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SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE JAMES M. RUSSELL

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order! I would like to welcome to the galleries today a group of grade VI students numbering about seventy, from the Glovertown Elementary School, Glovertown, with their teachers, Mr. Samuel Johnston and Mr. Rupert Tulk and a second group from St. Peter's School of Upper Island Cove, a group of grade VIII numbering forty-two with their teacher, William Greeley, vice-principal. I trust that your visit here is most enjoyable and most educational and indeed we welcome any other visitors who might be in the galleries today.

HONOURABLE T. ALEX HICKMAN (MINISTER OF JUSTICE): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. John Francis Lawlor as Chief of Police of the Newfoundland Constabulary. Chief of Police Lawlor is the son of the late Edward Lawlor who was also a member of the Newfoundland Constabulary. The new Chief of Police was born in St. John's on September 27, 1911. He joined the Newfoundland Constabulary on May 9, 1932. He performed regular police duties until May 9, 1940 when he was appointed quartermaster for the police and fire departments, a position he held for sixteen years. In addition to his normal duties during World War II Chief of Police Lawlor also served as acting quartermaster for auxiliary fire services.

In September 1944 Chief Lawlor attended a four month course in general police work at Regina, Saskatchewan, and has also attended several defense courses at Arnprior. On September 15, 1944, Mr. Lawlor was promoted to acting Sergeant, April 1, 1947, was appointed as sergeant, June 17, 1955, he became a head constable, September 15, 1956 Mr. Lawlor was promoted to District Inspector and on October 1, 1956 appointed officer in charge of Traffic Division. On January 1, 1963 he was appointed supervisor of Street Patrol Division, and assumed his

duties of acting prosecutor in the Magistrate's Court St. John's on July 1, 1966. On May 1, 1968, Mr. Lawlor was promoted to the rank of Deputy Assistant Chief of Police and on September 1, 1970, he was promoted to the rank of Assistant Chief of Police. Chief of Police John F. Lawlor was awarded the twenty year police service medal and thirty year bar. He is also the recipient of the centennial medal.

Chief of Police Lawlor exemplifies the great tradition and devotion to duty of the Newfoundland Constabulary. His record during forty years of continuous service with the Newfoundland Constabulary has been of the highest order. He is an excellent police officer. I hope to be in a position, Mr. Speaker, to announce to the House of Assembly the names of the Assistant Chief of Police and the Deputy Assistant Chief of Police as soon as I received the required recommendations from Chief of Police Lawlor whose recommendations will be the guiding factor in such appointments as indeed will they be with all appointments and promotions in the Newfoundland Constabulary.

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, this announcement by the honourable minister was not altogether unexpected in respect of Mr. Lawlor but that makes it nonetheless very welcome.

MR. W.N. ROWE because Chief Lawlor is esteemed by anybody who has had anything to do with him in his official capacity. He has a magnificent record, which the honourable minister has just given a portion of in the House today. We were delighted as he said, in this government and as the previous government was delighted in 1968, I believe the date was, in making him Deputy Assistant Chief. He served this province in an exemplary fashion even since and indeed before. He is a man who spent his whole life virtually dedicated to matters affecting public security.

I remember very well when I believe he was a crown prosecutor, back four or five years ago, in magistrate's court - a fair minded yet skillful prosecutor, and no more fair minded nor skillful prosecutor could be found anywhere in this country of Canada and indeed in Newfoundland.

No I will not tell the story I was telling my colleagues earlier today, Mr. Speaker. But I found the gentleman to be an excellent man in every respect and we on this side of the House and indeed all Newfoundlanders who knew and know Chief Lawlor respect him greatly and welcome this appointment.

MR. J. C. CROSBIE: (MINISTER OF FINANCE): Mr. Speaker, I would like to report to the House on the current status of the labour dispute at the Newfoundland Farm Products Limited at Pleasantville.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: It is important enough. I am reporting it as President of the Treasury Board who looks after the collective bargaining division.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: Everything I do I get permission from the Premier.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. CROSBIE: Just as the honourable gentleman used to do.

MR. CROSBIE: Now, Mr. Speaker, on March 1, negotiations started with the employees of the Newfoundland Farm Products Limited with respect to a new collective bargaining agreement. On May 1, the Collective Bargaining Division on behalf of the government made the final proposal in these negotiations to the negotiating committee for the union, which was a branch of the Newfoundland Fishermen Farm and Allied Workers Union. If that offer were accepted -

Well first I better say that last year before the union was recognized, negotiations took place last year, I would like to remind the House that the average wage in the plant at Pleasantville was \$1.65 per hour and that the rate of pay for the lowest paid classification was \$1.10 per hour.

As a result of last year's negotiations the average wage rose to \$2.00 per hour, the rate of pay for the lowest paid classification was \$1.50 per hour. The increases granted last year averaged out at thirty-five cents an hour or twenty-two percent, ranging from twelve cents an hour to eighty-one cents an hour or six percent to forty-eight percent. That was after last year's negotiations.

On May 1, our proposal to the negotiating committee provided for a minimum increase of twenty cents an hour for all employees. They also agreed to make adjustments in rates for certain classifications which would provide increases ranging from thirty cents to fifty-two cents an hour for the thirteen employees who were affected by those special adjustments.

In addition we agreed to grant two additional statutory holidays a year which would bring the total to eleven statutory holidays a year. The union negotiating committee then called a meeting of their members on Tuesday, May 2 and put this proposal to a vote. At that meeting a majority at the meeting voted to accept that proposal. I believe the vote was thirty-five to eleven in favour of accepting that proposal. The eleven dissidents insisted that there be another meeting in connection with this proposal. At the second meeting

Mr. Crosbie.

Our proposal was rejected by a majority of three or four people at the meeting. The strike was then called or they went on strike at that time and I believe it was May 4. They went back to work a few days later, when it was agreed that further negotiations would take place. I might point out by the way, Mr. Speaker, that at that time or on May 1, the union was looking for twenty-eight cents an hour (\$.28) increase for the first year of an agreement as compared to our offer of twenty cents (\$.20).

They went back to work after being on strike for some days or on May 4 and the representatives met with the representatives of the Treasury Board and then those meetings were adjourned to May 22. On May 22 we made another offer, a better offer to the workers of Newfoundland Farm Products. They had said that their big objection to our offer of May 1 was that it was only going to be a one-year contract. To meet that objection we made an offer based on a two-year contract. We offered them the same proposals with respect to the first year twenty cents (\$.20) an hour and the rest of it. There are two statutory holidays this year. In the second year of the contract, with effect from April 1, 1973, they will automatically get a further twelve cents (\$.12) an hour across the board with two additional statutory holidays in the second year of the contract, making thirteen statutory holidays in all. That proposal was taken to their membership and I do not believe any strike vote was taken. They just went on strike or recommenced the strike.

As the House knows, Mr. Speaker, we are all concerned very greatly about the effect of this strike on the farmers who use the facilities of Newfoundland Farm Products at Pleasantville, particularly my colleague, the Minister of Mines, Agriculture and Resources, under whom agriculture comes. As a result of this concern, we met yesterday morning with our people in the Treasury Board and with certain farmers and authorized them to contact the union again and to improve our offer in an attempt to see whether this could be resolved and the dispute settled.

Mr. Crosbie.

Yesterday afternoon our representatives met representatives of the union. We increased the offer. We offer them an additional two cents, making it twenty-two cents, (\$.22) an hour this year, for this year's contract and two additional statutory holidays for this year, making thirteen statutory holidays this year, not for the second year of the contract. That proposal was taken back to the membership apparently this morning. A vote was held this morning, not a secret ballot, a vote by show of hands, and was rejected by the employees of the union at Pleasantville, much to our disappointment.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that there are innocent third parties involved but I have to make the position of the government quite clear. There was a misleading report on radio today by the union business agent or president stating that they were waiting to hear again from the Treasury Board, that they had rejected this for a better offer from the Treasury Board. The Treasury Board is not considering, Mr. Speaker, any renewed offers or proposals in connection with the strike. We have made our latest proposal, yesterday. It is a good proposal and what

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we would like to see the union do, Mr. Chairman, is to conduct a secret ballot among the workers, their bargaining unit at Pleasantville, to see whether this offer is accepted or not, not a ballot by show of hands. So that is the position to date. We are extremely disappointed that this reasonable offer, and we have gone out of our way to increase the offer again, because of our concern for the broiler producers and hog producers, this is being rejected summarily not even by a secret ballot. I can therefore only appeal to the members of the union at Pleasantville to reconsider its latest proposal. They have had startling advances and wages and working conditions over the last year and one-half there. I can only ask them to reconsider, to keep in mind that the farmers and hog producers and broiler producers have been badly affected by this and to be reasonable and to reconsider this latest offer of the Government.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, if I may make a brief comment on the statement just made by the hon. Minister of Finance and President of the Treasury Board? I would like to say on behalf of my colleagues that it is unfortunate and indeed tragic that the Treasury Board was unable to reach agreement with the employees of Newfoundland Farm Products Limited in the recent round of negotiations.

I do not know, Mr. Speaker, if I should interpret from what the hon. minister said that Treasury Board now intends to take the hard line that was stated by the Minister of Finance about a week ago. The most recent offer made by the Treasury Board, Mr. Speaker, although it seems to be rather small and insignificant, two cents in addition to what already had been offered plus a couple of extra statutory holidays, although it seems rather small, I am inclined to half agree with the minister that the membership of the union should be given an opportunity to vote on the counter proposal by secret ballot. I think this is fair and just and I think that the negotiating team from the union would be well advised to put the proposal before their membership and have it voted on by secret ballot. I think this is reasonable.

Then, Mr. Speaker, if the employees then reject the offer I sincerely hope that the door will not be closed to further negotiations. Because, as my

colleague, the member for Bonavista North, has pointed out a number of times from this House, apart from the general public there is a third party involved. the farmers, and some of these farmers, Mr. Speaker, probably after this present weekend will stand to lose substantially. As a matter of fact, some of them may become bankrupt, if the strike is prolonged beyond the present weekend. So I hope that the minister will not slam the door in the workers faces, that if they do agree to vote on the proposal by secret ballot and they reject it, or I hope that they will accept it, but in the case that they reject it that there will be

room for further negotiations and I hope that in the very near future, within the next couple of day, I hope over the weekend, that an agreement can be reached with the employees of Newfoundland Farm Products. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, the only other alternative that I can see is for the Treasury Board to accept the recommendation that was made by the employees themselves to subject the whole matter to voluntary arbitration.

MR. GROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, just on that point, I forgot to mention in my remarks that a most unusual bargaining process; the union, on May 1, was asking for an increase this year of eight cents an hours and is now coming back asking for an increase of thirty-two cents an hour. So wherever reason is involved in this particular negotiation, Mr. Speaker, I have to point out that it has been very much on our side. With respect to whether the door is closed or not, the door is never closed if the union has something reasonable to suggest. But, Mr. Speaker, the only ones who have been suggesting anything in this impasse so far, is the government through the Treasury Board. As far as binding arbitration is concerned, our policy is no different from the policy of the last government in that respect. It would be a dangerous precedent to have binding arbitration in a matter of collective bargaining such as this because it is the negation of the collective bargaining process and for other reasons the hon. gentleman knows.

I can only say that I hope that this offer will be accepted. The door will not be closed at any time. But I just want to point out any misapprehension, the Treasury Board is not now considering any new offer as was implied on radio today.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

MR. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present seven petitions on behalf of the residents of the Town of Newtown, Town of Pound Cove, the Town of Wesleyville, the Town of Brookfield, the Town of Pool's Islands,

the Town of Badger's Quay, and the Town of Valleyfield.

These seven petitions, Mr. Speaker, pray that this government will reconstruct and pave the highway from Trinity to Newtown. Mr. Speaker, the former Liberal administration had made great strides in our province and indeed in my district, in upgrading and paving roads. Of course they did not really upgrade any roads because there were no roads, because there were no roads there when they took over, to upgrade.

However, they have build a tremendous amount of roads. They have gone so far this last few years to upgrade some twenty-seven miles of the highway on the north side of Bonavista Bay. We have also, on the same highway, ten miles of paved road. The people from the Valleyfield-Newtown area appreciate this very much. For this road is one of the things in this century that have isolated them from the rest of the world. They are quite grateful, quite happy with it and they use this road extensively.

