

*Oral Questions*

and three thousand tonnes of northern cod in the area of 2GH, which is up at the far end, the line between Labrador and Greenland. That was agreed to by those who were present there to advise, and by the representative of the Government of Newfoundland, who was present as well, three thousand tonnes in 2GH. The subsequent agreement settled on 3,200 tonnes, just 200 tonnes more. So that is the answer to the hon. gentleman's question.

I might say, while I am the Acting Minister, that I agree he is certainly acting.

**Mr. Baker:** In other words, the Minister is saying he agrees with giving the French a quota for the first time to the north of Newfoundland. Now we also have them with a quota on the west coast of Newfoundland. We have the French fleet on the south coast of Newfoundland. We have the French all around Newfoundland.

## MINISTER'S POSITION

**Mr. George Baker (Gander—Twillingate):** I want to ask the Acting Minister of Fisheries and Oceans a question. We all know he is trying to learn French. Does he not realize that Newfoundland fishermen are not in agreement with his version of French immersion? Why did he agree with this agreement?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Acting Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Mr. Speaker, the farmers who are among us here today will realize what the Hon. Member is immersed in.

[Translation]

You are crazy!

[English]

We are not going to be surrounded on all sides by the French trawlers because, as I have just informed this honourable House, if France chooses to disregard the conservation needs of the fish stocks in 3PS, for the first time, including the last 20 years—and we know who was in power most of that time—we will withdraw port privileges from French vessels. They are already not allowed to trans-ship fish in any Newfoundland port. If the fishermen of St. Pierre and Miquelon need support from us to stop overfishing, they will get that support from us because we have the backbone that the last administration never had.

## CANADA-FRANCE AGREEMENT

**Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox—Powell River):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. It concerns the Canada-France negotiations. I am certain the rest of the country does not find this issue as funny as the government Members in the House.

The Acting Minister of Fisheries claims he is the lead Minister in the negotiations. At the same time the Prime Minister indicates there will be a fully involved Minister from Newfoundland, but the people leading the negotiations will be the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of

Fisheries and Oceans. From the Government's point of view, is it possible for the Deputy Prime Minister to indicate to this House who is responsible for this sell-out?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Acting Minister of Fisheries):** Mr. Speaker, there is no sell-out. The lead Minister in these negotiations is the Secretary of State for External Affairs, who is always the lead Minister in international negotiations. The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and I will be fully involved. There has been no sell-out. There is going to be no sell-out. There is not going to be any buy-out. But one has to wonder what is the policy of the New Democratic Party? We had the Hon. Rambo Broadbent threatening gunboat action. Is that still the policy of the New Democratic Party of this country?

● (1430)

## INVOLVEMENT OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

**Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox—Powell River):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to address the second part of my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The Prime Minister indicated that the provincial Governments would be fully involved and consulted in these negotiations. Can the Secretary of State tell the House why the Prime Minister indicated that the Government will still give access to northern cod stocks to France in the agreement, the matter which has so grievously offended the people of Newfoundland and the other Atlantic provinces? Why will this sell-out continue in spite of the Prime Minister's assurance that these people will be listened to?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Acting Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Crosbie, sit down. Who asked you?

**Mr. Crosbie:** —the Hon. Member who asked the question must have been away, just as the Secretary of State for External Affairs has been away. We are glad to have him back in the House because of his outstanding performance.

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

**Mr. Blackburn (Brant):** I'll bet you are!

**Mr. Crosbie:** Mr. Speaker, Hon. Members opposite do not want to get the answers. They only like to make the innuendoes, the slanders, the assaults, and the travesties.

The answer is that there has been no sell-out. The Government of Newfoundland itself agreed to a 3,000 tonne allocation of northern cod in zone 2GH. There may or may not be any further allocation.

As the Prime Minister has said, there will be nothing further unless France agrees to binding arbitration on the boundary in the disputed zone and unless the problem of overfishing is solved and a reasonable quota agreed upon in zone 3PS on the south coast of Newfoundland. That is what the Prime Minister