

in reporting on December 20, 1989, to the fisheries committee said he did not like to see fish left in the water.

There was 5,000 metric tons: 1,000 metric tons of haddock, 3,000 metric tons of pollack, and the rest in cod that was left in the water by the offshore as of the middle of December. Yet this government would not allocate in September, October, November or December to the inshore communities that were so dependent on that fish. That is one area.

The management plan incorporated in 1990 the same errors that were there. The second thing that management plan does is allow a boat allocation. That does not make any sense. Most fishermen who have not fished for six months are only going to go after their 20,000 pounds per trip or 10,000 per trip for the best of the fish. They will have to do that in order to survive the year that the management plan proposes again for this year. That deals with the management plan.

The second area the government is not able to deal with is marketing. We have nothing from this government except its allocation of 100,000 metric tonnes of underutilized species for development purposes. Since 1985 there has been a decrease in any marketing ability for the Department of Fisheries, except as it relates to providing intelligence for shaping the minister's policy.

There is no new incentive for helping the firms that do not have the resources to conduct market studies in the underutilized species. In fact, with the free trade agreement we cannot even do that or we might offend the U.S. For our natural resource that is in trouble, we have no backbone as it stands in a market development strategy for fish in Canada. One only need to look at the lobster fishery. We have to watch what is happening with no assistance directly related to marketing for fear of offending the Americans down there.

I have looked at what the Americans are doing. They are talking about our fish as if we do not have any health inspection or any other inspection. They have ads that say: "You would not want to eat this fish". Our govern-

ment is not doing a thing to counteract billions of dollars in an industry that we have in existence.

We in the opposition see no one over there taking the initiative to go ahead and countervail that. I am saying to you, Mr. Speaker, that this government has got to look at who is presently fishing underutilized species. It is a European market that is using that. Well, why can we not develop that market? Why do we have to see foreigners here as an irritant to us when we have the capacity offshore.

We have the capacity onshore to go out and fish and process the underutilized fish. If there was any incentive as has been in the past to develop markets in this area, you would not have the present situation in communities like Lockeport. You would not have us begging the Russians who are within our 200 mile limit to land their cod, their haddock and their pollack to our plant. We would be fishing those underutilized species as the Russians are here fishing. Sure, we have to develop markets. Yes, we may offend Americans.

I just want to say that I have seen the hardest of hardships as a result. I cannot stand to see a Prime Minister of this country take a natural resource like fish, a renewable resource like fish, and say to the people in the east that we have nothing to look at except the bright side of what else there is on the east coast. There are whole sections in Atlantic Canada that are hurting, that are not able to sustain the direction of this government's policy. Yes, I say to the farmers out west, you may have \$1 billion of financial aid to help you but I do hope that at the end of your drought that it won't be the big companies that will provide the direction to this government as we are beginning to see happening in the east at the sake of all those coastal communities and those fishermen.

Mrs. Dorothy Dobbie (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to answer the hon. member's question. As the hon. member is well aware, this government is very concerned about the people in Atlantic Canada. The Prime Minister is very concerned about the people in Atlantic Canada and their well-being.

To this end the Prime Minister created a special committee of cabinet to address exclusively the problems particular to Atlantic fisheries. The committee has in turn convened two task forces, one for northern cod and the other Scotia-Fundy groundfish, to take stock of the