

Adjournment Debate

will know that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. De Bané) is keenly interested in the total sports fishery questions across Canada. The Minister has been involved in an active dialogue with sports fishermen and recently sponsored a national conference on the subject. The sports fishery is recognized as an important element of the nation's tourist industry and has a great effect upon the economy. The Department is most interested in taking steps to ensure and nurture its growth.

The Department of Fisheries already has in place in Ontario programs of major significance to the sports fishery. Over 400 small craft harbour facilities are operated in Ontario. In fiscal year 1983-84, over \$17 million have been invested in new and improved facilities. The Sea Lamprey Control Program operated out of Sault Ste. Marie is fundamental to the continued existence of the sports fishery in the Great Lakes. Finally, our Great Lakes Research Branch provides much of the information used in identifying fisheries resource problems and developing solutions to them.

Hon. Members will also understand that the nature of the Department's activities in Ontario is different from coastal fisheries, since the responsibility for day to day management of the fishery has been delegated to the province. Thus, there may be considerable interest among members of the sports fishing public in activities similar to our Salmonid Enhancement Program in British Columbia which has been very successful, as is witnessed by the submission to which the Hon. Member referred.

● (1850)

However, the first move along these lines must come from the provinces. We know from past experience in the West Coast Salmonid Enhancement Program that it must continue and go forward. Much has been accomplished in rehabilitating fish stocks with the assistance and co-operation of the public at large. There is an important word in all of these matters facing the fishery today, co-operation. Such involvement has paid big dividends in British Columbia over the past years in terms of the awareness of the resource and support for action to deal with these urgent problems. As a direct consequence, all fisheries, including the sport fishery, will reap significant benefits in the long term. We would be pleased at any time to discuss with the Province of Ontario the very subject that has been raised by the Hon. Member here today, means with which we can move similar initiatives in Ontario.

LABOUR CONDITIONS—UNEMPLOYMENT IN BURNABY, B.C.

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, on December 20 last, I raised a question with the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) concerning the very high levels of unemployment in my constituency of Burnaby, B.C. I pointed out to the Prime Minister at that time that the latest figures showed that over 5,000 people were collecting unemployment insurance, and that many more were on welfare, their unemployment insurance having run out.

For the past six months, I have taken the opportunity to canvass door to door in my constituency and listen to the concerns of the people I represent. There is no question, both as a result of that door to door canvass and as a result of mail I have received from my constituents and telephone calls to my constituency office, that by far the most important issue which faces the people of Burnaby at the present time is the question of unemployment, specifically jobs and job security.

I recently spoke at a high school in my riding to a group of about 100 students in Grades 11 and 12. I asked how many of them had a parent or older brother or sister who was presently out of work and looking for a job. Over half the students in that group raised their hands.

This issue is the overwhelming concern of the people I represent, and the response of the prime Minister to that question on December 20 was completely unsatisfactory. The Prime Minister said that we have short-term make-work projects such as Canada Works or Summer Canada Works. My constituents want meaningful permanent jobs. They do not want unemployment insurance, welfare or stop-gap employment. Instead of creating such permanent jobs, this Government's policies in many instances have the opposite effect, and destroy those jobs. For example, grants to assist large corporations in replacing labour with capital will effectively throw people out of work.

Comparatively, Canadians have an incredibly wealthy country. We have rich resources, energy and a skilled labour force. Many people ask what on earth has gone wrong that we cannot put this all together to ensure that we have a full employment economy. Instead, we have been de-industrializing in this nation. The manufacturing sector has shrunk. We are increasingly dependent on our resources as hewers of wood and drawers of water. We continue the madness of exporting unprocessed raw materials. The export of raw logs from British Columbia has increased dramatically. Coal and other raw materials are not being processed in Canada.

We continue to rely very heavily on imports of manufactured goods, mining, agricultural and logging machinery, instead of creating jobs by manufacturing that machinery here in Canada. We continue to ship our goods abroad on foreign bottoms instead of shipping them on Canadian ships. Not only do we have to begin the process of creating a strong and viable manufacturing sector in this country, we have to take a tough look at the structure of work itself.

● (1855)

Just last week a woman told me on her doorstep that she was 54 years old and had a number of friends whose children would love to be working right now but could not find work. She said she had been working for 30 years and would be quite prepared to give up her job as long as she had the security of a proper pension. We must look at creative possibilities for the creation of jobs such as early retirement of full pension, the question of the length of the work week itself and effective retraining programs.