

tant year. We, as politicians in Government and Opposition, have to address in debate and committee, on the political hustings, if you will, the issues that face the young people of this country.

Unemployment is at a cancerous rate, Mr. Speaker. Issues of education are also very important. The family unit too is extremely important. These are all issues affecting the young people of this country. I am confident that this new Ministry, particularly with the spirit and enthusiasm that the new Minister has shown in providing leadership in this portfolio, will address many of these issues and that action will take place shortly thereafter. I hope Members of the Opposition who are shouting across the way will be serious and will put forward their suggestions in a reasonable and sensible way so that we can have a real dialogue on some of those major issues. When it is the Party of doom and gloom, what else can one expect from Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition?

● (1730)

I have learned during my short term—

**Mr. Malone:** No, you haven't.

**Mr. Dingwall:** —as a Member of Parliament—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Guilbault):** I regret to interrupt the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary but his time has expired.

**Mr. Skelly:** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member had a great deal to say about fisheries and peace. With respect to West Coast fisheries, why can West Coast fishermen and communities not receive the same kind of consideration that was given on the East Coast, such as the agreements, consultation and the funding which he mentioned?

I would like to point out several areas where his Government could perhaps do something constructive. The first is the protection of the resource base. Second, the Government should provide an effective consultative process without the unilateral action mode it has used. Third, it could do something constructive about the fleet reduction and fleet restructuring program. The fourth point is that government administered costs, such as energy costs and interest rates, have been driving up the costs for fishermen. Fishermen are being driven out at every turn by rising government costs. The fifth point is that intergovernmental relations are so poor in that region that the federal Government does not operate effectively in enforcing the laws that exist. The sixth area of concern is the protection of the economic base of fishing-dependent coastal communities. The Department is ready to write off those communities. Finally, there is a reign of terror against fishermen on the West Coast by chartered banks, which are seizing their vessels and their homes and squeezing the guarantors. I recently called this to the attention of the Government, but as yet there has been no action.

If I provide the Hon. Member with correspondence showing that banks are in fact terrorizing fishermen, denying them civil rights and access to forms of remedy, would he be prepared to approach the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde), the Minister

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of Justice (Mr. Chrétien) and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. De Bané), to determine if at least in this one area in which the banks are driving these people into the ground something could be done? Would he be prepared to join with me and other Members on this side to try to convince the Minister of Finance to take some action to limit the action being taken by the most powerful organization in this country against the fishermen?

**Mr. Dingwall:** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member stated that he would like to see some equal sharing, if you will, of the benefits. He talked about the restructuring in Atlantic Canada and his concern about the fishery on the West Coast. I want to say to him quite clearly that the Government has taken much action with regard to the fishermen on the West Coast. Need I remind him of the inflation rate, which has been brought down substantially as a result of our six and five program? Is he willing to stand in his place and say that it has had no effect on fishermen in his constituency or on the West Coast? Does he want to say that interest rates, which have been substantially reduced, in fact halved, have had no effect on the fishermen in Atlantic Canada as well as on the West Coast? The answer is very obvious yes, they have had a very positive effect on the fishermen on the West Coast.

The Hon. Member asks what I would do if he were to provide me with certain correspondence. I share similar concerns with him about banks or financial institutions terrorizing individuals, as he says. But I would like to see that documentation. I have also had some instances where this has happened with my constituents. But we found redress in a number of ways by bringing it to the attention of the various authorities within the various banking communities.

Yes, I would be prepared to look at the matter raised. I will take it under advisement to see what I can do subsequently, because I am not aware of all the details contained therein.

Finally, the Hon. Member asked if our Government will take certain specific actions with respect to the West Coast fishery. Just yesterday the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans provided an opportunity for the fishermen's coalition to meet with him and to present their views. I think he said very effectively in the House on a number of occasions that he will give serious consideration to their suggestions. Hopefully, action will take place shortly thereafter.

**Mr. Chuck Cook (North Vancouver-Burnaby):** Mr. Speaker, as this eighth day of debate on the Throne Speech comes to a close, I would like to say a few words about Throne Speeches in general and this one in particular. Speeches from the Throne are somewhat like the streets of Hades. They are filled with good intentions.

When I read a Throne Speech that is cynically written, with the view that none of its proposals will ever take place, I find it to be a despicable act by any government. There is no Member in the House, no one in the press gallery or anyone else, who would suggest that it is anything but a charade of eight days of speeches that have been made here. The Throne Speech was