Now they ask that the remainder of this road be reconstructed and paved. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Highways, will find money in

this Budget although it is somewhat reduced this year, will find money enough to grant the prayer of this petition, because this is very urgent. Our people have been driving over gravel roads now for fifteen years. Of course that is how long they have had it. They never had a road before. They believe that in this day and age it is absolutely necessary they believe, and I believe also that it is a "must" that they be brought into the seventies with a properly paved highway. So, Mr. Speaker, I humbly support the prayer of this petition. I may add Mr. Speaker, that although the man who promised that this highway would be paved within the next couple of years is not today in this House. Even though he was a minister, at that time a minister of the government, when he said that this highway would be upgraded and paved.

I sincerely hope that the Department of Highways have taken into account to have the cost of this highway in their reduced Budget. Mr. Speaker, I ask that these petitions be placed on the Table of this House and passed on to the department to which it relates.

MR. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, I, having been a native son of Wesleyville. I would be amiss in my duty if I did not rise to support the petition presented by my colleague the member for Bonavista North. Having travelled that road scores and scores of times I certainly agree now that this road should be upgraded and paved. Not only should this road be upgraded and paved but there are roads in the District of Fogo, the Gander Bay road and all through the communities of Gander Bay, Carmanville, Musgrave Harbour and so on.

The Liberal Government built the roads. I think the present government can do nothing less now than to upgrade those roads and keep the people from choking by dust and have them paved. I certainly have much pleasure in supporting this petition.

MR. AYLWARD: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition from the

residents of Mount Arlington Heights. The prayer of the petition is similar to the prayer of the previous petitioners. The road in the area, really it is a road through the community of Mount Arlington Heights, be upgraded and paved.

Mr. Speaker, the matter came before the Minister of Highways only about three or four weeks ago when a delegation from that community as well as Long Harbour visited here and met with him. It was understood at that time that the only road to be paved in the area was the road in Long Harbour. Mr. Speaker, I strongly suggest and submit to the

government that this particular road is only a very, very short distance, approximately one and a-half to two miles, that it is right through a community, that there are residents living on each side of the road. In summer the dust situation is intolerable, in winter the road is completely impossible. In fact, I know the Minister of Provincial Affairs is quite familiar with this, because he was obliged to leave his car there on one occasion during the winter, because he could not get his car back up over the road.

Since the road is being paved in Long Harbour and since the paving equipment is in the area, I strongly suggest that the department give serious consideration to paving the road this year.

Mr. Speaker, the petition is signed by approximately 180 residents of the area. I strongly support the prayer of the petition and ask that it be tabled and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to support the petition presented by the member for Placentia East on behalf of the 180 of his constituents in Mount Arlington Heights, in the District of Placentia East.

I sympathize with these people, Mr. Speaker, and I must also say that I do not envy the hon. member in trying to get the money out of the Minister of Finance to get the prayer of this petition answered. When we look at the estimates, we see that road reconstruction and maintenance for the coming fiscal year has been cut by over \$20 million. The only thing I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that I wish the hon. member well. If he can convince or persuade or influence the Minister of Finance to give him the money to get this road upgraded in Mount Arlington Heights, then I will say, Sir, that he deserves the Distinguished Order of the British Empire.

HON. A.J.MURPHY (Minister of Provincial Affairs): Mr. Speaker, since my

name was brought into this matter with reference to being marooned on the other side of the mountain, I would like to add my support, not only to this petition but to the very many. We have been hearing of the utmost neglect during the past fifteen or sixteen years of the roads. It is just a pity Mr. Speaker, that we do not have "Mandrake the Magician" Minister of Finance instead of the hon. member for St. John's West, then we could do them all.

HON. T. HICKEY (Minister of Social Services and Rehabilitation): Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my support to this petition. In doing so, Sir, I think it is about time that this House took something into consideration, and that is the attempt by some gentlemen on the other side, and particularly the member for Bell Island, to lay all the blame at the feet of the Minister of Finance. It is most unfair, and it is about time this House dealt with it. The blame should be laid at the feet of the government if there is any blame. If there is any blame it should be blamed on the former administration.

MR. SPEAKER: Order! order!

MR. W.N. ROWE: To a point of order, Sir, there is no debate allowed on a petition, as Your Honour well knows. Also, the only thing that you are permitted to do is to present a petition or support a petition. There is to be no debate nor no personal recriminations or acrimony across the House.

MR. HICKEY: Will you keep that in mind over there?

MR. ROWE: I will keep it in mind, sure.

On motion petition received.

MOTIONS:

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Incorporate The Newfoundland And Labrador Amateur Sports Federation," and on behalf of the honourable the Minister of Health a bill, "An Act To Amend The St. Clare's Mercy Hospital Incorporation Act, 1960."

HONOURABLE C. WILLIAM DOODY (MINISTER OF MINES, AGRICULTURE AND RESOURCES):

Mr. Speaker, I serve notice that I will on tomorrow present a bill, "An Act To Amend The Protection Of Animals Act."

QUESTIONS:

MR. R.L. CHEESEMAN (MINISTER OF FISHERIES): Mr. Speaker, in answer to question number (32) ask by the honourable member for Fogo the answer to (1) is nil, (2) nil and (3) nil and copies are here to be tabled.

HONOURABLE JOHN A. CARTER (MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH): Mr. Speaker, in answer to question number (38), it is quite a detailed question and the answers are quite detailed. They are printed and I submit them for tabling.

MR. DOODY: Mr. Speaker, in answer to question number (26), I will take this as notice and as soon as the necessary information is available it will be tabled in this honourable House.

HONOURABLE AUBREY J. SENIOR (MINISTER OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT):

Mr. Speaker, I would like to give the answer to question number (35). The answer to the first part is there are six persons and the names are as follows: Bernard Foley, Donna Leawood, Elaine Evans, James Robins, Frederick Cook and Maybella Clarke. The answer to question (2) is one person from -

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, the honourable Minister had better table the answers because otherwise he is going too fast and we will not be able to take it down.

MR. SENIOR: I am going to table them as well as read them. Promoted

to accountant 11 there was one person, two people promoted to clerk stenographer 11, one person promoted to regional development director 1, one person promoted to statistician 1 and one to clerk stenographer 111. The answer to question number (3) is the amount of money involved in the promotion of accountant 11 is \$157.00, clerk stenographer 111 is \$767.00, clerk stenographer 11 is \$441.60, statistician 1 is \$669.00 and regional development director 1 is \$1391.00, with a total of \$3,425.00.

MR. E.W.WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, before you call Orders of the Day I would like to direct a question to the honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs. Can the minister inform the House if it is the intention of the government to carry on with the installation of water and sewer at Musgrave Harbour because I have heard rumors that it might be discontinued?

HONOURABLE HAROLD A. COLLINS(MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING):

Mr. Speaker, there are about seventy or eighty programmes, on-going programmes from last year. There is nothing in the Budget for it as you can see because there was nothing budgeted for it last year either, as that was not the way it was done. We are taking a look at all of the programmes and hopefully we will be in a position to make an announcement soon.

MR. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. I think the financing of the installation of the system here is arranged through bank loans rather than showing it in the Estimates or the Budget Speech.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, last year all financing was done through short-term loans, as the honourable member must realize. All I can say is we are taking a look at all of the programmes and just as soon as we are in a position to tell all of the people we will do so.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the

honourable Minister of Social Services and Rehabilitation. The question is not entirely unexpected by him because we have discussed the matter on other occasions. I would ask the minister that whether, in view of the fact that forty new welfare officers are going to be appointed apparently and in view of the fact that the minister has received a petition signed by most, if not all, of the residents of LaScie in White Bay South, whether he intends to replace the welfare officer who was recently moved from LaScie to Baie Verte, a distance of forty miles between the two communities and over some of the worst dirt highway in the province?

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, the situation with regards to the changes in the regional office at LaScie was brought on by proposals of my officials to upgrade the service and to economize. The reasons given by my officials I cannot dispute until I have had a chance to give them an opportunity to test them or prove them. I believe I have informed someone in my honourable friend's office to this effect and also that the change is being tried during the best season of the year, in the summer. If the services do not improve and if there is no savings or if those reasons are not well-founded for the change then certainly we will revert back to the previous system, but the additional staff has nothing to do with it.

MR. HARVEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the honourable Minister of Finance. On May 5 or 6 the minister made an announcement in regard to 200 or 300 jobs that would be available at Goose Bay for the Labrador Linerboard Mill. Now to date I informed the people that I represent in Labrador South and to date they cannot seem to find out who will be doing the hiring for these jobs, whether it will be the Labrador Linerboard Limited, a three "L" job or the Manpower. Seeing that the jobs are few and far between at Churchill Falls this year, where a lot of the people from my area worked, they

would like to know so that they can get their names in in advance
as to what company will be doing the hiring for those jobs.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that as notice because
I am not sure whether it is Canada Manpower or the company but I will
get the information for the honourable member.

MR. MURPHY: May I just give a short answer pertaining to the same subject.

Last week I was in Goose Bay and I had quite a chat with Mr. Gleason there on the same thing. I knew that the members for Labrador were very, very anxious and possibly we could get them, particularly from the coast. He assured me, as I referred to you, Mr. Speaker at the time, that they are looking at the thing very, very, carefully but it is something that is just not yet jelled but they hope, within their power, to employ as many as they can, particularly from coastal Labrador areas, to try to bring as many people in as they can. I am sure the Minister of Finance is waiting for a definite answer but basically it was just a conversation that we held pertaining to the residents of Labrador.

MR. HARVEY: I have a question directed to the hon. Minister of Labrador Affairs, in effect the Labrador Linerboard Limited will be hiring these men and preference will be given to the people of the Labrador coast, is that what you said?

MR. MURPHY: As I said, this is not ministerial but I dropped in there to check over the whole thing. Basically they have not yet consolidated their hiring practices, they will report to the minister. But they are hoping, this is their long-term object, to employ as many as they can from that particular area of coastal Labrador.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to my sparring partner, the hon. Minister of Finance. I would like to ask the hon. minister if the government is considering extending the mothers' allowance because of the announcement by J. W. Willard, the Deputy Minister of National Health and Welfare, that the family income security programme, which is really the new family allowance plan will be delayed for one year as outlined in today's evening newspaper.

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, I have not seen the statement that the hon. gentleman refers to, but certainly we are prepared to reconsider anything if that becomes necessary and we will give that consideration.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the hon. temperamental Minister of Finance, Will the minister inform this honourable House as to the exact status of the loan of approximately \$12 million to Eastern Provincial Airways made by the government in 1971? Has the airline, Mr. Speaker, used this money for the purposes expressed in its original application, that is to repair its presently three jet aircraft and also to purchase a new DC-9 jet aircraft?

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, that is a question that would be much better answered by the hon. gentleman who was in the government at the time the loan was arranged.

Maybe if he would put that question on the Order Paper, I am sure we can get the answer but I have no knowledge of it whatsoever. If it is put on the Order Paper we will get the information.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, this is a supplementary question, did I understand the minister to say that he would get the information?

MR. CROSBIE: Put the question on the Order Paper, I will get the information.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Acting Premier and I am not quite sure, Mr. Speaker, who the Acting Premier at this moment is, Is it the hon. Minister of Finance? Is it the hon. Minister of Justice or the hon. Minister of Provincial Affairs, Could the House Leader indicate who the Acting Premier is, Mr. Speaker?

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I think we have gone on long enough today. We have consumed about an hour...

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Speaker, we are not living in Russia.

MR. MARSHALL: On a Point of Order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: We are not behind the iron curtain, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Could we have order please?

MR. MARSHALL: On a Point of Order, Mr. Speaker, I have the floor and the hon. member for Bell Island is aware of that, and I now move that the Order of the Day be read. We have consumed approximately one hour, about twenty or thirty minutes in oral questions and there is other business to be done, so I move that the Orders of the Day now be read.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, we have not spent any longer than five or six minutes.

MR. MARSHALL: On a Point of Order, Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 21, that motion has preference over everything.

MR. SPEAKER: It has been moved and seconded that we move on with the Orders of the Day.

Mr. Gillett.

The proceedings of the government - am I disqualified to ask a question now which is very vital?

MR. SPEAKER: It is moved and seconded that we proceed to the orders of the day. Those in favour "aye." Contrary "nay." Carried.

AN HON. MEMBER: "Nay." "Nay."

MR. SPEAKER: Division. Call in the members.

Those in favour of the motion please rise: The hon. Minister of Mines, Agriculture and Resources;

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

Those in favour of the motion please rise: The hon. Minister of Mines, Agriculture and Resources, the hon. Minister of Provincial Affairs, the hon. Minister of Community and Social Development, the hon. Minister of Education, the hon. Mr. Ottenheimer, the hon. Minister of Justice, the hon. Mr. Marshall, the hon. Minister of Finance, the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the hon. Minister of Social Services and Rehabilitation, Mr. Rousseau, Mr. Reid, Mr. Stagg, Mr. Barry, Mr. Aylward, the hon. Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Earle, Mr. Wells, Mr. Evans, Mr. Dunphy, Mr. Howard, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Young and Mr. Peckford.

