

Adjournment Debate

resource situation and the impact of diminished supply on the people who make their livelihood from it.

The scope of their investigations is broad enough to address alternatives within the fisheries and the regional socio-economic settings in which they take place. The task forces will be reporting their findings in due course and any subsequent measures this government may implement will take their advice into consideration.

Of course we are concerned about the impact of reduced groundfish availability on fish plant workers in the Scotia-Fundy region. This comprises a major part of the work of that the task forces are undertaking. It is also why we are encouraged by the way the larger companies have cushioned the impact of this situation by spreading the work around several plants in the region.

Private sector firms are showing that they understand their responsibilities and that the responsibilities are fundamental to the operation of the free enterprise system. As a consequence, the number of outright plant closures for the remainder of the season in 1989 in the Scotia-Fundy region has been kept to a minimum. Plant

closures in other communities have been, by and large, intermittent, temporary, and very much in keeping with the pattern of seasonal activity typical of the Scotia-Fundy groundfish fishery. Most workers will qualify for unemployment insurance to supplement their earnings as they usually do in a normal year.

National Sea Products closed its Lockeport plant for a number of reasons. In addition to the publicly stated concerns that the corporation has made about the impact of inadequate groundfish supplies on its business, the company has been taking measures to improve its overall operating efficiency. A reduction in the company's quota is only one explanatory factor. The closure was a business decision which the government cannot second-guess.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

The House adjourned at 7.28 p.m.