

training, this Government will give them an increased opportunity.

Mr. Rompkey: Mr. Speaker, I listened with great attention to the Hon. Member. I cannot believe some of the things he said. I noticed that he kept his head down which led me to believe that maybe he really did not want to say the things he was saying.

Whether he comes from the same area I do, I do not know. He made a statement that the economy of the Atlantic provinces is changing from resource base. There is something going on called a crisis in the fishery. I do not know what area he is talking about but in my area and in the areas most of us represent on this side of the House represent, there is a crisis in a resource-based industry called the fishery which is fundamental to the Atlantic area. This Government through its inaction is doing nothing but allowing foreign countries to rape the very stocks we depend on, the very resource we depend on. You can talk all you want about unemployment insurance but unless you give people fish to catch and something to process in the plants, it is useless to talk about unemployment insurance or training or any other program.

Then the Hon. Member said that bureaucrats in Ottawa should not be determining local market needs. This plan we have now is something that has leaped full blown from the fertile minds of central Canadian bureaucrats. Are we supposed to take a 40 year old fisherman in Ros Blanche or in Caitlin Cove and move him to Ottawa, train him as a high-tech operator so he can work for Mitel? Will the Hon. Member comment on what we are supposed to do for those people who have no skills except in the fishing industry, who are in the age bracket between 30 and 50 years old and who are out of work as a result of the inaction of this Government? What the Government says to them is: "We are not going to give you fish. We are going to give you training." What kind of training are they going to give to those people? That is what I want to know and that is what they would like to know.

The Hon. Member said that the self-employed in the fishery will not be affected. I have just pointed out the only alternative now that the Government is offering to self-employed fishermen and plant workers is training. We can no longer offer them jobs, even part-time jobs, even jobs which can keep them in the system. We cannot offer them those jobs anymore. We are starting to get rejection slips from CEIC now. It has not fully hit the fan

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yet, but it is going to very soon. CEIC is starting to reject applications from people who have work programs in communities where that is the only alternative. This training that the Government talks about is a figment of somebody's imagination.

The Hon. Member talks about matching money for the provinces. That is fine but we have gone through that decade after decade and we know that a province in a have-not area of this country cannot match funds. You can have all the offers you want, but if the province has to match the funds and it has not got the wherewithal to do it, that kind of program just does not work. If the Government wants to do something creative and imaginative, why does it not bite the bullet, why does it not bring in a guaranteed annual income? You would see all over this country where imagination is working, namely in some native communities.

Take the James Bay agreement as a model. In the James Bay agreement, one of the fundamental essentials of the land claims negotiations and agreement was an income support program and a guaranteed annual income for those people who wanted to be freed from trying to beat the system. What this Government has done is to put another layer on that we have to beat. We have been beating the system for years. Instead of showing imagination and creativity and instead of bringing in a timely idea which is being utilized in many rural parts of this country, what the Government has done is simply add on another layer that we have to beat in order to stay in the system.

I do not know if the Member wants to take some time to answer these points, Mr. Speaker, but this is a very serious matter for us. I think those of us from the Atlantic area, if we are going to do our job in this Chamber, no matter what Party we come from or what side of the House, we have to stand up and say to the Government, this is a sham, this is a charade, this is not good enough. Let us do something meaningful for the people of the Atlantic.

Mr. Bird: Mr. Speaker, first of all, when I hear the hon. gentleman talking about the guaranteed annual income, it seems to me he should be sitting on the far right over here. That is in my opinion a socialist concept that does nothing but perpetuate the unemployment psyche that we have experienced across this country for so long in so many areas. The crutch of guaranteeing people an income whether they want to work or not, removing any incentive to work, I certainly reject that and with my head held very high. It is another Liberal