

S.O. 29

The press release goes on:

The level of the cod allocation for St. Pierre and Miquelon in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is an exception to the government's policy against non-surplus cod allocations to foreign fleets, as it is greater than what Canada's legal obligations require under the 1972 Canada-France treaty.

The treaty expired in May, 1986, but the Government still goes along with that and is even giving more. But it does not have to give anything.

The fishermen of the great islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon are asking Canada to live up to its obligations and kick the metropolitan fleet out of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Mr. St. Germain: You guys allowed them in there.

Mr. Henderson: There is a Member who does not know anything about fish. He obviously does not know anything about Atlantic Canada or he would not be talking the way he is talking. The first large trawlers that were in the gulf were brought in under the former Government of the present Secretary of State for External Affairs in 1979, with the support of the former Member for St. John's East, who is now the Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland.

Mr. Baker: And we know what happened to that Government.

Mr. Henderson: We know what happened. He got his reward. Obviously, the French metropolitan fleet is getting its reward for its overfishing which it does in a careless and reckless way. Its reward is 20,000 tonnes more fish. That is unbelievable. This is all in the name of good bilateral relations.

It is easy to understand why the people of Newfoundland are frustrated. I can understand it very well. They have to sit on their wharves and watch their fish leave their waters on vessels flying foreign flags. I can understand why they would be frustrated, especially when, in many parts of northeastern Newfoundland, they cannot catch enough fish to give them 10 weeks for their unemployment stamps. This Government knows that. The Government knows that as a result of a great deal of prodding by the good Liberal Members of Parliament from Newfoundland who prodded the Government time and time again to put some sort of program in place for Newfoundlanders so that they could make up between six and ten weeks to get unemployment stamps to carry on through the winter. That is what this Government calls constructive internationalism. It is unbelievable.

The old bad days have returned. We are going back to the future of the wild west. Winston Churchill termed this sort of a situation a sheep in sheep's clothing. That describes the Minister exactly. He is a wolf in sheep's clothing. It is so easy for the French to come over and pull the wool down over his eyes.

● (2310)

I sympathize with the Hon. Member for St. John's West because I know that he does not agree with this agreement, or with the fact that the Government did not consult with the

Province of Newfoundland in the last number of days. Obviously, they did not consult with him when this decision was made. If they had consulted with him, and he had expressed his feelings about this agreement as eloquently as he did tonight, the Government would have had one of two choices: for the Minister to be removed, or the Hon. Member for St. John's West. The Government would have had no other alternative to stay and support a policy like that.

I know that the Hon. Member for St. John's West knows the fishery, because he is a former Minister of Fisheries in Newfoundland. I know he knows a bit about the fishery. I know that he knows Newfoundlanders. I cannot believe that he would come here and sing one song in Cabinet and sing another song back home. I know that the Minister would not do that. Therefore, this Government did not consult.

I remember very well when the Government took office that it discussed the consultative process and this great new relationship with the provinces which was going to be so good that no more would there be any divisions and differences in policy between the provincial and federal Governments and industry. Consultation with the Government is leading the people on and then telling them at the very end what they will do, and going about and doing it without any respect whatsoever for the consultative process.

I could go on for a while longer, but I have a number of colleagues who wish to speak on this resolution. I move a motion pursuant to Standing Order 9(4)(a):

That the House continue to sit after 12 o'clock midnight for the purpose of considering the adjournment motion now under consideration.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Those Members who object will please rise in their places.

And fewer than 25 Members having risen:

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There not being 25 Members rising in objection to the motion, according to the provisions of Standing Order 9(4)(b), the motion is deemed to be carried.

Motion (Mr. Henderson) agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: On a point of order, the Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme).

Mr. Prud'homme: I wish to register for *Hansard* that the reason there are not 25 Members to object is because there are not enough people present.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Shall we resume the debate? On debate, the Hon. Member for Burin—St. George's (Mr. Price).

Mr. Joe Price (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): I rise tonight to speak with some regret, frustration, and considerable mixed feelings. I have some regret because of the turmoil that this particular issue has created in my province. This agreement, this issue, and the irresponsible comments of some people has raised apprehension in the minds of people in the Province of Newfoundland.