

colleagues in the House who have participated in this unjust criticism, I say think again.

To the Premier of Québec, and all members of his Legislature, I say shake off your hypersensitivity. You are part of a nation that stretches from sea to sea, from Vancouver Island to Newfoundland.

Our country is too vast, too magnificent, too beautiful to accommodate such pettiness in one of its parts. The criticism of one of Parliament's dedicated and devoted servants has been excessive, harsh, and entirely unnecessary.

* * *

ETHNIC AFFAIRS

GREEK COMMUNITY'S CELEBRATION IN TORONTO

Mr. Alan Redway (York East): Mr. Speaker, this past weekend the Greek community of Metropolitan Toronto, 120,000 strong, again celebrated the anniversary of Greek independence with an exciting parade and a huge banquet.

Last year on the same occasion, Professor Steve Triantis of the University of Toronto spoke for all ethnic communities, 40 per cent of Canadians, when he said:

The leaders of all political Parties should be advised that no ethnic group in Canada holds a monopoly of excellence in brains and education. We demand full and equal participation in the political, social, cultural and economic life of this country. We shall be looking for action in particular with regards to appointments to boards and agencies.

This past weekend, a frustrating year later, he added:

The leaders of all political Parties shall be judged by their acts not by their promises. We speak out today with our voices, tomorrow with our votes.

* * *

FISHERIES

REDUCTION IN ALLOWABLE CHINOOK SALMON CATCH

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): Mr. Speaker, over the past 30 years Chinook salmon escapement in the lower Georgia Strait has declined from 30,000 to 4,300. For this reason I reluctantly support the 20 per cent reduction in the annual catch for all sectors of the fishing industry.

In order to reduce the over-all sports catch by 20 per cent, individual bag limits will be reduced from 20 Chinook to eight. Since 95 per cent of British Columbia's sport fishers already catch eight Chinook or less, this new policy will not hurt them. But it will hurt the charter boat industry and the tackle suppliers.

Gulf trollers will also be badly hurt by the 20 per cent reduction since it comes on top of other severe reductions since 1984. They fear that they are being squeezed right out of the industry.

S. O. 21

Seiners worry that the Chinook reduction will cost them valuable days of fishing during heavy Pink or Sockeye runs. Indian people also face cut-backs in their traditional fishery.

Let us hope that these costly reductions, combined with enhancement, will do the job and our Chinook stocks will be restored to health.

* * *

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

DENIAL OF BENEFITS TO SCARBOROUGH RESIDENT

Mr. Reginald Stackhouse (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, a Scarborough West constituent left his company because of corporate restructuring and opened his own business, which he had to close after 18 months of effort.

Although he had paid into the Unemployment Insurance Fund for 27 years, he was informed that he was not eligible for benefits because he had not paid into the fund during 10 weeks of the previous year. However, he also learned that he would have been eligible had he been in prison for those 18 months.

I speak to the House because here is a man who tried to start a business, and was denied what he could have gained had he committed a crime. I speak of this because sometimes, as Charles Dickens reminded us, "the law is a ass" and deserves a kick.

* * *

[*Translation*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

THE ARMENIANS—REQUEST FOR UNIFICATION OF MAGORRY KARABAKH REGION

Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau): Mr. Speaker, since Secretary General Mikhael Gorbatchev came to power, a new atmosphere seems to be spreading over the USSR under *Glasnost*. We have witnessed several dissidents being released from prison, a new freedom of the press and other reforms.

Today, I should like to call the attention of the House to a most disquieting situation which exists in that country. I am referring to the situation in the Nagorny Karabakh region. Since 1923, this region has been part of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic. Because a great many of its inhabitants are Christian Armenians, the Nagorny Karabakh population has informed Moscow of its desire to become part of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic and to have its borders changed accordingly.

I need not remind Hon. Members just how the men and women of this group have suffered over the past few centuries. Too many have died already. The unification of that area should proceed under the best spirit.