Fishing and Recreational Harbours

Provincial and municipal governments pay the other costs, as well as the cost of annual upkeep.

Unfortunately, the number of recreational harbours is increasing while the number of government fishing wharves is decreasing. I am not opposed to recreational harbours being established, since they are beneficial to the tourist industry, to visiting yachtsmen when they come to Canada from the United States or other countries. However, I submit they should not be built at the expense of our fishermen or of our fishing industry which is presently being denied adequate facilities in many parts of Canada.

In any town there is a desperate need for further docking space for our scallop fleet. In Vogler's Cove, Nova Scotia, the inshore fleet requires another 60 feet added to the present wharf in order that the longliners may have adequate protection. There was a recent article in the Halifax *Chronicle-Herald* under the heading "Smithville Fishermen Still Waiting For Wharf". As I travelled with the Standing Committee on Transport an Communications last week, I found out about all the fishermen and the potato growers waiting for wharfs and potato sheds. They are still waiting today.

The article continued:

Four years after being promised a new wharf by the federal government to replace the existing decrepit structure which is the focal point of fisheries activities in this small Atlantic coast port, fishermen are still forced to operate from the same primitive facility which has been in existence for many years.

"Any good storm or even a high tide could easily wash this wharf out tomorrow and then where would the fishermen tie up?"

A veteran fisherman of the area and an operator of a small handling plant by the wharf said:

"Conditions here are unbelievable. Several years ago one section of the docking facilities completely collapsed under the weight of a hundred lobster traps. Although recovered by their owners, the traps were damaged beyond all recognition."

The fisherman went on to say that instances like this have not been uncommon and, as a result, fishermen in the area were notified five years ago that a new wharf was on its way.

Prior to the five by-elections in Quebec, the Minister of State for Urban Affairs (Mr. Ouellet) announced that another \$231 million would be poured into the province of Quebec for more federal public buildings in Montreal on the leftover property at Mirabel. I notice the hon. member for Battleford-Kindersley (Mr. McIsaac) is smiling. He thinks it is a big joke. He should have been down there with this committee listening to the fishermen and the potato growers. Everything is a big joke for the Liberals. He should have come down there and explained Mirabel and the \$231 million which is going into Quebec. He could have also explained that white elephant in Winnipeg, the \$50 million hanger that is not required. He could have explained all the other boobs which his party has pulled off. I hope the minister will put this in his little black book when he starts his duties—

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I would like to go on record as saying that I am very pleased with the construction of the hangar at the Air Canada base in Winnipeg. The people of Winnipeg also wanted it. I

am surprised to hear the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie) saying that it is a white elephant. He was the one who was pushing to get it, and now he is talking out of the other side of his mouth tonight.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. We have been sitting around today listening to a debate and making our contributions. Your Honour has pointed out on a number of occasions that these matters which have been raised, particularly by the minister responsible for multiculturalism, are specious and facetious and are not points of order. If the minister insists on carrying on his irresponsible attitude by interrupting on spurious points of order, we are going to ask him a question during the question period.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): I suggest to the hon. member that he, now, is engaging in debate. That is not a point of order.

Mr. McKenzie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker-

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): The time allotted to the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie) has expired. However, he may continue with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order. I should like to point out that if the parliamentary secretary is rising to speak on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment he will close the debate.

Mr. Jim Fleming (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and the Environment): Mr. Speaker, to begin with I should like to pay tribute to the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie) who, with his exciting and scintillating comments in the last few moments, has kept us all on the edges of our seats. But if we were on the edges of our seats on this side of the House, I cannot imagine how close to the edge of his seat the hon. member for South Shore (Mr. Crouse) must have been on the other side since the speech of the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre so closely resembled the speech given by the hon. member for South Shore some months ago.

An hon. Member: A summer rerun!

Mr. Fleming: I should like to describe this bill as a housekeeping bill. It is an important bill, and there are controversial matters in it which I should think all hon. members would wish to discuss in committee. This can be done on the basis of the assurances which the Minister of Fisheries and Environment (Mr. LeBlanc) gave when he opened this debate several months ago—late last year, in fact.

You know, Mr. Speaker, that for the House to have 18 speakers on a bill passed in the late 1800's and amended to a moderate extent in 1937 and now, finally, being brought into order, stretching it out not only over a full day last December, but for a full day today, with twice as many speakers from the