Those against the motion please rise: Mr. Gillett, Mr. Woodward, Mr. W. N. Rowe, Captain Winsor, Mr. Neary, Mr. Thoms, Mr. Harvey and Mr. F. B. Rowe.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please! I declare the motion carried.

On motion that the House go into Committee of the Whole on Supply, Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

MINES, AGRICULTURE AND RESOURCES - ITEM VIII:

MR. DOODY: I would like to say one or two words, Sir, with reference to a few points that were raised yesterday. I was requested by the hon.

Mr. Doody.

Leader of the Opposition to provide the actual estimates for 1971-72, rather than the revised estimates as shown. These were not ready when I left my office to come up here. However, I have asked my officials to send them to this House as soon as they are prepared. The same thing holds true for the list of staff members in last year's department. These also will be provided to this House as soon as they are prepared. There were several points raised by members of the other side of the House yesterday. There was some reference by the hon. member for Labrador North. In his concern for his district, he referred to some hopes of oil discoveries or hopes of discoveries in the Lake Melville area. I have checked this out with the people in the department and they share my hopes that there is some truth in this rumour but there is no substantial fact involved.

With regard to the radium exploration developments which he spoke of, they are indeed under federal control and the Province of Newfoundland has no say in either the granting of exploration licences or export permits. There was a request also from the hon. member for Labrador North with respect to the timber concessions in the Lake Melville area. He was understandably concerned about the ownership of these concessions and as was suggested by the Minister of Justice these concessions in that area have indeed reverted back to the Crown, and he need have no fear in that regard. The present administration will make quite certain that they are not passed out helter-skelter as has happened in the past.

MR. DOODY: The forest tenure situation as referred to by the honourable member for White Bay South in which he expressed his disappointment that we had not made more progress to date and I share his disappointment and I wish that I could stand up in this Honourable House and say, Sir, that we had during the past several months corrected all the problems in that situation.

MR. ROWE, W. N. Inaudible.

MR. DOODY: Not really, only in as far as reviewing what had gone on and trying to familiarize ourselves with it and trying to find the right approach to this enormous problem which is of such grave concern to the province.

I think these are the major points. The Julienne Lake deposits, the iron ore deposits are also mentioned by my honourable friend from Labrador North. These deposits and the concessions involved are also under consideration by the officials in my department as well as by the economic development people. I can only assure him that when these desopits are developed I would feel certain that the Province of Newfoundland will receive a great deal more than the twenty-two cents a ton royalties they get from its existing deposits in the Wabush area.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that about finishes my remarks in this 801-01 area and I pass it on.

MR. ROWE, W.N. Mr. Chairman, there are one or two remarks I would like to make, very briefly I hope, about one matter raised dealing with the minister's salaries yesterday, like the honourable the House Leader who is not in his seat at the moment. Some remarks were made concerning the interim oil permits granted under Order-in-Council in the previous government that I like him cannot let go. There has to be further comment and a further statement made on them.

MR. BOWE, W.N. Both he, that is the Honourable House Leader, and the Minister of Justice got to their feet yesterday after I had made a remark for the benefit of the Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Mines rather in this case, to the effect that interim permits which were granted as a result of Order-in-Councils could be rescinded or cancelled as a result of Order-in-Councils and that perhaps this would be the best method to take if some of the companies or any of the companies which have received interim permits are not living up to their good faith and obligations in that field.

I did not refer specifically to anybody, Shaheen, Doyle, Amico or anybody else. I made the statement in respect of any company which was not in the view of the government or in view of the department perhaps a legitimate prospector in the field and I thought that I would make that suggestion that in that case these interim permits be suspended or cancelled or rescinded after reasonable notice is given especially if there were third parties involved. This brought the honourable House Leader and the honourable Minister of Justice to their feet in a huff and they made some very derogatory and controversial remarks concerning this whole question of the granting of oil leases, interim permits rather than leases under Order-in-Council.

Now I do not mind particularly the remarks made by the honourable the House Leader. He has never been in a government in this House prior to the present administration being formed. Also, Sir, his character or mentality or his attributes are such that he generally takes a small-minded attitude anyway. Any man who would relish the idea of becoming the chief inquisitor, the man who seeks after and sought after the job of investigation into what has previously gone on - investigation may indeed be needed. All I am commenting on is the fact that a member or a minister of the government actually actively seeks after this position, gives some indication as to his mentality and his character and the attributes which he possesses.

MR. ROWE, W.N. It is not a term that I ordinarily use but I have heard the term "Witch Hunt Willie" used in respect to the honourable gentleman, if that is unparliamentary I will withdraw it immediately, Mr. Chairman. It is something which has been applied to the honourable gentleman so I will not even deal with his statement and he has a perfect right as well to make the statement he did because he comes into this House with relatively clean hands in respect of this whole position of interim permits being granted to companies to prospect on the Continental Shelf of Newfoundland and Labrador.

But, Mr. Chairman, the honourable Minister of Justice slyly and hypocritically stands in this House yesterday and piously proclaims that this province has been plundered by the previous administration in respect of oil permits given or prospecting permits given, hypocritically and slyly gets up in this House and makes that statement. Again, I would probably use the word dishonestly were it not unparliamentary and I would not use the word, but he gets up in this House and makes statements about the previous administration fully knowing, Sir, or he ought to have known that the great bulk, the great majority of these interim orders, these permits were given over the period of time from 1966, 1967 and 1968.

I have not had the time or the occasion to research the problem thoroughly. I have had this morning as a matter of fact, I could not do much last night because people were not available, but this morning I looked up some of these matters, some of the minutes-in-council, minutes of the council, the Executive Council, some orders-in-council and got whatever information I could get by word of mouth from people who should know. It turns out that the great bulk of the approvals for interim permits, for the exploration and the prospecting for oil and natural resources on the Continental Shelf, were given in 1966, 1967 and 1968. Some were given before, some were given afterwards.

MR. ROWE, W.N. For example, in February of 1967 two interim permits I think were granted to Shaheen companies. I do not know the name of the companies involved. Shaheen companies was the way it was expressed to me. In a minute-of-council dated September 6, 1966 there was approval given in principle for a permit to be granted to Shaheen companies for exploration from Cape Chidley to the mouth of White Bay that vast under-sea territory. The approval was given on September 6, 1966. In December 1967 and in 1965 and in July 1969 orders-in-council or permits as a result of the orders-in-council were approved in respect of the Doyle companies, in one case NALCO July 1969 for them to explore and prospect for oil on the Continental Shelf.

Mr. Chairman, I, as a member of the previous administration, take full responsibility for my share of the responsibility, collective responsibility for what transpired while I was a member of that previous administration. There has been some attempt made to make the

Linerboard situation such that members of this House are trying to crawl out from under and trying to blame the previous Premier of this Province. I utterly condemn that attitude and that rumour now. I am willing and able to accept full responsibility. If only the hon. Minister of Justice, who is present in the House now, would have the intestinal fortitude and the moral courage to do the same thing, he would be a lot better off. For during the period of time that the both of these permits, these interim permits, were given, he was the Minister of Justice in the previous administration. As such the Minister of Justice in the previous administration, at that time the hon. member and I, I was not going to mention that because it seems again like crawling out from under, but I and the hon. member, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, everybody on this side of the House, everybody on this side of the House were back benchers. And the hon. Minister of Finance, the hon. member for Fortune Bay and the hon. Minister of Justice were members of the government which gave the interim permits in a scurrilous and plundering fashion, to use the words of the hon. Minister of Justice. And for him to come in here, Sir, and to slyly and hypocritically get up and piously condemn the previous administration for what it did in that respect stretches your sense of outrage to the limit. The hon. minister is well aware as a member of that administration during that period of time he has to share the blame or the credit, whatever is due in respect of these interim permits. But, Sir, further, the minutes of council, the minutes, as a result of orders-in-council in which these permits were approved or authorised to be made out, all of them I believe say at the end, the said permit, and I am quoting as accurately as I can, to be issued subject to such terms and conditions as the hon. Minister of Mines Agriculture and Resources in consultation with the hon. Minister of Justice. So aside from having to share a portion of the responsibility as an ordinary cabinet minister which I would be glad to do if I had been a minister at that time, the hon. Minister of Justice also has to bear the responsibility for being a minister of a department named in the minutes, in the order-in-council, wherein the Minister of Mines Agriculture and Resources

had to consult with him in order to draw up the rules and regulations in respect of these permits.

Now, Sir, I have given some examples of permits or orders-in-council and minutes of council in which approval is given to various companies. I have not given all. Obviously there are very many of them. There are other areas which were approved in principle by an order-in-council, but in respect of which no permit, no interim permit or no permit of any kind was ever issued. I do not know the dates of these because I have not been able to do any research into it. Maybe some were done during my term of office, I do not recall, quite honestly. But my statement which I made yesterday still obtains, namely that if the people who have permits or who have approval in principle from the government to do exploration work and prospecting work, if they are not doing their job in good faith, cancel them, without a cent of recompense. There is no danger that this government would be accused of being a Banana Republic if it is done in good faith and on facts which are available to the government.

But, Sir, I have to repeat that I cannot tolerate as a member of the House or as a member of the former administration the scurrilous and hypocritical type of attack which the Minister of Justice made yesterday concerning these permits. And, Sir, I do not know, but maybe, as the Editor of the "Daily News" stated today, perhaps a royal commission enquiry is needed into these oil leases. I certainly would welcome one. I am sure the Editor of the "Daily News" who was the Minister of Mines during the last three years but who was not the Minister of Mines during the period that the bulk of these things were issued, would welcome one as well. I am sure he sleeps easily at night in respect of most if not all of these permits and these orders-in-council. And, Sir, I do not know, perhaps it would be if I were to publish, make public, orders-in-council or papers to the Executive Council or minutes of the Executive Council, perhaps I would be guilty of a criminal offence under the Official Secrets Act, because I swore an oath of secrecy. But if scurrilous accusations are going to be

made by present members of this Government, including the Minister of Justice, hypocritic accusations and sly accusations in an effort to get out of any blame or culpability or responsibility himself, I will have no hesitation, Mr. Chairman, in bringing before this House and laying on the table of the House every minute of council which I have in possession, or which I can lay my hands on whether I am in contravention of any Official Secret Act or not, because I will not tolerate that kind of an attack and I have to defend my own integrity and the integrity of my colleagues and I have to bring to the public notice the simple facts surrounding these things. The Minister of Justice would perhaps be wisely advised to do the same thing. If there is blame and responsibility to take, whatever portion of that blame or responsibility which is due to him, I would submit, Sir, that if there is blame and responsibility he has to bear a very great portion of it.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, that seems to be an unusual

MR. HICKMAN: turn of events. For two years I sat on the opposite side of this House together with the hon. the member for Fortune Bay and others who had previously served in the Smallwood administration. Every time we opened our mouths to criticize, every time we tabled a question in this House, the then Leader of the Government, to the desk thumping of everyone who sat on that side said, "Ah! you cannot mention anything that went on in Cabinet, administration is of a collective organization, and the administration, the government itself takes full responsibility." Of course, it does, I would not want any hon. member of this House or any member of the public of Newfoundland to think that I am trying to evade any responsibilities that I had when I was minister of the Crown.

The point that the people of Newfoundland must know and must know very clearly and the thing that initiated it was yesterday when I heard the hon. the member for St. Barbe South - or White Bay South, coming up and suggesting that we now cancel them if they are wrong, when he knows as well as I know, that they are wrong. When he knows, and when we had to listen shortly before that to a statement from another hon. member on the opposite side, that this government is chasing away business from this province, because of its attitude towards businessmen seeking to come here.

I repeat what I said yesterday again now, that these permits, and in particular the permits that were farmed out between October 28, 1971, which is a rather significant date...

AN HON. MEMBER: Do you have them?

MR. HICKMAN: The Chairman has them and January of this year, had portions of our offshore mineral rights to innocent purchasers for value. They, Mr. Chairman, should not be penalized if they bought them and acquired them in that state of innocence.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): If they are legitimate concerns, sure.

MR. HICKMAN: And if they are legitimate concerns. What the policy of this government, the policy of this administration, which I too have to

assume full responsibility for as a member, is that we are not going to permit any further plundering of our offshore mineral rights.

Mr. Chairman, when I see what is happening and the anxiety that is being shown by the other provincial governments in the Atlantic Provinces, I welcome the decision of this administration under your guidance, Mr. Chairman, to conduct a complete review, not only of the permits that have been issued and farmed off but all our offshore mineral policies. Do not let anybody get on with this nonsense that Alex Hickman or anyone else is trying to avoid any responsibility for what went on when I was in the Smallwood administration. Far from it, we do not need a lecture on the responsibility and the collective responsibility of government.

