

Member talks about expenditures. I simply remind him that this Government inherited a deficit mess of \$38 billion and a national debt of \$200 billion. If you want to talk about extravagance and expenditure, we are looking at it right across the way.

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FISHERIES

CAPELIN—REQUEST FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MARKETING AGENCY

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister. Fishermen in St. Mary's Cove, Newfoundland, have voted 95 per cent not to take part in this year's Capelin fishery because the price offered by the Japanese is too low. It is not an economic fishery and it will not be an economic fishery so long as an unregulated market, a chaotic market, continues to play one fisherman off against another pushing down prices.

Will the Government finally recognize the seriousness of this situation and guarantee immediately a fair price for this year's Capelin and take action to establish a capelin marketing agency so that this kind of chaos will not happen in the future?

Mr. St. Germain: Buy a popcorn stand.

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries, without accepting the socialist solution—

Mr. Broadbent: Favoured by the fishermen.

Mr. Mazankowski: —I can only advise the House and those who ignore the realities of the market-place, such as the Leader of the socialists who is the great advocator of "what's a billion—"

Mr. Broadbent: Why don't you have a holiday?

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member. A short question.

Mr. Manly: Perhaps the Minister and the Government will recognize the necessity for marketing agencies before too long, Mr. Speaker.

REQUEST THAT FISHERMEN RECEIVE EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will the Government extend unemployment insurance benefits for fishermen since they expired May 15? The waters off the northeast coast of Newfoundland are too cold, the cod are not appearing, fishermen are not earning any money. Will the Government extend unemployment insurance benefits for these fishermen?

Oral Questions

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Again, Mr. Speaker, without accepting the socialist solution, I can assure the Hon. Member that the Minister is seized with this very important matter, he considers it a priority and is working toward a solution.

FISHERIES PRICES SUPPORT BOARD—REQUEST FOR CAPELIN PRICE SUPPORT

Hon. William Rompkey (Grand Falls—White Bay—Labrador): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister in the absence of the Minister of Fisheries on the same topic of the capelin fishery and the fact that, because the Japanese have refused to pay a fair price, Newfoundland fishermen, rightly so, have tied up their boats. Unemployment insurance is cut off, the cod fish fishery is a failure, and so is the lobster fishery.

The Deputy Prime Minister is a Minister over 50 who understands the importance of regional development, unlike the younger Ministers. He has an opportunity to act here. There is such a thing called the Fisheries Prices Support Board. It exists. It is a government agency. He has the power to approach that agency. Will he do that and will he ask it to support the price of capelin this year to make sure that there is a decent price for Newfoundland fishermen?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, as usual the Hon. Member in his very constructive way poses a very sensible question and probably a solution that might be considered. I will certainly take that as a representation and convey it to the Minister. I thank him for his suggestion.

REQUEST THAT MARKETING AGENCY BE ESTABLISHED

Hon. William Rompkey (Grand Falls—White Bay—Labrador): I appreciate the Deputy Prime Minister's answer, Mr. Speaker. I want to make sure he understands the seriousness of this situation. He has to act for this year, but for next year will he make sure that there is a Canadian marketing agency put in place to make sure this situation does not happen again?

Mr. Broadbent: A socialist answer.

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, without accepting the socialist solution, but also accepting the fact that I do take the Hon. Member's question seriously because he is very knowledgeable and I accept that—certainly more knowledgeable on the issue than I am—

Mr. Broadbent: Pretty socialist, though.

Mr. Mazankowski: —I will take his considerations into account, convey them to the Minister, and assure the Member that this matter will be looked into. In spite of his earlier comments about age and what not, I think that between the two of us we can probably find a solution.