

agencies may ultimately save the applicants both time and money.

In this regard Members of Parliament can and should serve as the first point of contact. MPs can provide an overview of Government initiatives and can assist local businesses and organizations in gaining better access to the system. I encourage Members of all Parties in this House to make it clear to their constituents that MPs are here as sources of information on grants and local economic development.

\* \* \*

● (1405)

### FISHERIES

#### GRANTS AND LICENCES AWARDED TO LARGE COMPANIES— EFFECT ON INSHORE FISHERMEN

**Mr. George Henderson (Egmont):** Mr. Speaker, the policy decisions of the Government will ruin the Atlantic fishery. Inshore fishermen and small processors will soon be wiped out if the Government continues to sweeten the pot for large companies at the expense of the small inshore operators.

Here are a few examples of the Government's policies. Fisheries Products International of Newfoundland was given \$105 million, with no guarantee of not closing fish plants. The Nordick Group was given an offshore licence after it had paid lobbyists to buy an audience with the Minister. Three factory freezer licences were granted. National Sea Products was granted permission to increase the length of six of its trawlers. Dr. Art May, a man who understood and respected inshore fishermen, was fired from his job as Deputy Minister. The 1986 Groundfish Management Plan cut the inshore quota and increased the offshore quota.

Those examples smack of the Government's bias toward big business. If the Government is counting on small business to create tomorrow's jobs, it need not by-pass the Atlantic fishing industry which is a source of hundreds of jobs. Inshore fishermen and processors are small business operators. However, they are in danger of being wiped out because of the Government's policies. The 1986 Groundfish Management Plan is a testimony to that. The small community-based inshore fishery is being swallowed up by large fish companies.

I call upon the Government to redistribute the quotas immediately. Inshore fishermen want their fair share.

\* \* \*

### TOURISM

#### GOVERNMENT'S PROMOTION OF MULTICULTURAL ASPECTS

**Mr. Ken James (Sarnia-Lambton):** Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to note that the Minister of State for Tourism (Mr. Murta), the Minister of Communications (Mr. Masse), and the Minister of State for Multiculturalism (Mr. Jelinek) have recently announced a series of federal initiatives in support of the Canadian tourism and cultural industries. This

was done via an agreement recently released after months of consultation.

The Government recognizes the link between tourism and Canada's wide variety of cultural attractions. We have made multiculturalism, tourism, and culture a definite priority for the Government.

To illustrate the commitment of the Government, these three Departments will jointly contribute over \$1 million toward a series of pilot projects. These projects are intended to evaluate the tourism impact on select Canadian cultural and multicultural destinations that will be promoted throughout the United States.

As well, the three Ministers will host a national conference on tourism and culture in the fall of 1986. To the Ministries of Tourism, Multiculturalism, and Communications, and to the Ministers responsible, I want to say: "Well done".

\* \* \*

[Translation]

### AGRICULTURE

#### NEW DAIRY POLICY

**Mr. Maurice Tremblay (Lotbinière):** As you know, Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) announced yesterday our party's new long term dairy policy, thereby formally committing the federal Government to this major industry in Canada's overall economy.

I, for one, am delighted with this new policy, in view of its direct impact on my riding which depends heavily on the dairy industry, but especially because our party is keeping one more promise made during the last election campaign.

Need I remind the House of the total indifference of the previous Liberal administration to the needs of Canadian farmers which accounted for a 12 per cent reduction in the number of farms, a 2.5 per cent decrease in farm population, a 800 per cent increase in farm bankruptcies, a skyrocketing increase in interest rates, as well as a nearly 400 per cent increase in operating costs.

Our Government, through the Department of Agriculture, will inject in the farm industry more than \$1.5 billion over the next five years, which will give at last the dairy industry a stability it had not known since 1980.

This, Mr. Speaker, is another demonstration of the constant concern of our Government for the farm producers of this great country.