

Fishing and Recreational Harbours

At Port Kerwin and the district of Ferryland we need a wharf and a stage. I did my best to obtain two Canada Works projects for that purpose in Port Kerwin this year but unfortunately the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Cullen) will not allow Canada Works recipients in Newfoundland to be paid the same pay as workers on the mainland, and so we have the lowest wage rates for people employed by Canada Works projects of any province in Canada. Because of this fact it is impossible to find people willing to work on those projects. Therefore the government will have to build a wharf and a stage at Port Kerwin itself.

At Riverhead and St. Mary's Bay once again the fisheries are making a comeback and dredging is needed.

At Point Lance, which is near Branch, an extension to the wharf is required for the inshore fishermen. At Peter's River, again the fishery is flourishing and men are returning to the fishery. At Point Lance the community stage is adequate. It was put there by the provincial government. However, the wharf needs to be extended. Peter's River is exposed to the open sea and the fishermen cannot be waiting all day in their boats in stormy weather to unload their fish. An extension is needed to the wharf so that they can unload three or four boats at the same time. I have asked the minister to give that matter priority.

At Placentia they are dredging an additional wharf space which is needed in the area called Swans. At Bay Bulls we are waiting to hear what will be done this year respecting the new marine service centre of the Department of Fisheries. We have been told there will be a new wharf built this year. I would like to have it confirmed that there will be a new facility which will be constructed in 1978 at a cost of something like \$3 million. This facility will serve the federal fishery and patrol vessels. I would like to know when that project will go ahead, what it will comprise and how much will be done this year. This will be another flourishing fishing centre, Mr. Speaker.

I was at St. Shott's during the Christmas break. The wharf there has been damaged and although work was done on it last year there is need for a much more adequate slipway. The fishermen at St. Shott's fish from one of the most exposed locations in the north Atlantic. These facilities are essential. Arnold's Cove is a place where dredging is required. At Argentia work will be required there. At St. John's a small boat facility and a slipway is needed. At Fairhaven and Placentia Bay a breakwater is needed. At Dunnville, because of the rebirth of the fishery a new wharf is needed for the fishermen. At Ferryland work is required to be done. Mr. Bill Morry of Ferryland is one of the few men left who was an expert in the salt codfish industry. Salt codfish today is as valuable as gold. Light salted, Spanish cured codfish is worth its weight in gold today and there is not very much of it produced because of the amount of work required in the production of it. But Bill Morry is leading a revival this year in Ferryland on the south shore in the saltfish business. He is using his old premises and work needs to be done to assist him there. It is important for us to co-ordinate the salt fishery with the fresh and frozen fishery, particularly during the glut

[Mr. Crosbie.]

season in June and July when the codfish come inshore and are caught in traps in tremendous quantities. At Portugal Cove South work is also required on the wharfing facilities. These are just some of the requirements that the minister should consider for this year.

This is a very important subject for Newfoundland. I am sorry that I do not have adequate time to deal with it. In Newfoundland we have come full circle. When the Liberal party first got into power in 1949, when Mr. Smallwood, Mr. James and their cohorts were in charge the fishery was a poor thing. We had to get out of the fishery and the only way for Newfoundland to develop and become prosperous was through the development of industry. It was the great Smallwood philosophy of "develop or perish". That great Liberal philosophy—"we are going to develop and you are going to perish." From 1949 to 1971, which is 22 years, Newfoundland suffered under that policy of industrialization. Despite our position in the northwest Atlantic, a strategic location, the fishery went down. That was the fault of our provincial government led by Mr. Smallwood, and the fault of the government here in Ottawa led by the various people during those years, with one brief respite when the right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) was in power.

Now the whole thing has been reversed. When the Progressive Conservatives took power in 1972 they saw the importance of the fishery. They started to agitate for the 200-mile economic zone, which should have been the continental shelf. It makes me laugh, Mr. Speaker, to hear the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment (Mr. LeBlanc) say that we have to make this concession and that concession to the foreign fishing fleets because our fish do not recognize the 200-mile economic zone, that they swim back and forth and we cannot just tell the foreign fishing fleets to keep out of our 200-mile economic zone. He says we must keep on good terms with them because we do not control the fish beyond the 200-mile economic zone, we do not control them beyond the Flemish Cap, and so on. Why did Canada agree to a 200-mile economic zone when it should have extended to the continental shelf, covering all the fish species that are found off the east coast of Canada? It is no excuse for the minister to say that he has to make these concessions.

We have had a tremendous turnabout in Newfoundland. We know that we are not going to be an industrial paradise. We have also had great economic misfortune. Newfoundland was more severely hit than anywhere else in Canada by very high unemployment. We had the collapse of the linerboard mill, the shutting down of an oil refinery, the shutting down of pioneer housing—I believe that is what it was called—in Placentia, and the shutting down of the fluorspar mine in St. Lawrence. We have suffered all of these economic blows.

The one bright spot we have is the fishery, which is starting to flourish once again. Catches are improving and the fishermen are getting higher prices. The industry is better organized and the fishermen now have a strong union which has done a good job for them. The fishery is now widely recognized to be the essential industry of Newfoundland, the essential lynch