

Storage Facilities for Fish

Mr. Perrault: The Regional Development Incentives Act has enabled many fish plant operators to improve and expand their facilities. It has also provided the means whereby new processing facilities have been built in more marginal areas where fish is available but in quantities which made their viability uncertain without this assistance. Through these programs more fishermen than ever before are now able to dispose of all the species which they catch.

Aside from this we must not overlook the fact that already located throughout Newfoundland are many well equipped fish processing plants. Indeed, at this time the processing capacity is probably greater than the actual requirement. As a result of this situation, most of these plants have continued to extend their systems and facilities for collecting fish from outlying settlements.

Some of the opposition members from Newfoundland are terrified of democracy. It is interesting to hear their reactions to it.

Mr. McGrath: We have reason to be terrified of democracy with the Liberal government we have in Newfoundland.

Mr. Perrault: Using ARDA funds, the government of Newfoundland and Labrador is also providing a number of facilities of the type the hon. member is referring to in his motion. While I have referred to a number of ways in which solutions to the problem are being found—and found enthusiastically and optimistically, not in the mood of gloom, doom and disaster that we have listened to this afternoon—nevertheless this is not to suggest that there is

not a continuing need for improved fishing facilities. This government will continue to improve the program, hopefully with the co-operation of some of the doomster opposition members on the other side of the House. To this end the fisheries division of the Department of the Environment is constantly reviewing the situation and formulating new plans with a view to providing better facilities in areas still not adequately serviced.

Under a whole range of government programs, not only has a substantial amount of the DREE budget gone to the Atlantic provinces to provide new fish plants, herring reduction plants; it has also assisted in the re-establishment of centres and communities. One third of the cost of every fishing boat, except for the fleets that are limited by law, has been provided by the federal government which has been under unfair assault on this matter for so long. In addition to this, the government has financed water supply systems for new and existing plants.

Mr. McGrath: Question. Don't talk it out.

Mr. Perrault: Why don't these Newfoundland members, who claim to be so objective in their political views, stand up and give vocal and public support to some of the measures brought in by the government?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hour provided for the consideration of private members' business has now expired. It being five o'clock p.m. this House stands adjourned until Monday next at two o'clock p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).

At five o'clock the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.