But, Mr. Chairman, I want to serve notice that there is no way that I am going to be handcuffed from criticizing past policies of government because I happened to be a member of government from September 1966 to August or September or October of 1969. What the people of this province must be made aware of, are what we consider to be the mistakes of the previous administration, and what they are far more interested in are the cures that we have to offer to take care of the mistakes that were caused at that time. This we are prepared to do, but we will not get onto it if we have to listen to the kind of nonsense that we have been listening to.

MR. EARLE: Mr. Speaker, as my name was mentioned in this particular debate, I think I have good reason to rise and defend myself on similar grounds as the Minister of Justice. The hon. junior member for White, Bay North who just spoke, recognizes full well the position of the former members of the Smallwood Government. The great difference, Mr. Chairman, which he always fails to mention, which members on that side fail to mention, is the fact that a few of us when we saw that things were going wrong, for many reasons, including this sort of a deal we are referring to today, for many reasons, we had the intestinal fortitude to

resign. I for one said to the then Prime Minister when I gave him my resignation - the then Premier, that I considered him no longer to be fit to govern the Province of Newfoundland. This was supported by many, many reasons. Continuous disagreement, as I said in the debate on the Speech from the Throne, I said; "May God and may the people of Newfoundland forgive me for many of the things to which I agreed under the oath of Cabinet solidarity."

It is a well known fact that as a member of the government, whether you disagree or agree in Cabinet, one must stick by the party and one must be loyal to the Cabinet of which one is a member. Until such time as I handed the resignation, my resignation, to the then leader of the government, I was extremely loyal. But, I gave him due notice, that once I resigned all bars were down. Since that day I have ceased at no effort to criticize the policies of that government and I shall continue to do so.

As I again said, during the period of my resignation, when I was asked on a T.V. appearance whether if I had the choice I would give the then leader of government the opportunity to continue to lead or if I were running a government would I ask him to be part of it, I said; "Yes, as chief salesman." Because, the hon. member well knows the ability of the late leader of government to be a salesman. He not only fooled the people of Newfoundland, but in many cases fooled the members of his cabinet. I do not think any of us can escape the responsibility for having gone along with that and I accept full responsibility for the period that I was a member of that cabinet.

Mr. Chairman, there comes an end to all things. The bars are down and the gates have been opened and now we can discuss on a sensible level what we hope to do for the future of Newfoundland. In those days you could not. From here on in, I give due notice to this House and to all the members on the other side that I will do my utmost to discredit the past government to which I was loyal for a number of years.

I gave due notice, I gave it promptly to the leader of that government and I told him; "From here on I will do just that." I feel shame nor no shame whatsoever in so doing. I handled the thing ethically and properly and to the man's face. Therefore, when we come to discuss matters of this nature, oil leases and so on, we can disclose and we can say at this stage in history that we are in entire disagreement with the way they were handled in those days. We accept responsibility for the fact that as members fo that cabinet and in solidarity of that cabinet we agreed with it. But this sort of foolish argument holds no place in this House.

Today conditions are entirely different. We are now able to speak our minds freely and we shall do so. Therefore, on issues of this type or any other issues, let us not hear any more of this nonsense about what went on in the past, where members were and where they sat and what they were responsible for. Of course we were responsible, of course we accept responsibility, but that does not mean that we are not now able to criticize the policies which perhaps then we disagreed with but were not able to say.

I for one indicated my disagreement by resigning. I should like to make that very clear.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member who just took his seat has testified and I presume now he assumes that he has been saved. Mr. Chairman, the prints of his fingernails are still in the desk down in his office, where he tried to hang on. He was booted out and the hon. member knows it. His colleagues lost confidence in him and he had to leave.

MR. A.J.MURPHY: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

MR. MARSHALL: Point of order, Mr. Chairman, point of order. This has...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: (Inaudible)

MR. A.J.MURPHY: I rose on a point of order to want to know when we are going to get on with the estimates. That is my point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order! order! Did the hon. Minister of Provincial Affairs have a point of order?

MR. MURPHY: I want to know when we are going to get back to the estimates.

MR. MARSHALL: The point of order is this, Mr. Chairman, it is that we are discussing the estimates of the Department of Mines, Agriculture and Resources and the hon. member for Bell Island is wandering very far afield when he is talking about the position of the hon. member for Fortune Bay, which the hon. member for Fortune Bay made quite clearly.

MR. NEARY: All I want is the same...

MR.BARRY: Order. We can only handle one point of order at a time. On the point of order raised by the honourable the House Leader: As the Chair saw it, the honourable member for Fortune Bay was discussing the general management of the department by comparing it with the previous management of the department. The honourable member for Bell Island, I just say that there is a certain limit to the irrelevancy with which the debate can continue.

MR.NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your overruling the nonsensical incompetent Leader of the Government. The Great Inquisitor! I appreciate that Mr. Chairman. All I want in this House is equal status. I want the same latitude that the honourable member for Fortune Bay has and the honourable Minister of Justice has. Are we living in Russia, Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman, I congratulate the member for White Bay South for doing his homework. I think he has made a noble contribution to this debate. I am glad, Mr. Chairman, that he has for the sake of setting the record straight made the points that he made in this honourable House here this afternoon. He has shown beyond the shadow of a doubt Mr. Chairman, that the difficulty with these offshore mineral grants and leases today is caused by the incompetence of the lawyers who negotiated them at that time. Sir, I can say the same thing about the linerboard mill. That is what got us in trouble Sir, in the linerboard mill. If we get in trouble in Come by Chance that is what will get us in trouble, the incompetence of the lawyers who were representing the government who negotiated these agreements -

MR.J.CARTER: A point of order Mr. Chairman. This is extremely tedious. I suppose we do have to listen to the honourable member for Bell Island. The point of order is that he is straying far far from the subject. He is being extremely tedious. I would -

MR.NEARY: Sit down you imbecile. That is not a point of order.

MR. CARTER: Mr. Chairman, I suppose we must listen to him because otherwise he will write it all over the walls.

MR. NEARY: That is not a point of order. Buffoon, clown, dope. Sit down you imbecile.

MR. CARTER: I would strongly suggest that the honourable member observe the rules of relevance.

MR. BARRY: Again the Chair must refer to Standing Orders which require that the discussion and debate adhere to the rules of relevancy while discussing the estimates.

MR. NEARY: The honourable member has his own department in such a mess now that he has decided that he is an expert on the rules of the House. Sir, what I was about to say was that the reason, the prime reason that we are into difficulty that we are in today with these offshore mineral grants and leases is because they were handled at the time by incompetent lawyers. I do not have to name the gentlemen who acted as the legal advisors to the Crown at that particular time, Mr. Chairman, but they have since late departed. The Minister of Justice, the Minister of Finance are two of the three musketeers that I am referring to.

Sir, if I may while I am on my feet say a word to counter what the honourable member for Fortune Bay said. When I was a member of the administration, Sir, I am prepared to take my share of the blame for anything that we did. I will take my share of the credit for anything that we did, from 1969 on Sir. I want to say to the honourable member and to this Honourable House that I was not dictated to, I considered myself Sir, when I was a member of that administration, to be reasonably ethical. I have no shares in business or industry Sir. Do not have any to this day. I do not own any construction or any contracting firms. But, Sir, I am afraid that I cannot say the same for some of my predecessors.

Now, Mr. Chairman, they have the gall and the audacity to go on the other side of the House and condemn us. We are as innocent as new born

babes. I was just sitting inside of the rail there where the honourable member for Bonavista South is now sitting, just managed to get inside the rail when these offshore mineral grants and leases were given out, handed out, dealt out like cards by the honourable Minister of Finance.

Mr. Chairman, what a gall. What a gall! Whom do they think they are trying to cod?

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, I do not propose to reply to any of the accusations that the gentleman from Bell Island, the carpenter from Bell Island just raised. I do, he is not in the House, feel obliged to comment on any suggestion or criticism of the professional competency as a lawyer of the Honourable Minister of Finance. May I remind this House when the Honourable Minister of Finance graduated from Dalhousie Law School he brought to Newfoundland a distinction that no other lawyer has ever been able to bring, the man with the highest academic marks ever attained or attained that year anywhere in Canada. Any suggestion, any reflection on the competency, the professional competency of the honourable Minister of Finance is totally unwarranted. It is the sort of thing, in my opinion, will seek to drive and drag this House down to the level that we had to put up with last year and the year before, which the people of Newfoundland so firmly dealt with and so decisively eliminated.

MR. WELLS: Mr. Chairman, I do not know who is causing it but surely all of us in this House must want to get down to talking about the estimates. This thing is out of hand, Thank God the school children have gone because this sort of thing is extremely annoying and is a disgrace, quite frankly, to this House. Now, surely the point about the offshore leases is this: That whoever was involved in the giving of them must bear his share of the responsibility. We have heard over and over again, well fine, but for Heaven's Sake, Mr. Chairman, do we have to dwell so much in the past. The point is now that the new administration and the Minister of Mines Agriculture & Resources responsible for this particular area must see to it that the leases which are in the hands of people who cannot

properly carry out the terms of the leases are dealt with and what has been granted be got back to the province to deal with. Also, that leases given in future must be given out in such a way that the Province can attain maximum benefits. I am not an expert or many or any of us perhaps on oil leases, but technical advice is available on those things and the whole principle is surely that the provinces get maximum benefit not -

not only from oil leases or oil deposits which we may have a right to, but all other aspects and all other natural resources in this province. We are talking about the Estimates. We are talking about the approach. We are talking about the money to do this. I sincerely hope that this House can keep its eye on the matter at hand and deal with these Estimates adequately so that that end can be achieved.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, I think that is the best piece of advice that I have heard any member on the opposite side give his colleagues since this session of the House commenced and I say let us get on with the business and let us start now doing the Estimates item by item.

I hope that somebody will tell the Minister of Finance or will advise the Minister of Finance of what the hon. member just said, what his colleague just said, so that there will be no more reference to previous administrations. Let them stand on their own two feet. Let us get on with the business of this House.

On motion 801 carried.

MR. WINSOR: With regard to 802-02-08, Mr. Chairman, maybe we could have an outline of what Computer Services really are. This is the first Vote I noticed in the Estimates for that amount.

On motion 802 carried.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Chairman, could the hon. minister tell us what the long-range future is of the fishing logs on the Gander River?

MR. DOODY: The long-range future of the lodge on the Gander is something that is quite uncertain. This year we are going to carry on with it as it has been done in previous years with the view of ascertaining its value to government, whether it is indeed the tourist promotion centre that has been suggested by the tourist bureau. If it serves that function then quite possibly it will be kept on, but if it is simply a rest home for tired government, elected politicians, then it will certainly be discontinued.

MR. THOMS: Could the minister inform us how many times last year this lodge was used by government officials?

MR. DOODY: No, I do not have that information with me, but I imagine it can be obtained. You would probably like a list of all the people who attended there last year, would you? Both the ward healers and the...

MR. THOMS: With regard to 811-03-07, could the minister give us a break down on this huge increase? I notice there is an increase of \$85,000, what would this be for?

MR. DOODY: The original Vote of \$15,000 last year was simply for the studying and preparation of plans for the wild life park. The additional Vote this time is for the actual capital cost of building it.

MR. THOMS: At Salmonier Line.

MR. DOODY: Yes at Salmonier Line, fencing and erection of cages and the cutting of trails, the whole bit. We are going to have a special one for you, padded.

On motion 811 carried.

MR. ROWE (F.B.): With regard to 812-01, I notice this is the fourth subheading under salaries and with an increase, in this case \$156,000 approximately. I notice throughout the rest of the Estimates here that there appear to be increases for salaries.

I wonder if the minister could inform us as to whether this is mainly because of additional people being hired or whether it is because of increases in salaries in a department? What is the general reason for increased expenditure in salaries without a corresponding increase in other expenditures in the department?

MR. DOODY: There are two reasons. One of them of course is the annual increment and the upgrading of salaries generally. The other is the addition of extra staff. I do not know what the additional staff has been, As I explained earlier, this information will be made available.

MR. NEARY: With regard to 812-02-03, tell us why this vote is up by about \$32,000, Mr. Chairman.

MR. DOODY: This is the Motor Vehicle Vote, The difficulty is that there are many vehicles in the forest service now that should have been replaced several years ago. The break down of the vehicles is that now they are mostly 1966, 1965, 1963, 1964 and so on. They are all had to own. The cost of repairing them and maintaining them this year would be far more than the cost of buying the substitute equipment. It is unfortunate that it should have to come in one year but that is part of the inheritance.

