

Government Orders

tone, and we can listen. This is the season to be generous.

• (1620)

Mr. Karpoff: Madam Speaker, if that is the way to get the attention of Tories over there, I will speak even louder. It is time they started to listen. Once they start to listen, then maybe we can calm it down. One of the things that happen is that you guys don't listen unless someone somehow knocks you on the head.

Some hon. members: Oh, oh.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Order, order. The hon. member may want to address the Chair and not other hon. members directly.

Mr. Karpoff: Madam Speaker, one of the things I think my hon. friend from Prince George—Bulkley Valley mentioned is the question of political will. We in the New Democratic Party wonder about the political will, particularly when we look at the fact that on November 23 again there were cuts to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans amounting to \$11 million, which certainly distract from its ability to carry out enforcement procedures.

My friend asked about problems in Surrey. When I first moved to Surrey many streams in Surrey municipality were salmon spawning streams. Salmon came up Bear Creek and some of the other small streams. Now it is very uncommon to see any salmon coming up those streams. They are lost in terms of salmon fishing.

Another thing that has happened is the loss of habitat. The habitat has been overtaken predominantly by industrial development along the foreshore of the Fraser River. Nearly 90 per cent of the foreshore has been expropriated by the CNR. It expropriated everything along the Fraser River from the Patella Bridge almost up to the Langley border, including putting in an interval yard adjacent to Surrey Bend, again without any assessment of the environmental damage.

The whole question of how to protect the habitat systematically, which has to be done stream by stream and foreshore by foreshore, is vital. As well we have to look at it industry by industry all the way from the headwaters down in terms of pollution.

Mr. Lawrence MacAulay (Cardigan): Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to participate in the third reading of Bill C-74.

We all know the troubles facing the fishing industry in this country. In Atlantic Canada there is a constant fear that tough times will become even tougher as we wait for the 1991 management plan. On the west coast many fishermen are terrified by the damage being done by the individual transferable quotas or ITQs.

The people of Atlantic Canada know what hard times are like. We had many hard times through the years, but in the last six years this government has certainly contributed to them, particularly in the fishing industry. When we look at the government cuts we look at ACOA, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Marine Atlantic. A prime example of the government's inconsiderateness was the closure of CFB Summerside, a very important part of our economy and a way in which the government could stimulate the economy in Prince Edward Island. Without any thought at all it removed CFB Summerside, which was also used to patrol our coastal fishery.

Members of the Liberal Party welcomed the government announcement that it would increase penalties for fisheries offences. The minister of fisheries committed himself to stiffening the fines for people who violated the act by overfishing. The bill before the House today was a long time in coming, and we are glad to see it here. The bill goes a long way in addressing the needs of fishermen in all parts of the country. Despite this, the bill does not go far enough.

One of the biggest problems facing fishermen in my riding is the state of the wharfs and harbours in Prince Edward Island, and in particular in Cardigan. A wharf to a fisherman is like a hammer to the carpenter. If one removes the hammer, the carpenter cannot work. In this situation, we are not keeping the wharfs in shape and therefore we are hampering the fishermen in making a living in Atlantic Canada, particularly in Cardigan.

What are fishermen to do when the wharf walls and the cribbing are rotting away? This is the situation with many wharfs, like those at Beach Point, Fortune, Georgetown, Graham's Pond, Launching, Montague, Murray Harbour, Naufrage, and Savage Harbour. In Savage Harbour, two years ago, there was a problem with the breakwater. If \$25,000 could have been spent in that area