

## AGRICULTURE

### ECONOMIC CRISIS IN PRAIRIE FARM INDUSTRY—REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on January 23 last by the Honourable Senator Argue respecting Agriculture—Economic Crisis in Prairie Farm Industry—Request for Government Action

*(The answer follows:)*

The government well understands and appreciates the severity of the situation for farmers who have had two or more crop failures in a row and the significance of the current income forecasts for Saskatchewan and the Prairies.

At the same time it is important to keep the farm income and outlook in perspective.

As the Honourable Senator knows, 1988 was a record income year for farmers across Canada. In 1989, farm income dropped slightly but was still about 15 per cent above the five-year average. The 1990 projections do not look as promising and accordingly the federal government and the provinces have established a committee to assess the impact of drought in 1989, the cash-flow problems and the overall financial position of farmers. The report of that committee will be assessed to see what further assistance might be needed. Any assistance package will be developed in cooperation with the provinces.

Since 1984, the government has demonstrated its commitment to provide assistance to the industry as conditions warrant. That commitment stands.

## EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

### LABOUR ADJUSTMENT AID PACKAGE—STATUS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AND NEW BRUNSWICK

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on January 23 last by the Honourable Senator Bonnell respecting Employment and Immigration—Labour Adjustment Aid Package—Status of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick

*(The answer follows:)*

There are at present two selected areas in Prince Edward Island and eight in New Brunswick receiving assistance under Community Futures.

In Prince Edward Island, the selected areas are:

Kings/Southern Queens Counties

West Prince County

In New Brunswick, the selected areas are:

Acadian Peninsula

Chaleur

Charlotte County

Grand Falls

[Senator Doody.]

Greater Moncton area

Kent County

Northumberland County

Restigouche County

## FISHERIES

### AMOUNT OF FOREIGN CATCHES WITHIN CANADIAN 200-MILE LIMIT

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on December 13 last by the Honourable Senator MacEachen respecting Fisheries—Amount of Foreign Catches Within Canadian 200-Mile Limit

*(The answer follows:)*

Canada, together with all coastal states, has obligations under the Law of the Sea and its bilateral fisheries treaties to grant allocations of surplus fish to those countries that have traditionally fished in the northwest Atlantic. Canada grants such allocations only to those countries that cooperate with Canada on conservation.

Allocations to foreign countries are made only after rigorous consultation with the Canadian industry and the five Atlantic provinces. Allocations are only of surplus fish that the industry and provinces agree are not needed by the Canadian industry. The only exception to this policy is the quotas of non-surplus cod given to France as part of the interim agreement in which France agreed to take the SPM boundary dispute to international arbitration.

Allocations of surplus stocks to Canada's traditional foreign partners in 1989 total 205,000t a decrease over the 1988 level of 212,000t. Also, in 1989 a further allocation of 32,000t has been given to France as part of the interim Canada/France agreement. In 1977, 853,000t was allocated to foreigners. This year 47 per cent of foreign allocations are of silver hake, fished entirely on the Scotian Shelf about 100 miles off the coast.

## FISHERIES

### PORTION OF NATIONAL SEA QUOTA LANDED IN NOVA SCOTIAN PORTS

**Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, I have a delayed answer in response to a question asked in the Senate on December 13 last by the Honourable Senator Stewart respecting Fisheries—Portion of National Sea Quota Landed in Nova Scotia Ports.

*(The answer follows:)*

The information requested by Senator Stewart is classified as commercial confidential and cannot be released based on a mandatory provision of the Access to Information Act which prohibits the release of financial, scientific, or technical information supplied to a government