

The Address—Mr. Crouse

present allowable catch of haddock, for example, is discriminatory. It is causing Canadian fishermen to destroy as much as 85,000 pounds of haddock per trip. I could not help but think, as we heard about the loss of eggs, that that loss is minuscule when compared with the weekly loss of haddock caught on deck and thrown back into the sea as a result of the regulations that have been established under ICNAF.

While Canadian fishermen are being forced to hold the line, foreign trawlers continue to come to the banks, taking as much as 95 per cent of their catch in haddock. In fact one foreign trawler seized by the Americans under ICNAF regulations had more than 95 per cent of haddock iced in the hold. This practice is annoying our fishermen, decreasing their earnings, and destroying valuable food at a time when half the world is going to bed hungry. The system we have adopted at present is not working to the benefit of Canadians.

Not only haddock but stocks of cod, pollock, herring, flounders and silver hake are also being depleted, with the huge Russian fleet being the biggest offender when it comes to overfishing.

All these problems point out the need for some searching questions to be put. For example, are we carrying out conservation policies for the benefit of our Canadian fishermen or for the benefit of all foreign fishermen? Will we increase our surveillance fleet, as promised by the Prime Minister and, if so, can it take any action against fleets which are overfishing and destroying our fishing gear unless we unilaterally declare some form of control and some form of sovereign rights over our resources on our continental shelf?

Should we continue to spend millions of dollars annually to improve Canadian salmon runs if other countries continue to catch salmon on the high seas, thereby defeating our purpose and our efforts? Unless concrete answers to these questions are found the fishing industry in Atlantic Canada and the people dependent on it will, I am sorry to say, face a very bleak future.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

MAIN ESTIMATES 1974-75—REFERENCE TO STANDING COMMITTEES

Mr. Speaker: Before we go on to the next speaker may I interrupt to complete a point of procedure. Earlier this day a motion was proposed which required the consent of the House because it had appended to it a schedule of assignments to committees and the order of estimates being referred to them. It was suggested, at the time of the presentation of that order, that it stand until later today. I understand that there is agreement that that moment should be now. If that is the case may I ask if it is agreed

[Mr. Speaker.]

now that the motion earlier moved by the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Sharp) will carry?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Duclos for an address to His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of Canada in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, the amendment thereto of Mr. Stanfield (p. 42), and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Broadbent (p. 53).

[Translation]

Mr. Roy (Laval): Mr. Speaker, first I wish to congratulate you on having been elected Speaker of the House. Your integrity, your sense of duty and your vast knowledge of legal matters led you to fill this high position which is the key one in the House, the basis of our activity. I also offer my congratulations to the Deputy Speaker and to the chairmen and deputy chairmen of the committees.

I am also pleased to praise the mover and seconder of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. The people in each of their electoral districts were wise in choosing men of such calibre to represent them in the Canadian Parliament. While listening to the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. Lee), I was moved when he said that he represented Canadians who came from Italy, Germany, Yugoslavia, the Netherlands, other countries of Europe and Asia and, of course, Great Britain. He is the first Liberal member of parliament of Chinese origin and he is proud to be in Parliament the spokesman for Canadians coming from so many places. Those people chose Canada as their land and we are proud that they did so.

Canada is a prosperous country, a country of great and varied natural resources. We enjoy an enviable prosperity and one of the highest standard of living. Canada is a country where it is good to live, where a most sophisticated social security system has been developed. Considering that more than one third of the total budget has been invested in the area of health and social welfare, and that during the last decade we have quadrupled the budget in this field, I believe that this social security system can be envied by several countries.

We have also an increasingly sophisticated education system and a climate of freedom of speech which keeps all politicians alert. We are lucky, because our country represents a great potential in all kinds of resources, because Canada is one of the rare countries which produce more foodstuffs than it needs. Because of all these considerations, we also have great responsibilities toward less favoured countries, especially since God has granted us privileges which were not due to us when two thirds of the world demand a more just society.

I was listening this afternoon to the hon. members for Edmonton-Strathcona (Mr. Roche) and for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. Hogan), and I think that we all agree