MR. NEARY: Is the policy of the department, Mr. Chairman, I wonder the same now, that the Department of Supply and Services would do the purchasing and not the department, and that tenders will be called.

MR. DOODY: Tenders will be called by the Department of Supply and Services.

812(03)(10) - Forest Access Roads:

MR. HARVEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister, it seems to be a small amount \$40,000 for forest access roads. I have had that much myself in one area of Labrador South to get a proper road in the Sandwich Bay Area. Are you expecting more money to come into that kitty?

MR. DOODY: As you know, Sir, that is a maintenance vote. 812(07), there is a capital grant of \$616,000 which will be more than enough to look after the logging operation in Cartwright.

MR. HARVEY: (Inaudible).

MR. DOODY: No, we are not down to it yet, Sir.

MR. ROWE(F.B.): Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister could inform the House what this would mean in terms of wages and the number of people employed in the coming year? 812(03)(11).

MR. DOODY: This is the Cross Morne. The \$7,000 difference - there is a \$300,000 capital vote there and this will be used primarily for the reimbursement of people for land which the government will acquire or for property for people who want to sell their homes. The \$7,500 is a vote for the salary of the government information officer in the area. So there is in effect no salary vote or employment vote in the Cross Morne National Park. The salaries of the people who work in that park are paid fully by the Federal Government. There will be eighty some people hired there very soon, They are probably being hired today or very shortly and they will be paid entirely by the Federal grants.

MR. NEARY: Is the \$7,000 recoverable from the government then or is it all paid by the province?

MR. DOODY: At least fifty per-cent of it, Sir.

MR. HARVEY: 812(07). Mr. Chairman, I apologize to the honourable minister as there is quite an increase. I would like to thank him

very much, it was my mistake - \$70,000 and \$616,000. I would like to ask if it - \$84,000. Thank you very much!

MR. ROWE(W.N.): Mr. Chairman, on that vote for \$616,000, what is this? Is this Provincial Government money or is it money, I think, fifty per-cent of which was to come from DREE or from DREE and the Department of Forestry in Ottawa? I notice from Appropriations-in-Aid down there that it is a very small amount, \$225,000 - Contributions from Canada, Well if that is divided up between the Gross Morne National Park \$300,000 capital and the \$616,000 capital in Forest Access Roads it goes nowhere near fifty per-cent in either case.

MR. DOODY: There is no Appropriation-in-Aid shown for the Gross Morne projects. We have to obtain all the lands in the park and pass them over to the Government of Canada free and unencumbered and they then will reimburse the province for at least fifty per-cent of it. This is an on-going thing that may take five or ten years to acquire. The Appropriations-in-Aid that are shown here, the \$225,000 is part of the access road, I think.

MR. ROWE(W.N.): But it is still not half.

MR. DOODY: No, it is still not half, that is right.

MR. THOMS: Could the minister supply us with a list of the allotments?

MR. DOODY: With a breakdown for the forest roads, yes. Yes, we can get that. This, of course, I imagine will vary as the year goes on but as we have it planned out now it is here and available. You can get it from the department if you so desire.

MR. THOMS: Fine.

On motion, 812 carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, on 814(03)(07), I understand there is a forestry survey taking place in Labrador in conjunction with the Federal Department of Forestry. Is some of this cost federal participation or is it all provincial?

MR. DOODY: This is not the Forest Industry Programme which you speak of. This is a land survey and this is all recoverable from the Federal Government with the exception of \$50,000 as I understand which is the province's project.

MR. WOODWARD: It is not the - ?

MR. DOODY: No, Sir, the forest industry is another project.

On motion, 814 carried.

MR. THOMS: 816(03)(05): Mr. Chairman, there is roughly a \$900,000 increase, is this part of the federal programme?

MR. DOODY: Yes, it is one hundred per-cent recoverable. You will see in the contributions, in the Appropriations-in-Aid there is \$1. million, the vote down there on the bottom.

On motion, 816 carried.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Chairman, what is this \$100.00 for under Mine Rescue?

MR. DOODY: That is a token vote. They do not have a mine inspector at the present time on staff so they put in a token vote to hold it open until such time as they find an appropriate official to look after that division.

AN HON. MEMBER: In other words you cannot estimate for it.

MR. DOODY: That is right. How will we know how many mine disasters we are going to have. None I hope but then, if there are that vote will be absurd, of course.

On motion, 817 carried.

On motion total 822 carried.

MR. WINSOR: With regard to 825, I wonder if the minister can give us some information on just what the responsibilities of the Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority are? I am sure he is well familiar with the problem we have at Fogo and the Minister of Municipal Affairs. It seems as if this Town of Fogo now has been waiting for hundreds of years to get a water system and all things say go except for the approval of the Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority. What is the position - does that authority have the authority over the minister? This is the point I would like to know. Can the minister in other words overrule the decision of the Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority?

MR. ROWE (W.N.): I think it is as well to do it all the one time. The Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority - everybody rather cries pollution of all kinds especially in a place like Newfoundland where we have been relatively pollution free, Mr. Chairman. What I have noticed in the past is the ludicrous situation where in a community 500,600 or 1,000 people are often precluded from getting a water and sewer system because of the additional amount necessary to put in a sewerage treatment plant. A small community like that from which raw sewerage would ordinarily go into their harbour or on out into the Northeast Atlantic Ocean, hardly a pollution problem or hardly an overwhelming pollution problem. In the same breath a large municipality like I suppose St. John's will still - I am not sure about this but maybe I can be corrected for the Minister of Municipal Affairs might have some knowledge of it. I suppose St. John's pours raw sewerage right out into St. John's Harbour here.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. ROWE (W.N.): They still do. I mean my question to the minister is not so

Mr. Rowe (W.N.)

much directed at trying to get rid of this requirement against the smaller communities but to bring to his attention, as I am sure he has had already brought to his attention, the absolute ridiculousness or the ludicrousness of the situation where a small community who want a ditch, with a pipe in it, to carry their sewerage to sea, are precluded from getting it (this ordinary health amenity and social service) while at the same time a large town or a large city keeps pumping it out, right out into St. John's Harbour or other harbours, right out into the Atlantic Ocean.

Now is it the intention of the minister or the government or CAWSA to increase the restrictions in the future, to require that all towns and all communities will have these restrictions on them and will be stopped from pumping out raw filth into the sea or anywhere else? Is it the thought that the government will loosen some of the restrictions in respect of the smaller communities? I asked the question genuinely. I know it is a difficult one; namely, because the province does not have as much money, as was brought to our attention rather forcefully by the Minister of Finance, not as much money as we would like to have. I read there somewhere in the last day or so (I do not think - I probably already knew it, most members probably already knew it) that municipal pollution is still the worst form of pollution in spite of the fact that it has been very glamorous in the past few years to give a hard time to General Motors and other big companies. Naturally their pollution is as bad as well. ERCO pollution is bad. All kinds of industrial waste and industrial pollution is bad. One of the real culprits is still and the biggest culprit is still municipal governments all across Canada. Perhaps the minister would like to have one or two comments on that and give us some indication as to what kind of policy is being formulated.

MR. DOODY: I certainly share the concern of the hon. member from Fogo. The difficulty is, of course, in trying to apply the rules of pollution control

or proper sewerage disposal, proper water systems to existing municipalities and to existing water works -- a fantastically expensive one as you can well imagine. I believe the intention of the Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority and of the previous administration was to encourage them to try to prevent the proliferation of pollution by insisting on proper controls for new installations and new areas. I agree with you that it is awfully difficult to apply these rules to communities that have been waiting for so long for these amenities of life. I sincerely hope that we can come up with some sort of a compromise solution which will provide the proper protection for our environment and at the same time make life more pleasant for the people who live in these communities and who richly deserve the facilities that we described.

The Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority itself is charged not only with the environment control, not only with the pollution control but also with the management of the water resources of the province. This, of course, is their biggest charge. It is a relatively new organization. I do not honestly feel that it is properly oriented as far as government is concerned. I think it is better to lessen free-wheeling on its own. I do believe that a lot of attention has to be given to it. It certainly has not had enough attention in the past. It is certainly my hope and my desire to do what I can to bring the thing in line and to try to find a system or solution to the problems that you outlined. I sincerely hope that you will help me in this regard. You can come up with some ideas. I know of the Fogo problem. I have seen the report on it. They speak about improper concrete protection around the wells, improper concrete tops on them. You and I know that the people in Fogo and elsewhere have been using wells for quite some time, and very few of them - but these are the things

Mr. Doody

that we have to try to handle. It is a wonderful organization. It is building itself up very rapidly. It is pretty difficult to argue with the need for hydrologists and biologists and all this sort of thing but it is also something, as I say, that needs very close study. It has an awfully important function with regard to the future of the water resources and of the environment of Newfoundland.

MR. WINSOR: Mr. Chairman, I certainly appreciate the concern of the minister and I sincerely hope that some solution will be arrived at in order that the good people of Fogo may get that water system this year. I am sure the honourable minister is sincere and for that I am very appreciative. I will relay that to the people of Fogo. If you ever have the occasion to go to Fogo, go there without any fear.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible)

MR. WINSOR: Well we hope that there will be more in store.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): I cannot resist the opportunity to get a plug in here as well. I believe the Mayor of Seal Cove, White Bay, Mr. Gillingham, was in the galleries earlier this afternoon. They are in exactly the same position. If all that was required was a water and sewer system, there was enough money with the ordinary subsidy. As the honourable minister knows with the rates coming in, their return coming in and the ordinary subsidy, there was enough for a water and sewer system. Now they are in the position where three-quarters or more of the water and sewer system is completed and there is still \$100,000 left outstanding. A quarter of the community, unless the Minister of Finance shows some unwarranted generosity, might find itself without the water and sewer system and three-quarters will have it all because of this requirement that a sewerage treatment plant goes in. Far be it from me to decry the need for such a thing but on balance I would have to

Mr. Rowe (W.N.)

say as a representative of the District of White Bay South
that if I had to choose between two evils, one a Town like Seal Cove
having no water and sewer system or a Town like Seal Cove having a
water and sewer system yet sending out a little bit of pollution
into the North Atlantic Ocean, then I would opt for

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MR. ROWE, W.N. the water and sewerage system with no sewerage treatment plant. I had to say that, Mr. Chairman, because I think it is more important to a small community like that to have this social and health amenity.

MR. DOODY: It might be practical to complete the water systems and sewerage systems now and possibly look to a future day, hopefully soon, when we can put in the necessary treatment plants and pumping stations. I will certainly investigate along these lines.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Chairman, I doubt very much if this province is going to find itself in a position to be able to finance these treatment plants. I am just wondering if the minister has anything in mind to approach the federal government on some kind of an outright grant to supply our towns with these treatment plants? Because I do not believe that the economy of our province at the present time can finance it.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, on your behalf, Sir, and my own, on behalf of the Chairman that is and to direct to the attention of the committee the position that has now been taken by so many groups in this province there is not much doubt at all that pollution is, I was going to say the "in-thing" in Canada now but certainly the proper control of the environment. While I think of it, I suspect that all honourable members have received in today's mail a copy of a magazine - I have forgotten the name of it, "Construction Industry Magazine".

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. HICKMAN: No, no, not "Time". Anyway the picture of the Deputy Minister of the Environment is on the cover and it deals very extensively with the environmental problems in Canada and points out very clearly that other Canadians are no different from ourselves that they are becoming very concerned about it.

There is only one disturbing thing about that whole thing, and it points up what we were saying in opposition last year, that regrettably

MR. HICKMAN: the Department of Fisheries, as we used to know it, of Canada is now really become the Department of The Environment and there is no doubt at all when you read that magazine that the main thrust, in fact almost the total thrust of that department is toward environmental matters and regrettably for Newfoundlanders in particular, Fisheries have been put so far down on the bottom of the list that you have a lot of difficulty in finding anyone in that department with the kind of interest that we demand.

But be that as it may, Mr. Chairman, quite recently the Burin Peninsula Chapter of the Association of Registered Nurses has taken up too the cudgel for more environmental control and for the installation of proper sewerage treatment. I will ask you, Mr. Chairman, and myself to bring this to the attention - their wishes and their desires and their concern to the attention of the committee at the appropriate time, which I now do.

I will not read the entire letter I will just read one paragraph which I am sure is very obvious to all honourable members of this House. "We are happy to be on this beautiful Burin Peninsula where we enjoy clean fresh air. We would like all to have clean water to drink and to use for hygenic purposes."

