

industry in the catching, processing and marketing of fish.

The fishing industry will not cure itself of its ills. Our fishermen are competing against foreign interests supported and subsidized by foreign governments. In order for the Canadian fisherman and the industry in general, to compete on equal terms with others in our waters, it is vitally necessary that we have the full support of the federal government and the benefit of all its services. I am referring now to something more than the kind of lip service we have had.

Fish products ought to play a greater part in external aid shipments. This would be one way of maintaining our traditional markets. Also, we must have more research in the uses of fish. We must have more modern, up to date equipment and the assurance of being able to fish in our own waters unmolested within the 12 mile limit. That may be impossible, but let us try to impose that limit. If the limit cannot be imposed, the government ought to inform the fishermen of that fact. It ought to be honest with them.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Carter: I am sorry the Minister of Fisheries is not here. I say it is time this government stopped pussyfooting around with the 12 mile limit.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Carter: Under the policies of successive Liberal governments, we have watched the encroachment upon our industry by United States interests. We are watching the encroachment of foreign shipping on our fishing resources on a scale that will deplete these resources in a short time. Also, we are watching our markets dwindle away.

I say to the government, if it has a policy let us hear about it. If it has no policy let us not go through the farce—I repeat—the farce of having a Department of Fisheries that is unable, apparently, to suggest or produce a policy.

The marketing of fish constitutes a major problem, and in order to save the Atlantic fishermen there may be no course open except the establishment of a federal fish commodity marketing board which would operate very much in the same way the grain marketing board operates.

The Canadian Wheat Board imparted stability to the economy of western Canada. Perhaps a fish commodity marketing board,

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under federal government auspices, could provide a measure of stability to the economy of the Atlantic provinces.

● (5:00 p.m.)

I would ask the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) this question, Mr. Speaker: where is the just society when a man with a family fishes all the summer and is forced to endure hardships almost beyond human endurance and as a result of a disorganized fishery policy which means that the rock bottom prices he receives barely provides enough to keep body and soul together? Is this the just society? I do not think so and I wonder whether the Prime Minister is naïve enough to believe that the lonely, forgotten Newfoundland fishermen of Cape St. Mary's will be fooled by his promise of a just society? Our fishermen well remember other slogans, other promises which have been offered them in place of action. They will remember the war on poverty, the Company of Young Canadians—meaningless words manufactured by some coin-operated word factory in the back rooms of the Liberal party.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Carter: Low incomes, high costs, exploitation and hard work; that is the story of Canada's Atlantic coast fishermen. It is the story of our Newfoundland fishermen. In my riding, which contains a large number of fishermen, it is almost embarrassing to see what is happening—to see men who struggle, who work hard, who face the perils of the north Atlantic, come in with a look of desperation on their faces. These are the men who are suffering as a result of low incomes and high costs, men who have been exploited for centuries. It is a situation which should make a lot of people ashamed to look their fellow men in the face. The exploitation which is imposed on the average Newfoundland fisherman is incredible; words cannot explain the situation which has resulted from this exploitation of his hard work. This is the story of the Atlantic coast fishermen and the story of the Newfoundland fishermen.

I said that in Newfoundland we face high living costs and high costs of building. The birth rate is high and the death rate is low. Taxation is high, and so on. All these things are related to the desperate housing situation which exists in my province today. I regret the roving Minister of Transport (Mr. Hell-lyer) is not here to hear me say that the provisions of the National Housing Act are totally