Supply

are no longer welcome to participate in the fishery but that is, frankly, an unacceptable approach.

We cannot simply holus-bolus say there is no longer a place for part-time fishermen. We cannot say to the fishermen who have concentrated on mackerel, herring, pelagic fishing and lobster but have not done groundfishing for the last couple of years that, whoosh with the stroke of the pen, they are out of the fishery. This is not acceptable.

The people who are going to leave the fishery should be the people who choose to leave the fishery and on no other basis. We should not take away people's fishing licences without some form of compensation. That in my judgment constituents expropriation without compensation, a practice that I for one would consider to be unacceptable.

I think we have to dig a little further into the resources of the government. Even though we are faced with a difficult financial situation people must come first in this circumstance. We have to set up an early retirement incentive program for fishermen and we have to provide some sort of licence buy-back scheme, financed in part if necessary by the industry, that will provide an opportunity for those people who wish to leave the industry to do so in order to achieve the downsizing. This must be done in a fair, just and humane way as opposed to simply coming in, identifying groups and saying they no longer have a right to be there.

I would argue there is a role for government in dealing with short-term crisis situations. There is a role for government to participate and provide assistance to people. The government has demonstrated that it recognizes that responsibility, both with respect to these fisheries aid packages and the principle introduced by this government with respect to unemployment insurance.

The object of these programs is not only to provide transitional funding to individuals but to see that they make the most of that time in terms of preparing themselves for alternative employment opportunities or in the case of the fishery simply to upgrade their own skills so that when they do return to the fishing industry they do so with a higher level of qualification than they had before. The third point I want to make, which I think is very germane to any discussion of unemployment, training, youth and so on, concerns the problem we have today with respect to the constitutional dichotomy between federal and provincial areas of jurisdiction. We seem to have increasing demand for the federal government to intrude into the field of education, only when it is the federal government we do not call it education but call it training or skill development or use various euphemisms so we do not have to use the word education.

The bottom line is that we see increasing demand for the federal government to get involved in education. If this is what the needs of the Canadian economy are, and of Canadian society, then so be it. In principle I do not have a problem with that. However I do ask myself, as one who spent 17 years in the field of education, what are our secondary and tertiary education systems doing?

• (1525)

What is this great infrastructure in schools, universities and colleges that spend 12 hours a day closed and locked? Where are all these resources if at the same time we are finding increasing demand for the federal government be it through the Department of Employment and Immigration or anywhere else in the process of funding alternate systems of education and little private schools?

I know there are some excellent training programs in my own constituency that are being funded through CEIC programs. These programs are very effective. They are helping individuals and so on. I am not saying there is anything wrong with that but why are we setting up through federal funding almost an alternate educational system as opposed to having the federal government and the provinces come together? I know the federal government would be delighted to work with the provinces to make these things happen.

It seems to me we are missing the mark when we have this tremendous outlay of money in the public school system. By public school I mean those that are state sponsored and not elementary. I think in Ontario public schools are called elementary schools. We have this tremendous infrastructure of schools and a tremendous system for education yet there remains outside of that multibillion dollar system demands for more and more