One thing while I am on my feet, Mr. Chairman, that has been, I do not know if the honourable minister has had the opportunity to cure it but there seems to be a tremendous duplication of effort insofar as environmental control is concerned. In August of 1970, I had a shopkeeper come to me from a part of rural Newfoundland and I would not wish to identify him. But there was then in the course of construction a hennery and a piggery, well one had been finished and in operation and the other was starting. His shop was infected by rats and flies to the extent that he had to close. The then Minister of Health, who is now the Leader of the Opposition, at my request conducted an investigation and said that it was a nuisance, a terrible nuisance but regrettably it was not harmful to health, therefore he could not do anything about it.

MR. HICKMAN: The Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority said that they would have to be guided as to whether or not it was harmful to health rather than whether it was a pollutant of the environment generally.

The Government of Canada got into the act and they said that there was some drainage from this building going into the sea but that was only a partial problem that unless the Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority of the province were prepared to stop it, they would not take any action. The long and the short of it was that the environment, the immediate environment of that area was being polluted ad nauseam and the neighbours they sent petitions, I believe there was a petition tabled in this House, certainly they sent petitions to the various ministers. Because of duplication of effort or people working or departments working at cross purposes the result was that the main objective of the Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority was totally lost. I am certainly in accord with what the honourable minister says that a review of the functions of that authority is very, very much indicated at this time.

MR. M. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, I ran into a similar type problem last year while travelling throughout the Labrador Coast and as pollution is the "in-thing" a lot of people do not know what it is, the Clean Air Water and Soil Authority being new and putting new people in the field, have caused a lot of concern in some of the smaller communities, and in some of the smaller communities by having survey teams go out and ask the residents of a lot of communities embarrassing questions as such. This thing being general throughout the rural areas of Newfoundland last year, where the Clean Air and Soil Authority hired a bunch of students from the university to travel throughout all or most of the rural communities. I know that they did for a couple of months spend some time on the Labrador Coast, both in the South and in the North, and when I returned to the district it was brought to my attention that those students were coming into the homes, asking embarrassing questions and things of that nature.

MR. WOODWARD: Also it is quite possible that in this particular case here, where there has been an industry directly involved with pollution, a lot of the people that have gotten involved with the Clean, Air, Water and Soil Authority maybe have not been properly told as to what pollution is. I think this is one of the situations maybe where we get a lot of backlash from the survey people. When they go to make a survey in those communities, I think that they should be properly coached as to what questions they should ask the residents or householders of that community so as they are not embarrassed.

MR. H.V.R. EARLE: I think there is something which needs to be said on this vote which has not been said so far this afternoon. I received a letter similar to the one which the honourable Minister of Justice just referred to and in answering that I put it quite plainly to the people concerned that I think for many years to come perhaps for a generation that no government of this province no matter how well meaning they are or how much they wish to help the people, is going to be able to afford to give all the water and sewer systems that are necessary throughout this province, It is physically and financially impossible. The cleanliness and lack of pollution or destruction of pollution in many of our villages and settlements will for a long, long time to come depend upon the people themselves. I think it is an inherent duty of every member of this House who gets around his district to preach to his people the gospel of cleanliness of their surroundings.

Now it is all very well to look to the government for everything but we know in many places that the government will not be able to do very much about it for many years to come but the people themselves can do an awful lot and should do an awful lot. I have seen many places, many small places where the conditions are simply deplorable. I know of one instance where there is a shallow barasway :

surrounded by houses and every sewer in that place goes into that barachois , where there is no more than at the best a foot or two of water. The conditions in summer there are in redible are undescrivable. The foolish part about it is that within a hundred yards of all of this emptying of sewerage and so on in the barachois there is strong tides and open ocean where the conditions could be improved tremendously. But, people will just take the shortest cut and go over there regardless of their own health hazard and everything else. Go and dump everything into the thing nearest their own front door.

Now, the strange thing about this is that the people in this settlement and many others are so conscious of the cleanliness of their own houses. Their own houses are spotless, internally. You could eat off the floor. But the surroundings of the house and the sewerage and so on disposal is something, as I said, completely undescrivable. We can have all the Clean Air Water & Soil Authoirties that you can name, unless these people, with the support of the elected members to go to the districts and tell the people that they must get up off their rear ends and help themselves, I do not think very much will be accomplished because the final responsibility in keeping any village or any settlement clean does rest with the people who live in them. We have to create a great pride in the settlement, a great pride in the appearance and cleanliness of settlements. I think that this might be one of the foremost and greatest efforts this authority could do in the way of education towards cleanliness and the destruction of the facets which lead to pollution in so many places.

MR. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, while we are on this question of pollution, this district I represent, I would be amiss I think in sitting down here this evening and not to mention pollution, because we have pollution, the very worse degrading kind.

I come from an area, the river flows from right in at the Trans-Canada Highway down past the great historical site of Roaches Line. It

runs right by my front door out into the harbour of Clarke's Beach. I only had the reference, brought to my attention on Friday past, to go and visit the area. I know I have visited the area before so I decided I would call the Department of Public Health which I did, They came up in the car and they asked me where they could reach it. You drive your car along as far as you can get then, 'I will take you in the truck.' I took them in to a place called Turks Water on the back of Roaches Line where the historical site is, travelled then half a mile through bog up to our knees, with shoes on. We arrived at the scene. I had it already prepared with the evergreens cut away for this health inspector to walk over. When we arrived at the destination we had to use a rod; six and a-half inches deep of pollution. I hesitate to say anything about it but the confusion and all the people around my place and the stench- I already had to leave a building and get out of it. It cost me \$40,000 to build another one to get clear of the stench. This thing has been going on for years and years and years. We have had people that have been in the pollution area, health inspectors passed by, They were ordered not to shove it into a river. Then they would turn the bulldozers on it and shoved it down in our forest. Lo! and behold! I can take any member of this House of Assembly right to this very spot. You will find fir trees, spruce trees cut off the size of pickets, just the same as beavers had cut them off, with pollution, acid and all the rest that goes with it from the henneries, on Roaches Line.

Eleven sheep had died along side of the river. Two cows had died along side of the river, eating the grass that has come from this. It flows out by Makinson's Lodge, two and a-half inches deep, comes down in South River, pollutes the Salmon River. Why would I not speak of pollution? I see in this Clean Air Water & Soil Authority, I hope that this government, which I am now a part of, I hope to make it a viable one to do something about it. Stand shoulder to shoulder and the opposition along with them, to try to rid our province of these pollution

effects. I am not tired of living yet in the Province of Newfoundland. For God Sake, if we cannot do anything else let us try and make it fit for those that are coming after us to live in. I think this is something that should be looked into. I am very proud to be a member of a government and willing to go to the extreme to see if something can be done about it. I am glad that they have taken up the idea of not letting pollution run into, from a persons septic tank into the water. Because I have already built ever so many houses, I have to put a septic tank down then the pipe from the spetic tank will go to the salt water.

But why allow bulldozers to shovel manure out to shove it into our salmon rivers, let it run into the water, when we have John Doe across the street who is not able to afford to build an outdoor privy and not allowed to do anything. Shame on us! Let us get to work as a government. I invite the opposition to join us and do something about it.

MR. WINSOR: Mr. Chairman, before we leave this item, I am sure the honourable member who has just sat down is much concerned. The previous Liberal Government did have the foresight to get a Clean Air, Water and Soil Authority into operation. Now, of course, the responsibility of making that function the way it should is the responsibility of the new administration. But, Mr. Chairman, there is another serious problem. One in particular in my - in the district of Fogo, where a sawmill operator who is sawing lumber at the head of Gander Bay and of course, accumulation of sawdust accumulates.

So, during this winter this gentleman was told he could no longer operate a sawmill because of polluting Gander Bay. I do not know how realistic that is because sawdust is a substance that floats on the surface and drifts out into the ocean. It is not within two, three, four miles of any salmon river. In order for this mill operator to move it is going to be quite costly. He produces around three to four million feet of lumber a year.

If action has to be taken because, Mr. Chairman, this deprives this young man or his family from earning a living. That is very serious. If it has to be done then why not arrange to have it done over a period of years, so that the man will have an opportunity to resettle and reconstruct his mill in some other area? Not only that but I think someone should take the responsibility of finding a new location for him where it will not be considered a pollution area. I would appreciate it if the Minister would look into that matter.

MR. DOODY: For the information for hon. member from Fogo, the ironic thing about that is that it is a part of Canada, a federal regulation, something that has brought us into the ocean, enforcing it. Clean Air, Water and Soil people are - I do not quite understand it but that is the way it seems to be. There are many areas, as I said, in that division, that have to be looked at and tightened up. I agree, the jobs are scarce and the welfare of people must be our first consideration. We certainly have that in mind in the department.

MR. ROWE: On 03-01 does the minister know - can he give us an explanation concerning the professional people. Is this soil engineers and that sort of thing? If so, if he does have some information it it which he could give us, would he also have the names of any persons or firms which might have been retained to do some work?

MR. DOODY: These payments, these charges for professional services, the charges for consultants that have been hired during the past year for the purposes of examining such things as the water erosion, bank erosion problem at Happy Valley and the water system problem at Steady Brook and the log storage place in Stephenville for the Linerboard plant, (the log storage in Stephenville Pond is going to be a great problem as far as the pollution of that area is concerned) I do not have the name of the companies who are doing these services. That information can be made available for the information of this House, if they so desire. We can get that information for you.

MR. ROWE: -- companies concerned or from the Government of Canada under DREE in respect of the Churchill River erosion

MR. DOODY: To the best of my knowledge, unfortunately.

MR. MURPHY: I know the hon. member might give a contribution there.

MR. DOODY: As a matter of fact I made a copy of that report available

AN HON. MEMBER: -- We can not have the community destroyed.

MR. WINSOR: I would like to get a little more information on that Churchill Bank erosion. During my term as member down there I saw that bank wash out into the river as much as fifty, sixty feet. Very soon there will be homes going out into the river and maybe a loss of life.

MR. DOODY: The copy of the report has been given to the hon. member for the District and I am sure he would be only too happy to let you see it. It is not finished. I do not think it is a completed report. It is another phase of a report. I have been told and I think the hon. Minister for Labrador Affairs has also been told that the Churchill Falls project - completion of the Churchill Falls power development is suppose to, whether this is in fact or not, have cleared up or will clear up the bank erosion problem at the end of that river. Would that be right?

MR. MURPHY: They said that. But still the town council I think will tell you the bank still washes away.

MR. HARVEY: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering if the minister could tell me if that includes survey parties, checking on rivers, where they get the water supplies from and so forth - things of that nature?

MR. DOODY: Yes. I understand it is the various contributing - there is a water quality survey, what ever that might be. Continual water quality surveys for pottable and recreational usage, in the St John's and other urban areas. These surveys and studies are carried on by university students who are hired for the summertime. Follow up of the 1971 pollution survey, checking anomalies and deficiencies. There are three students involved in that. Assessment of the 1971 survey to identify critical areas and other areas for study by permanent staff. Two graduate students involved. They then did detail the breakdown on salary and travel and miscellaneous equipment.

MR. HARVEY: Yes, I would like to bring to your attention Mr. Chairman, that in most of the communities that I represent in Labrador South it is a very talked about danger of all their water supply system being polluted. They get most of their water from a river flowing into the community.

AN HON. MEMBER: Have you notified the department to this effect?

MR. HARVEY: No I have not. I did not know much about it and I just thought I would bring it to your attention now if I could and I will later.

AN HON. MEMBER: We would like to co-operate in any way we can.

MR HARVEY: Fight' Fine! Thank you!

MR TUOMS: Mr. Chairman, on 03-05, I wonder could the minister explain to us these material sites?

MR DOODY: A lot of dumps around the Province. They are re-constructing dumps in Kelligrews, Bay Bulls, Pouch Cove, Whitbourne and they are preparing new sites in Hearts Delight, Hearts Desire, Georgestown, Marysvale, Lewin's Cove, Conception Harbour. They got new sites in St. Andrews, Woodville, Norris Arm North, Charlottetown, New World Island West and New World Island East. They are bringing out new sites under a Federal-Provincial programme, at Bay de Verde, Red Head Cove, Bloonfield, Lethbridge, Canning Cove, Cape Broyle, Tors Cove, Melville, Codroy, South Branch, Flowers Cove, St. Barbe, Birchy Bay, Pelley's Island, Gander Bay, Victoria, Boyd's Cove, Jean de Baie, North Harbour. The amount of money involved is \$272,200 for construction and about \$28,000 for operation and maintenance. These are the sites that they have lined up to prepare for this year.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible

MR. DOODY: No, no. Not the incinerators. The dumps are in my department. The incinerators are with the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. W. ROWE: Are these the sites which the Department of Mines, Agriculture and Resources used to put in or near unincorporated areas?

