthy and they were perfectly healthy when the plant was running full blast. It is now known, that there is a particularly high content of phosphorous in the mud at the bottom, but that was not discovered until April. They found it there in large quantities. There was some doubt, therefore, as to the cause of all this.

We have not in a general way paid compensation to fishermen whose immediate vicinity was affected by closures. Normally, closures are undertaken for conservation reasons, but this is an exceptional case and we are making payment to fishermen. The payments are averaged over their normal fishing year, which may be three months to

eight months. The payments do not include the costs which the fishermen might otherwise have incurred; I am speaking of purchases of fuel, and so on. Otherwise, though, the payments are designed to give the fishermen up to their normal income. That, at any rate, is the nature of the calculation that we are using.

The first cheques were delivered yesterday and some fishermen are concerned, thinking this is the only payment. That is not our intention. Payments will continue until the bay is open again for fishing. I hope within the next week or two we shall open certain portions of Placentia Bay but we do not know how long it will take to open the entire bay.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

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END OF VOLUME VIII