Fisheries Act

skills and same kind of background, but lacking the experience, yes, we are entitled to ensure them affirmative action programs.

I must tell you, Mr. Speaker, by the way, that I wish it had been the affirmative action program which had caused the squid jiggers—and that is what they told me they were—of Newfoundland not to have to go with a complaint based on discrimination before the Human Rights Tribunal. They were right about their benefits and rights, and the decision came through in that way.

I am really fascinated, Mr. Speaker, to see how an area like the fisheries—to which I had not given much thought, and I was remiss—touches men, women and children and all elements of our society in a very profound way. I would imagine that this thought, in the sense that you look at these industries in a very stereotyped way, would hold, if you were looking at mining or forestry as well as fishing—

Some Hon. Members: Oh. oh!

Mrs. Finestone: If you don't stop laughing, I am in trouble.

Mr. McCurdy: You are doing all right.

Mrs. Finestone: With respect to the question raised by my hon. friend, I would like to say that I hope he will understand that affirmative action is very much a point of priority for families in our society and particularly as it relates to the fishing world.

Mr. Skelly: Mr. Speaker, I admit that there was some element of tongue in cheek there for a moment, but the Hon. Member's speech was certainly one of the best non-traditional speeches which many of us have heard in the House. The Hon. Member expressed some excellent thoughts concerning the fishing industry about which, I am sure, many of us had not thought. It was an extremely good speech concerning the fishing industry.

I would like to put a question on the main thrust of the Bill. The Bill deals with the absolute power to allocate fish, and, of course, every fish represents a ten-dollar bill. We are talking about the Minister's unfettered right or absolute power to allocate money to different groups in a proportionate way, and that power is an extremely important part of this Bill. Under this particular legislation, there are a number of traditional groups which are entitled, on a traditional basis, to a share of the fishery. What we are now faced with is the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Fraser) having the right to throw some of—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): The period for questions and comments is now over.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[Translation]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Pursuant to Standing Order 45, it is my duty to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Glengarry-Prescott-Russell (Mr. Boudria) (a) Government Advertising—Awarding of contracts. (b) RCMP—Request that Solicitor General seek immediate inquiry; the Hon. Member for York Centre (Mr. Kaplan)—Royal Canadian Mounted Police—Premier's trial (a) Internal investigation (b) Allegations attributed to Premier; the Hon. Member for Scarborough West (Mr. Stackhouse)—United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization—Canadian membership and funding.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

FISHERIES ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Fraser that Bill C-32, an Act to amend the Fisheries Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

Mr. John Parry (Kenora-Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I am also delighted to speak on Bill C-32, an Act to amend the Fisheries Act, particularly as it affects the fisheries which is carried on in Canada's three oceans. I am happy to say that, like the previous speaker, I do have some personal experience of the industry and some personal viewpoints or perspectives which I feel I can offer in the debate on this Bill.

In 1972, just a couple of years after I came to Canada, I had the very distinct privilege of serving as a deck-hand on that great vessel, the United Church mission ship, the Thomas Crosby V, which sailed down the west coast of British Columbia. I considered it a real privilege to have the insight into the B.C. fishing industry, particularly the salmon fishery, which that working holiday gave me. I can recall being on cook duty during that cruise and coming up to the galley at six in the morning to be greeted by the sight of a beautiful fresh 15-pound salmon on the slab, a donation to the ship and its crew for the sort of work which that ship was doing among the fisherpeople of the B.C. coast. I also had the opportunity, and it was a valuable one, of meeting many of the people engaged in the fishing industry, users of the fishery who were not engaged on a commerical basis and people who utilized that fishery for recreation, subsistence and for earning a living, as a