MR DOODY: All those things you mentioned there are not incorporated.

MR ROWE: Some of these are incorporated, Mr. Chairman. I was wondering what is happening.

I knew that there was a programme, almost an ad hoc programme to help out unincorporated areas, like we do in Community and Social Development for water systems. I am surprised to hear some of these communities are incorporated, and I am wondering what is happening. I mean, is there some shift of responsibility

MR. DOODY: I notice, to the best of my knowledge the incorporated ones seem to be in the reconstruction part of it. Kelligrews, which is in the Conception South local improvement district,

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Bay Bulls, Pouch Cove; Torbay is not incorporated, they are still working on that one, Whitbourne is, I think they are reconstructing and cleaning up sites that were provided to these communities before they were incorporated. That is what I would gather and now that the communities have probably talked government into fixing them up for them. All these far seeing and important events, not commitments I might say, took place a little while ago.

MR. ROWE (W.R.): By coincidence, a great number of them happen to be in the historic District of Harbour Main.

MR. DOODY: They have been neglected for too long.

MR. ROWE: A great coincidence.

MR. HARVEY: With regard to (03-07), my friend and colleague here from Bonavista North asked me to ask you what it is?

What you are doing? I am just passing it along, he had to go to the telephone.

MR. DOODY: Well there is a short paragraph here which describes it as "A study formulated by a Federal-Provincial Task Force that has been acknowledged by the ministers of both levels of government as being desirable. Fifty per cent of the cost will be reimbursed by the Federal Government as shown under "Appropriations in Aid."

It would appear that they are examining the Exploits River Basin.

On motion 825 carried.

On motion 826 carried.

On motion 827 carried.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Chairman, with regard to 828-03-03, where this grant was \$12,400 for institutions, this is something new is it?

MR. DOODY: Grants to agricultural institutions, the Atlantic Provinces

have agreed to share the cost of providing a technical agricultural programme. The total cost of this programme is divided by the number of students to arrive at a cost per student. Each province pays according to the number of students attending. There are presently four attending from Newfoundland.

Membership fee of the Agriculture and Economics Research Council of Canada, also included.

AN HON. MEMBER: Is this at the school in Truro?

MR. DOODY: Yes.

On motion 828 carried.

On motion 829 carried.

On motion 830 carried.

MR. THOMS: With regard to 831-02-08, could the minister explain where this consolidation is taken from?

MR. DOODY: They help to do work in the Cormack area and Pasadena area and the Codroy Valley area, and the Kilbride area. We need funds which are required for surveys, farm lay-out and the purchase of lands in these areas for redistribution to interested farmers in the area by lease, by rent, by purchase.

MR. THOMS: Inaudible.

MR. DOODY: There are very few lands in Newfoundland with any kind of surveys unfortunately. This is one of the biggest problems they run into. The first thing they have got to do is try and find out who did own the land and who does own the land.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is mostly in the Codroy Valley area.

MR. DOODY: In the Codroy Valley and the Cormack area and the Pasadena area and in the Kilbride area.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is this item?

MR. DOODY: Winter Forage. It is a need for a high quality winter forage to increase livestock production in the province. In some areas this could be better accomplished on a co-operative basis by a group of farmers where expensive harvesting equipment could be shared.

In some areas there is a shortage of land for forage production. But large areas of bog land nearby can be brought into production on a co-operative basis, so they need this money to see if such a scheme is

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indeed practical and possible If it can work, it would be a
great help.

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On motion, 831 carried

MR. ROWE (W.N.): 832(01) - Grants to Newfoundland Farm Products Corporation. It is all very good, without taking up too much time in the House, for members to stand up and wring their hands and say they wish the labour problem was solved and even all very good for an honourable minister of the House to more or less blame one of the parties involved, the union, and say that they are the ones who are being unreasonable. That does not help the primary producer, the man who is going to go bankrupt or lose his birds or lose his pigs as the case might be. Most of these people are not over endowed with financial resources and they have themselves mortgaged to the hilt, as my honourable friend, the member for Bonavista North, has said on a couple of occasions. I as well as he have been in contact with, I was contacted by Mr. Frank Petipas, and I think the deadline is probably today, is that right, or over this weekend? You know, if something is not done about taking his produce off his hands well then this viable industry, I think it has been proven to be a viable industry, is going to go up the spout, Mr. Chairman.

Surely the minister can come up with some kind of a contingency plan in respect of this. I suppose he is worried about precedents; if we help out a primary producer or an innocent third party who is affected by a labour dispute now we might have to do it in the future. But you know, I mean I do not think we should be afraid of setting precedents in the government. I do not think there would be a great amount of money involved in this particular case, a great amount, as far as the government is concerned would not be very great but a very great amount as far as an individual producer is concerned.

Surely we can come up with some scheme whereby either it is taken off his hands, shipped away or if in fact the produce has to be utterly destroyed and lost then some subsidy can be worked out

so that he does not have to suffer and others like him and lose everything in one fell swoop. I mean, if it were over a long period of time we could probably work out something to phase out an unviable industry but industries which have proved themselves to be viable, are paying men to work in them, both in return on capital and as wages, then I think that we should try to save such an industry and individuals who have gotten into that kind of an industry, should try to save them and not let them suffer as a result of some adventitious or fortuitous event which is completely beyond their control.

MR. DOODY: Mr. Chairman, I may make a comment on that if I may. The importance of the broiler industry and the hog industry, of course, has been stressed both by myself as well as the honourable member for Bonavista North and by other people here. It is not the intention of this government or of this department to at any time deprive the farmers of the facilities of Farm Products. At no time have government done anything to prevent the farmers from using the facilities of Farm Products. The fact that there is a strike on down there now is unfortunate. I feel for the strikers as well as the farmers. But the facilities of Newfoundland Farm Products are put there for the benefit of the farmers and as far as this department and its administration is concerned they are still there for the benefit of the farmers and if the farmers want to take it on from there or want to have a chat with us about that we have absolutely no intention in any way, shape or form of forcing them to suffer because of the unfortunate situation that is occurring down there.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Chairman, I was quite interested earlier on this afternoon when I heard the Minister of Finance give some of the figures in relation to this problem down in the abattoir. Maybe I have my figures all wrong, Mr. Chairman, but could you correct me? The people down there are asking for thirty-two cents per hour and the government

is offering twenty-two.

MR. DOODY: That is right.

MR. THOMS: So there is only a difference of ten cents per hour, is that right? Is it correct to say that there are less than fifty people, probably forty-six or forty-eight people involved?

MR. DOODY: I think there are about seventy people involved.

MR. THOMS: About seventy people.

MR. DOODY: Forty-five of them attended and voted last night.

I see. So then, if you take this ten percent increase which they want and multiply it, the only thing you are worrying about is really sixty-five or seventy dollars per day and this would save this whole operation. Is this not correct?

MR. DOODY: That is correct, but none of these situations are as simple as they appear to be. Many of the hon. members across the House and on this side of the House are aware that the union at Farm Products is involved in this dispute. It carries further with regard to establishing a precedent with wage increases above and beyond the capacities of government at the present time.

There could very well be - it could have effects on negotiations and various other sectors and segments of government relationship with employees, public employees and the government has made it quite clear - the Chairman of the Treasury Board made it quite clear today that this government has made many concessions and many gestures towards reconciliation in this regard. They started off with - they sat at the table and negotiated and have moved up to twenty-two cents. The union on the other hand, for some reason or other, started at twenty-eight cents and moved ahead to thirty-four. Then, they moved back to thirty-two and it has been a most difficult set of negotiations.

I think one of the other problems involved is that Treasury Board has had to negotiate with no less than four different representatives of that union and have started from scratch and go again. They are having a quite difficult time. That does not in any way, of course, absolve government of its responsibilities toward the farming community or of the economy of the province. The negotiations with the union are the problems of Treasury Board, and as the hon. minister pointed out today, they have bent over backwards I think to try to facilitate the requests.

I would hope that the union sits down with Treasury Board again

and come up with some concrete proposals. That would be by far the easiest, simplest and best way out for everybody involved. Nevertheless, the fact remains that Newfoundland Farm Products Corporation has to continue and we hope that it will continue in the best possible interests of the farming community of the province.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Chairman, even though the Treasury Board is negotiating with these people down there, and apparently the Treasury Board, from what I understand from the Minister of Finance, is not going to budge on its last offer of two cents, which would make it twenty-two cents per hour, even though this is happening, the time is rapidly approaching when some of our producers are, you know, they are going to be just up the wall.

MR. DOODY: Can the producers convince the union to go back to work?

MR. THOMS: It is not the work of the producer.

MR. DOODY: It is not government's fault either, Sir.

MR. THOMS: It may not be government's fault, but I am sure that there must be some way that this present government can get this plant back in operation.

MR. DOODY: I hope there is.

MR. THOMS: If not, you are going to have a chaotic situation on your hands down there.

MR. DOODY: That is right, Sir.

MR. THOMS: We have one man and he has until Sunday or Monday now and he is going to lose roughly, he is going to lose exactly \$28,800 worth of broilers. You have another man who is due to come in there on Monday. There are other producers in the same boat.

MR. DOODY: I have met with all of them, Sir, and all...

MR. THOMS: Undoubtedly I am aware you have, but unless we can get these people back to work we are going to be in an awful situation, because, the time limit on this is very important. You have broilers out there in Whitbourne right now just putting on weight. The condition of

them are deteriorating. I am just wondering, Mr. Chairman, I notice that there is a decrease from last year to this year. Would this have any effect on the operation at all?

MR. DOODY: I would hope not, Sir, the decreases will hopefully be offset by increased efficiency and improved management conditions. We have absolutely no intention of cutting back on the production or on the facilities that are available to the farming community.

On motion, clauses 832-01 and 02, carried.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, I assume that 03 is the Egg Marketing Board, is this the case?

MR. DOODY: No, this is not the Egg Marketing Board it is the Newfoundland Marketing Board. The Egg Marketing Board is an association of egg producers. It is completely independent of government.

MR. WOODWARD: It is independent of government?

MR. DOODY: Yes, this is the Newfoundland Marketing Board which looks after the regulations of the marketing situation.

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, I understand that in the Egg Marketing Board, this is not under the Egg Marketing Board, but it may have dealings with the marketing of eggs and produce in the province as such. Under the Marketing Board which we will not refer to as the Egg Marketing Board as such, we ran into a very difficult problem in Labrador, especially in the North section of Labrador where we are forced into buying eggs from the Province of Newfoundland and maybe, this being a technical question, I do not know if the minister will have the answer for me. There was a solution that came up with during the - we have no poultry producers in Labrador as such and we were forced into airlifting eggs into the Goose Bay Area and then in turn taking eggs from Goose Bay and flying them to the coast.

MR. DOODY: Did you just ask me a question or was that a retort?

MR. WOODWARD: No, I was asking you a question when you were interrupted and I stopped for a brief period so you could...

MR. DOODY: Oh I see, carry on. If I may comment, no, it is okay, carry on.

MR. WOODWARD: This is a problem that we ran into and there was a subsidy that went into being for eggs being airlifted into Labrador. I want to know if this subsidy - what is the amount of the subsidy or if it is covered under this heading?

MR. DOODY: I doubt very much that it is covered under this heading. This heading is for the cost of administering the Marketing Board, the Newfoundland Marketing Board. The cost of subsidy of eggs going into Labrador is something that I am not familiar with at all. I do not know what heading it comes under or what department. It probably involves the Department of Labrador Affairs.

MR. MURPHY: No, we have a subsidy on people flying, but I have heard nothing on eggs, but I could check it out if the hon. member wants me to.

MR. DOODY: Nothing on eggs?

MR. WOODWARD: Mr. Chairman, there is a subsidy on eggs because of the fact that, when the legislation was brought in the people in Labrador and it is a legislation that you must buy eggs produced in the province...

MR. DOODY: That is right.

MR. WOODWARD: We have no egg producers in Labrador. The freight rate out of St. John's versus the freight rate out of Moncton which was much greater. Then we were forced into buying eggs and there was a subsidy brought into the Goose Bay Area, but then again the eggs have to go from Goose Bay on another airline through to the coastal communities and to the north of Nain. There is a subsidy set up, I want to know how much that subsidy is?

MR. DOODY: Sir, I do not doubt that there is a subsidy, but as I say, our department has nothing to do with it.

MR. MURPHY: Shall we check it out on Monday?

MR. DOODY: You could make an inquiry to that effect in various other areas, I have no idea where it comes from. I agree with you when you say that there is such a subsidy and, you know, I certainly would not -

MR. DOODY: I wish I had the information for him but I do not even -

MR. WOODWARD: MR. Chairman, if the honourable minister would be kind enough, if he would research and find out and if he could give us the answer to the question.

