

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Crosbie:** —to the GATT. The GATT found that provincial practices on pricing, listing and distribution discriminate against imports of alcoholic beverages and are inconsistent with GATT rules. We have to go back to the GATT by the end of 1988 to report how we are now complying with international GATT trade rules which both Parties opposite support. So the grape growers of Ontario and British Columbia are in difficulty in large part because of the GATT to which 96 countries belong and to which we cannot afford not to belong. That is the truth. Those are the facts, whether you are capable of realizing it or not.

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**EDUCATION****POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION—FOLLOW-UP TO SASKATOON CONFERENCE**

**Mr. Don Ravis (Saskatoon East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State. Last October nearly 600 people representing students, labour, industry, and educators met in Saskatoon at the National Forum on Post-Secondary Education. I am aware that the Minister's predecessor met with provincial Ministers at a later date.

Can the Minister tell this House what type of follow-up action students and educators can expect from him since he has recently assumed this portfolio?

**Hon. Lucien Bouchard (Secretary of State of Canada):** Mr. Speaker, the Saskatoon Forum called for closer federal-provincial co-operation on post-secondary education. We have achieved this. I met the Ministers of Education of Canada in Québec last June. We have also met many groups representing colleges, universities, professors and teachers. That was the first time ever that consultation involving both levels of government took place.

We must also recall that the Saskatoon Forum called for action on post-secondary education. We are now tackling specific issues in co-operation with the provinces, for example, improving accessibility to student aid, increasing support to university research, and supporting better research and information on post-secondary education.

I intend to have another meeting with provincial ministers next fall. This is just a start. Contrary to the past we are now creating a new partnership with governments and with the private sector on post-secondary education.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**FISHERIES****NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR INSHORE FISHERY**

**Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Acting Minister of Fisheries. Yesterday the Minister dismissed reports of an inshore fishery failure in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador by saying that all is well in the Minister's own riding of St. John's West and therefore all is well in all of Newfoundland and Labrador.

I want to ask the Minister whether he has managed in the last 24 hours to shed that callous and, I suggest, arrogant attitude, to discover that inshore fishermen on the Burin Peninsula on the south coast of the province, inshore fishermen on the Labrador coast in the north, inshore fishermen in the Straits of Belle Isle and, indeed, elsewhere in the province are having a very difficult year this year and are in desperate financial straits.

Given that the Minister has probably had 24 hours to recognize reality rather than the fantasy of his own visit to St. John's West, will he now say to the fishermen, primary producers, that help is coming from the federal Government? Or is he telling them all to move to St. John's West?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Hon. Member said that there was a disastrous failure of the inshore fishery in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador this year. That is absolutely untrue.

Here are the figures. The over-all landings and landed values for the Newfoundland region for the period January to July have increased over the same period in 1987. Inshore cod landings and values are estimated at 90,000 metric tonnes so far this year and \$40 million, compared to 59,000 metric tonnes and \$28 million in 1987. Capelin landings and values in 1988 show a dramatic increase with 78,000 metric tonnes compared to 32,000 last year, with landed values up to \$28 million from \$7 million. Total crab landings have gone up by a \$2 million increase in landed values.

There is no disastrous failure. There are some areas in which there has been a poor fishery. Where there has been a poor fishery and if the fishery does not improve—and we are only half way through the year yet—this Government, as always, will be prepared to bring in special measures of assistance to help, through employment programs or otherwise if that is necessary. But the over-all fishery in the Newfoundland inshore fishery this year from the facts, from the figures—not from the fiction—is far better than it was last year. The hon. gentleman should stop getting up in this House with specious nonsense and falsehoods.

**REQUEST FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

**Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe):** Mr. Speaker, is that not just like the Hon. Member for St. John's