

the lip-service, they are going to take four times the quota assigned to them in 1990. The minister calls that progress?

I say to the minister, talk is not working. It is not working. Would he now take some definitive action? Would he take some trade action? Would he take some diplomatic initiatives? Would he stop the cheap lip-service which is getting us nowhere? Would he start the process?

Mr. McDermid: What would you suggest, Roger?

Mr. Simmons: I suggest that he start the process to extend jurisdiction to the nose and tail of the Grand Banks for a start. That is what I would suggest. What does the minister suggest?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, were the issue cheap lip-service, no one in the House could compete with the hon. member who just spoke.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, the issue is not that. The resolution clearly lies on diplomatic actions. We have already been able to get some reductions in the quotas established by the European Community, not enough, but some movement. We have had some response by the president of the commission. We expect to have a visit here in Canada soon, within weeks, by the European commissioner responsible for fisheries, at which time we will have the opportunity to discuss those matters with him directly and can bring to his attention some of the problems that are being faced.

• (1430)

He talks about trade measures. He comes from the Province of Newfoundland. He knows that the Province of Newfoundland is the province that would suffer most if we got involved in a trade war with Europe because they would respond by going directly at Newfoundland and other Atlantic Canadian exports to Europe.

We have problems enough in the Atlantic fishery now without embarking on gunboat diplomacy, the certain consequence of which would be to do damage to other parts of the Atlantic Canadian economy that are strong now and that we intend to keep strong. We intend not to engage in these kinds of rhetorical flights of fancy that only harm Atlantic Canada.

Oral Questions

ATLANTIC CANADA

Ms. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has said that he does not want simplistic slogans, he wants programs. He has told us that he is waiting for the cabinet committee to come forth with some programs. He has removed more people from the unemployment insurance program on the east coast but he has put \$50 million into Community Futures which requires the applicant to be on unemployment insurance. So he takes people off the program on the one hand and puts more money into a program for people on the other.

Mr. Epp: It does not.

Ms. McLaughlin: Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister has told us what may be, but people in the Atlantic region, families, are wondering what the future is going to be for their children. People are being laid off now. Communities, school boards and corner store businesses cannot even plan because of the instability that is created by the lack of proposal of specific programs for the Atlantic region.

Will the Prime Minister tell this House what specific programs he is prepared now to implement for the Atlantic region?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member clearly does not even understand how these existing programs work. Community Futures is a program that is designed for communities that have very specific problems. They are designated. There can be funding for these communities depending on the unemployment rate—not because of individual unemployed—that help them build a future. And that is what is being held up in the other place right now, an additional \$50 million for those communities. That program is a program that works. It has been proved time and time again that it works in communities all across Canada and particularly in Atlantic Canada.

I will be making an announcement later today about three new designated Community Futures areas, but for all the Community Futures there is \$50 million more, but that money can start to flow right now.

Ms. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I redirect the question to the Prime Minister.