some 330,000 metric tonnes in 1987 and 690,000 tonnes in 1988 to as much as 1,150,000 tonnes in 1989. It is estimated that the number of American catching and processing vessels off Alaska -- some of which are factory freezer trawlers -- will increase from 36 in 1987 and 60 in 1988 to about 95 by the end of this year. Sure, they produce other products like surimi and H&G, but fillets account for a fair portion of total production. It is estimated that last year, up to 130 million pounds of fillets and fillet-blocks could have been produced. Potentially, this could double this year and the US home market is naturally the key target.

Let us now consider redfish. Here again, wholesale prices could otherwise improve because redfish landings are expected to drop in Iceland and in New England. But our own level of production will likely be up significantly, thus keeping prices stable.

As for flounders and sole, in general, supplies will be considerably limited in 1989. That goes for all such species caught throughout the Atlantic -- on the European side, the American side and in our own Maritimes. This category will have the strongest cases for price increases in 1989. I would be inclined include our own turbot under this strong category of products. In fact, depending on your marketing technique, 1989 could be a very good year for turbot.