

The people involved reside along the Five Islands—Economy Shore and have no other means of support. Their situation has come as a surprise and caught them off guard. Their problems are compounded because their unemployment insurance benefits have now run out.

Through no fault of their own, hundreds of people have no source of income to feed their families. I ask that the Department of Employment and Immigration extend their UIC benefits for the few weeks required until the fishery market is re-established.

Although there are several programs to help Atlantic Canadian fishermen, these people seem to have fallen through the cracks. Part of the problem is an overabundance of American product which should be depleted shortly and allow the Canadian product to find a market.

I appreciate that departmental officials and the minister have all been very supportive. I urge them to find a solution to this problem as quickly as they can.

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PUBLIC SERVICE

Mrs. Marlene Catterall (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, whatever the other results, I believe that all ministers and all members of the House will agree that the inquiry into the Al-Mashat affair has seriously damaged the anonymity and impartiality of the Public Service.

The delicate relationship of accountability and mutual trust must exist between the elected and the appointed servants of the Canadian public.

The Public Service of Canada is the most important instrument we have as parliamentarians to ensure that the programs and policies determined by this House are determined impartially, efficiently and effectively, and to ensure that the government and Parliament are well informed and advised in determining the future of the nation.

In order to begin to repair the damage, I urge the Prime Minister personally to take responsibility for establishing a special committee of this House to examine and report to Parliament on restoring the proper balance of accountability, responsibility, anonymity and impartiality in the relationship between the elected and appointed servants of Canadians.

S. O. 31

[Translation]

YOUTH

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I want to show you the youth situation, according to the labour market analysis made by the Canada Employment Center for Val-d'Or and Senneterre.

As you know, young people must face numerous difficulties on the labour market, the unemployment level being very high.

Moreover, jobs available are very often at entrance level in the hospitality or restaurant business or in retail sales. The working conditions are less competitive in these sectors and there is a high turnover.

It is no surprise then that young recipients give as their main occupation handling, administration, sales or services. The education level of young people in the labour market is high enough for the kind of work available.

However, the moment there is job specialization, young people have integration problems. I must mention that the drop-out phenomenon is reaching young people in our area too.

Mr. Speaker, life is not easy for today's youth, but it is encouraging to note that, since 1984, it is getting better. Only through our continued combined efforts will we get the best results.

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[English]

NATIONAL UNITY

Mr. Brian L. Gardiner (Prince George—Bulkley Valley): Mr. Speaker, next year is Canada's 125th birthday. Canadians from coast to coast to coast will be celebrating a country that recently has had a difficult time.

Especially for aboriginal people, 1992 takes on a different meaning. At the New Democrats convention in Halifax this weekend we recognized this fact and have urged all Canadians and their governments to ensure that a serious message about aboriginal people is considered in any plans for 1992.

The recent shift of Canada 125 from the Secretary of State for External Affairs to the Minister responsible for Constitutional Affairs is a sign that hopefully the government will consider all regions of the country when planning its events.