MR. DOODY: We will do everything we possibly can.

MR. THOMS: Could the minister give us some idea of what crops are involved ?

MR. DOODY: There are no crops involved yet. There is no such insurance in effect. The previous administration had an insurance scheme ready to present to this House I think. The present administration has decided to hold back on it until it gets an opportunity to look at it and study it. This \$25,000 will be a token vote to provide such insurance if indeed this House approves it .

AN HON. MEMBER: There is crop insurance in effect now.

MR. THOMS: Mr. Chairman, could the minister explain to us these marketing facilities?

MR. DOODY: I honestly wish I could, Sir. I can explain some of them to you, the ones that lend themselves to explanation. I have spent some little time in trying to get to the bottom of these weird and wonderful "Cinderella Palaces" but I have not been all that successful so far. A part of the cost, of course, is to pay the operating costs of Farm Products and what not, the Pleasantville operation. There is the Corner Brook operation which is now in the process of being built. There are several vegetable storage warehouses being built which will be a great asset to the farming community. There is one out in the Robinson's area. There is one out in the Musgrave Town Area. There are various other buildings going up in places like Harbour Grace, Plum Point, Happy Valley and Clarendville is another one. There are several others, the purpose of which we have not been able to find out

Mr. Doody

yet. They are called multi-temperature food storage buildings and they are designed I believe to buy the produces that are grown in the area or raised in the area and then sold. The officials in the department agree with the thought that there is certainly not enough produce grown in these particular areas to warrant such expensive buildings. They were under the impression that the government are going to get involved in the food distribution business or were in fact going to sell orange juice and canned beans and what not to make these buildings practical. This may or may not have been the case. This is the impression that I get. They certainly will not be used for that purpose. We have no intention of getting into the wholesale food business and there is a study being undertaken shortly to examine exactly what purposes these buildings will serve and how best they can be used for the industry as a whole.

MR. MURPHY: Most of these are committed Mr. Chairman.

MR. DOODY: There are quite a few of them well underway, well into construction and others are not all that far advanced.

As I say, it is something that has to be studied very carefully and very closely because there is an awful lot of money involved.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, a question, I assume the buildings that you are referring to are those controlled temperature stores. Are they under the auspices of the Newfoundland Farm Products?

MR. DOODY: They are being built by Newfoundland Farm Products, at the direction of the Government.

MR. F. ROWE: The reason I am so interested in this is because one of these buildings, the steel frames is up in the Plum Point area.

MR. DOODY: That is right. We are investigating the possibility of moving them to the waterfront to use it for the fish plant but I do not know whether it will be done or not.

MR. ROWE: What would I say now to the people of my district when they ask the question concerning the future of this.

MR. DOODY: We are going to have some people go up and find out what use it can be put to for the benefit of the people in the area.

MR. ROWE: Have you been talking with the co-operative at Brig Bay about-

MR. DOODY: They have not contacted us.

MR. ROWE: You are not planning this in connection with -

MR. DOODY: If they want to talk to us about some possible use for it that would be to the benefit of the area, we would only be too happy to do so.

MR. ROWE: Probably we could get together sometime.

MR. WOODWARD: Seeing that one of those structures are going up in my district, in the Town of Happy Valley. Is there money in this subhead included in this subhead to finish that construction.

MR. DOODY: The one in Happy Valley has not been started yet. They have just scratched the surface. They have done some on site work. That one is being held in abeyance until such time as they find out to what purpose it can be used. The Minister of Labrador Affairs says he would be quite happy to discuss that with you at any time.

MR. WOODWARD: I would be more than happy to discuss this with the Minister of

Labrador Affairs. But when you think of the Labrador area and the whole of Labrador as being a non-producing area as far as poultry and vegetables of any nature is concerned, taking into consideration the short navigation season that exist, when we get involved then eight months of the year where most of our produce has to be other than the frozen stuff. It has to be air lifted into Goose Bay at a tremendous cost. It ranges between twelve to twenty-two cents per pound. It is quite conceivable that you can go down town and pick up a turnip that is stencilled on the stud at \$1.06 each, or you can pick up a cabbage that ranges from \$1.15 a head to \$1.75 a head.

So, in this case here, we were very hopeful, Mr. Chairman. I might add that seeing these stores going up we thought possibly there is such a thing as controlled temperature where you can keep produce for a long period of time. We thought possibly this is one of the aims where you could store this bringing in boat transportation into the area and have some means of dispensing it especially to the smaller suppliers or smaller grocers over a period of time, subsequently reducing the cost of those very expensive items. I might add that in the areas where we have made surveys, our produce and vegetables represents about - groceries and meats are included here, 40 per cent of the grocery bill. So in this case here I am a little surprised to think this may not go ahead.

MR. DOODY: No I did not.

MR. WOODWARD: I am not concerned to think that it would not go ahead on the island because you get a continuous supply and you have a lot of producers here. But taking into consideration this particular area and distribution from that area to the other centres on the Labrador Coast - I might add that fresh fruit and vegetables on the Labrador Coast are very rare thing to be seen during the winter time because of the freight from Noncton to Goose Bay, twelve cents per pound, then you go from Goose Bay to Nain -

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MR. MARSHALL: The honourable Minister of Mines Agriculture & Resources hopes to be able to catch a plane at six o'clock. It is not about ten minutes to go, I feel -

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quite sure, if it is agreeable with the members on the other side of the House, with respect to these two items, if they did get relatively free passage now then he would be only too happy to answer any further questions you have on it when he returns or else you can let these matters stand over, if you so desire.

But I think the hon. Minister of Mines would like to catch a plane in about ten minutes time.

MR. WOODWARD: It is an important subject. I would like possibly, if you wanted me to adjourn the debate.

On motion 832 carried.

On motion Block Provision, Canada Pension Plan, carried.

On motion Block Provision, Unemployment Insurance, carried.

On motion total Department of Mines, Agriculture and Resources, carried.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Chairman, we still have another five or eight minutes, I would like to go to Justice now, number VII.

MR. ROWE (W.R.): With regard to 701-01, there are one or two things, Mr. Chairman, there is hardly time enough really to get into it but I suppose you might start.

I notice under the salaries head, this is a specific question, there is \$12,000 I believe for an executive assisant.

MR. HICKMAN: Clarence W. Rogers, Grand Bank, he was appointed effective yesterday.

MR. ROWE: Where does he live?

MR. HICKMAN: He lives in Grand Bank but he is now moving to St. John's,

MR. ROWE: With an office in the building here? \$12,000 this strikes me as a little high for the going rate for executive assistants, I think \$10,000 was probably the precedent set.

MR. HICKMAN: Actually he is not being hired as an executive assistant, he is being hired as a special assistant. He is a very competent young man who was comptroller of the Grandy Enterprises and before that a graduate of Ryerson Tech., data processing University of Toronto.

I am very proud that we can induce that kind of young man into the public service.

MR. ROWE: So am I, Mr. Chairman, but as has been mentioned in the House on a number of occasions, there is a very strict diaconalomy between those people who are members of the public service and those people who are on the personal staff of the minister, political appointments.

MR. HICKMAN: If they are not cabinet appointments, they must be political.

MR. ROWE: They must be political appointments and nobody disputes that. The only thing is that we have seen some in another department, which we will get to later on, the Premier's department, I guess it comes under Executive Council. We see some pretty inflated salaries being paid or projected to be paid to people who are being appointed as executive or special assistants.

In Ottawa, where they are very much more flushed than we are, they pay anywhere from \$15,000 to \$18,000 a year for this type of position. Our precedent or our experiences that we have had, very slight as it has been, is for about \$10,000 a year.

If we are going to attract good, competent people, who are going to help out in the public service, then let us attract them but let us put them in positions where they have security of tenure and where the qualifications of these people can be used in some position which has the designation on it.

I have no doubt he will be a very valuable contribution to the minister's political staff, no doubt at all, I had an executive assistant

myself, who was a great help to me, as did the Leader of the Opposition, but let us be very wary of these inflated prices being paid for such gentlemen and if such gentlemen have qualifications such as those outlined by the Minister of Justice, then let us put them where the qualifications can be put to use.

Perhaps the minister might or might not have something else to say on that.

Mr. Chairman, there are one or two other general matters I would like to get into with the hope that when we go through the estimates we can get through fairly quickly so I will mention them now. The first matter concerns the Supreme Court of Newfoundland. It will be recalled that when we formed the administration, and I have the good fortune and the great experience I must say of being the acting Minister of Justice for about three weeks during which time there was quite a flurry of activity, I contacted by letter the Minister of Justice in Ottawa, Mr. Turner, acting upon a report submitted to me by the law society of Newfoundland, requesting that a fifth judge, a fifth puisne judge, as the term is, be appointed to the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and that such a fifth supreme court judge be sent to Corner Brook, have residence in Corner Brook and hold court in Corner Brook. Unfortunately I was flung out of the position of acting Minister of Justice shortly thereafter and got no reply from the Minister of Justice in Ottawa up to that time, although I had been talking to some of them.

MR. HICKMAN: (Inaudible).

MR. ROWE (M.N.): You still have never received. Well, Mr. Turner, of course, is now moved on to the next step towards the Premiership of Canada.

MR. HICKMAN: I have had discussions with him by telephone and he asked to have it changed a bit.

MR. ROWE: Yes, I heard that as well. I have also had discussion with certain political heads in Ottawa. I heard for example -

MR. HICKMAN: We changed that.

MR. ROWE: The Minister of Justice was not too happy about the fact that on my initiative they were going to set up a recommendations board

which would recommend Q.C.'s to the Government of Newfoundland, would recommend qualified practitioners to the Government of Newfoundland who might become judges in the event of a vacancy both in the District Court -

MR. HICKMAN: That was the only part he objected to.

MR. ROWE: Yes, well I will get to that anyway. And that these recommendations which would be recommendations only with no legal force, no jurisdiction, no legal force, be forwarded on to the Federal Minister of Justice. Now -

MR. HICKMAN: You are aware that there has been a committee in existence for three years.

MR. ROWE: I am aware of that, that the Federal Government set up a committee, I do not know how active it has been.

Who is our representative down here?

MR. HICKMAN: There is no representative. It has been the policy of the former minister and I am pretty sure it is the same policy with Mr. Laing, they want to keep them pretty well honest.

MR. ROWE: Well that is great. We have a secret society set up which makes secret recommendations to the Government of Canada for judges.

MR. HICKMAN: No, no, you better speak to your Liberal conferrees on that.

MR. ROWE: I will speak to the Liberal conferrees. I do not have any axe to grind for the Liberal conferrees in Ottawa. What we were trying to do, and I heard, by rumour more than anything, that the the present honourable Minister of Justice was a little annoyed at the fact that we had set up this Board of Recommendations and that one of its functions would be to submit to the Provincial Government, be it Progressive Conservative, Communist or Liberal, I do not care what, recommendations for names of qualified practitioners who might be considered a help to the Government of Canada in trying to choose good, competent judges

in this Province.

MR. HICKMAN: I agree with you but I think it is significant that the Government of Canada did not seek any advice from this Province.

MR. ROWE: That is right. Maybe we should try to change that because, as the hon. minister knows, from times when he was not in government. Maybe we should change that. Or maybe it is possible to have the recommendations of such a board by-pass the Provincial Government altogether and go up to the Government in Ottawa. But that is neither here nor there because, as the hon. minister knows, if a new Constitution is every proclaimed for Canada, we are likely to see included in such a Constitution some different requirements regarding allocation of different responsibilities and burdens and duties of the various planes of government. In fact Quebec, for one province, would like to see judges appointed by the provincial government. There seems to be a tendency on the part of many politicians to consider provincial government as irresponsible, stupid, they are going to do the wrong thing. It has not worked too badly in the United States, where the United States Government, the governments of the various states have the power to appoint their own judges. There have been

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some bad appointments and some good appointments. Be that as it may

AN HON. MEMBER: It is 6:00 o'clock.

MR. ROWE (W.N.): Yes, I thought you were probably premature in getting into the debate at all. I will continue my remarks, Mr. Chairman, when Heading VII is called again.

On motion that the committee rise and report having passed estimates of expenditure under the heading : VIII- Mines, Agriculture and Resources, all items, and ask leave to sit again, Mr. Speaker returned to the Chair.

On motion report received and adopted

On motion committee ordered to sit again on tomorrow.

MR. MARSHALL : Mr. Speaker, I move that the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow Monday at 3:00 P.M. and that this House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: This House stands adjourned until Monday at 3:00 P.M.