

S. O. 21

[English]

FISHERIESANNOUNCED CLOSURE OF HIGHLAND FISHERIES PLANT IN
GLACE BAY, N.S.

Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern and, indeed, disappointment with the Government of Canada and its lack of sensitivity toward the former employees of Highland Fisheries in Glace Bay. It should be noted that the people of Cape Breton have had to sustain a number of set-backs since the present Government came to power, but in particular the people of Glace Bay.

Recently Highland Fisheries, owned and operated by Clearwater Fine Foods of Bedford, Nova Scotia, indicated that its plant will be closed because the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. Siddon) will not provide that plant or those employees with an enterprise allocation of fish. Some 310 individuals have lost their employment as a result.

I am further advised that the Minister has failed to meet personally with the Premier or senior management to discuss this situation. Almost 3,000 people from Glace Bay and surrounding areas have signed a petition calling upon the Government of Canada to provide the necessary quota of fish in order that this particular operation employing some 310, mainly, if not all, females, would re-open immediately. It is time that the Government of Canada showed some generosity and sensitivity to the workers at the Highland fish plant.

* * *

ENERGY

DEVELOPMENT OF HIBERNIA OILFIELD

Mr. Dennis H. Cochrane (Moncton): Mr. Speaker, today marks the beginning of a historic agreement involving the Government of Canada, the Government of the Province of Newfoundland, and a major oil consortium to develop the long awaited and often promised Hibernia oil project. The dream and promises of past Governments have finally become a reality under the Progressive Conservative Government of Canada.

Hibernia represents the largest single capital investment ever undertaken in Atlantic Canada and will usher in an era of major economic development in Newfoundland. Hibernia will open the door to the development of other energy resources off the shores of Atlantic Canada. The spin-off opportunities will be significant, not only in Newfoundland but throughout Atlantic Canada.

Efforts will be made to achieve Canadian content targets of 50 per cent, to maintain 66 per cent construction phase employment for Atlantic Canadians, and to target 80 to 95 per

cent of engineering, design, and project management contracts for Canadian firms.

The Government of Canada's contribution represents an investment in the future of Newfoundland and an investment in the future of Atlantic Canada. Most important, it represents an investment in new jobs, new skills, and new technology for Atlantic Canadians.

* * *

PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

RESIGNATIONS FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA CABINET

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan—Malahat—The Islands): The Liberal-Conservative coalition in British Columbia is alive and well but looking for a new leader. Brian Smith from the Conservative wing of the Socreds and brazen Grace McCarthy of the Liberal wing have both resigned from the Vander Zalm Cabinet because Bill Vander Zalm runs a one-man band that always plays off key.

The number one enemy of the continued Liberal-Conservative coalition is no longer the NDP but Bill Vander Zalm, the very person the coalition chose two years ago as their saviour when the Government of Bill Bennett was totally discredited. Bill Vander Zalm hung on to power for the Socreds by running against the Bennett record and by promising reform. Now McCarthy and Smith try to restore their popularity by running against Vander Zalm.

This time the people of British Columbia will not be fooled. Regardless of their style, Bill Bennett, Grace McCarthy, Brian Smith, and Bill Vander Zalm all belong to the same right-wing coalition. They deserve each other. The people of British Columbia deserve better.

* * *

[Translation]

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

OPENING OF GEOSCIENTIFIC CENTRE IN STE-FOY

Mrs. Suzanne Duplessis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State (Science and Technology)): Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday in Quebec City I was at the news conference where the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Masse) announced that after an absence of 110 years, the Geological Survey of Canada would be back in Quebec with the opening of a geoscience centre in Ste-Foy, at the INRS.

In five years time, the centre will have a budget of \$24.2 million, of which \$13 million will be provided by the federal government. Furthermore, there will be 15 new jobs in research and management. Mr. Speaker, the centre will provide for a presence in Quebec of the Geological Survey of