

S.O. 22

The newspaper *Les Affaires* of August 31 published a detailed report on how business people feel about the present Government, and it was a very positive analysis.

Also, now that the Macdonald Report has been tabled, Canadian citizens will be able to consider their national future in its broadest terms, now that the Commission has described with great frankness and energy the choices open to Canadians.

This is a golden opportunity for elected representatives to change the face of this country and to redefine its social, industrial and even national frontiers. The new trade agreements with our neighbour to the South, the restructuring of social programs and Quebec's place in Canada are subjects that deserve serious, frank and thorough reflection.

Canada's future depends on its ability to react quickly to change, and the survival of this country will depend on that ability.

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## FISHERIES

### FUTURE OF HERRING FISHERY IN GLOUCESTER RIDING

**Mr. Roger Clinch (Gloucester):** Mr. Speaker, the last two weeks have been highlighted by momentous events within the herring fishing industry in the constituency of Gloucester. The future of the industry is threatened.

During that time I had an opportunity to meet with officials of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as well as spokesmen for producers, plant workers and fishermen from my riding.

The current crisis in the Gulf of St. Lawrence stems from the disagreement between fishermen and Department of Fisheries and Oceans biologists.

The quotas established last year were expected to cover a three-month fishing season, but it actually took fewer than eight days to fill them.

If coastal fishermen can catch 8,000 metric tons within eight days, should we question the accuracy of the data provided by the biologists?

We learn from fishermen with over 20 years of experience that this year herring stocks are abundant enough to allow for double the established quota.

In the interest of people whose sole source of income is fishing, I would urge the Minister to reconsider his decision not to raise quotas. The full impact of this situation will be felt not only by the fishermen who will be unable to sell their fish next year, but also by the producers who will already have lost their markets.

I would be remiss to conclude without emphasizing that we would be making a mistake by ignoring the representations of

my constituents. Therefore I ask the Minister to review the data and give those fishermen a fighting chance to earn their living.

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## AGRICULTURE

### REQUEST THAT MINISTER DISSOCIATE HIMSELF FROM ENVIRONMENT CANADA REPORT

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell):** Mr. Speaker, I urge the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) to dissociate himself altogether from the Environment Canada Report dealing with the impact on farm lands of the municipal drainage outlet program established under the Canada-Ontario subsidiary agreement for Eastern Ontario and said to be a preliminary evaluation.

[English]

This report is a direct attack on the farmers of eastern Ontario who requested funding, and on all the municipalities which administered these funds. It would seem that the authors of the report had made up their minds on the conclusions before they even started. Eastern Ontario farmers do not agree with these findings and I doubt if any of them were even consulted.

Eastern Ontario has always lagged behind other areas of the province, and programs such as the one I just described have assisted in upgrading the land. More funding is needed to allow the farmers of our part of the country to be more competitive with others.

I call upon my colleagues, the Member for Stormont-Dundas (Mr. Warner), the Member for Leeds-Grenville (Mrs. Cossitt), the Member for Ottawa-Carleton (Mr. Turner), the Member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Tupper), the Member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. Dick) and others to join me in condemning this report.

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## TRADE

### CANADA-UNITED STATES NEGOTIATIONS

**Mr. Steven W. Langdon (Essex-Windsor):** Mr. Speaker, in his press conference this morning the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) again maintained his closed and secretive approach to freer trade talks with the United States. He refused once more to clarify how agriculture would be treated in these talks. He has also refused to make a public announcement this week on his free trade plans, despite earlier promises of a six-month signal.

Why is this approach being taken? Clearly, it is a deliberate political strategy which is explained by the secret documents that leaked out yesterday. Those documents say: "It is likely that the higher the profile of this issue, the lower the degree of public approval will be". They also state: "Benign neglect from