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VERBATIM REPORT

Monday, February 12, 1973

SPEAKER: THE HONOURABLE JAMES M. RUSSELL



The House met at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

I would like to welcome any visitors to the gallery today. I trust that your visit here is most informative and interesting.

PETITIONS:

MR. W.N. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition which I have received from the voters of the Hampton Area, Bayside Hampton, the coves and the beaches of that general area. It is signed by about 350 voters in those communities.

The prayer of the petition, Sir, asks for a sand truck or sand trucks to be in the Hampton Area, so that better services can be provided as far as keeping the roads clear of snow and to put sand on the ice. It is not too important I suppose in the framework of what goes on in the House here generally speaking. It does not need any committees or task forces or restructured governments, but it is important to the people concerned.

At the moment they have to wait for these services from Deer Lake which is a long distance away. When you have a lot of men working in the woods and you have to travel over that road daily, back and forth over fairly hilly countryside I might add, it is imperative that this type of service be immediately available.

I move, Sir, that this petition be received by this honourable House and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition on behalf of some fifty-four residents of Flowers Cove, that is fishermen of Flowers Cove. This petition, Sir, is also supported by the Anglican Women's Association, by the Recreation Commission of Flowers Cove, by the Lion's Club of Flowers Cove and by the United Church Women's Association

of Flowers Cove.

The prayer of this petition asks for a community stage for the fishermen in the Community of Flowers Cove. There is not much that can be said about the existing facilities there at the present time, since no facility whatsoever exists for the use of the fishermen.

Sir, I ask that this petition be placed on the table of the House and referred to the department to which it relates.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition on behalf of the residents of the community of Sweet Bay in my District of Bonavista South. They are not asking for too much. It is for the upgrading of their road. I note they are not asking for paving, just the upgrading. Mainly, the reason for it is because of some dangerous intersections and dangerous sections of the road with regard to the operation of school buses in the area.

The prayer of the petition is asking for the establishment and erection of guardrails and the upgrading of the road from Sweet Bay to the high school

up to the pavement in Leathbridge. I hope this petition will be tabled in this hon. House and passed along to the department to which it relates.

MR. S. A. NEARY: I take pleasure, on behalf of my colleagues and the opposition, to support the petition presented by the member for Bonavista South. The request, Sir, of the petition, seems to be very reasonable and just. I am sure that his colleague, the Minister of Highways, will see to it that proper guardrails are put there for the safety and the protection of the people who go over that piece of road and that the road is upgraded and paved.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any other petitions?

REPORTS OF STANDING AND SELECT COMMITTEES

HON. H. R. V. EARLE: (MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SERVICES): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave of the House to present the annual report of the C.A. Pippy Park Commission of the years 1971-1972. There will be copies available for the opposition.

HON. JOHN C. CROSBIE: (MINISTER OF FINANCE): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to table here in the House a report on hypothecated securities. Section 21 (9) of the Revenue and Audit Act states that the Minister of Finance should keep a complete record of all securities hypothecated under the act and prepare and submit an annual report thereof and lay the report before the House of Assembly, with the Public Accounts.

This is to advise that there are no hypothecated securities. (only one copy.)

Hypothecated securities are in good hands.

I beg leave to table, Mr. Speaker, a report on revolving temporary loans. Section 21, Para. one and two of the Revenue and Audit Act states that the minister must report to the House of Assembly, within fifteen days, concerning any temporary loans raised for the purpose of paying off other temporary loans.

This is one purpose for which we have not raised any loans and I now advise that no such loans were raised since the last sitting of the House of Assembly.

I also beg leave to table, Mr. Speaker, a report on the payments of guaranteed loans, since the House last met, as required by Section 32, Para. 2 of the Revenue and Audit Act.

The following figures represent loans which had been paid in part or in whole under the Loan and Guarantee Act since the last sitting of the House of Assembly. (There is an original and some copies here.)

Brigus Knitting Mills, \$59,000 (I will just give the round figures.)

Regional Highschool Board of Education, Corner Brook, Amalgamated,  
\$60,000.

V.B. Spencer, Limited, \$29,000 (The House is very familiar with that gentleman.)

Dear Lake Amalgamated Regional High School, \$13,000.

Harbour Grace Recreational Centre, \$5,900

Hotel Holdings Limited, Corner Brook, \$20,000.

Paragon Hotel Limited, \$35,000.

Hotel Buildings Limited, \$956,000

McAlpine Escrow Account, \$4,168,000.

Ocean Kist Products(1970) Limited, \$131,000

Northern Lumber Company, \$22,000. (There are some copies here for the opposition or the press)

I do agree, Mr. Speaker, to table, in the House here, the following regulations.

No. 23, SSA Tax Amendment Regulation of 1972

No. 46, Newfoundland Government Employees Association, Deduction of Dues Regulations, 1969, Repealed.

No. 60, SSA Amendment, No 1 Regulations, 1972.

No. 68, SSA Amendment, No. 2 Regulations, 1972.

No. 119, Alcoholic Liquor Identification Cards, Regulations, 1972.

No. 131, SSA Amendment, No. 3, Regulations, 1972. (Fifty copies of each for anybody who wants them) They are very interesting reading. The Premier reads everything and tells Neary all.

Mr. Speaker, I also beg leave to table a signed, typewritten or a signed, printed copy of the public accounts of Newfoundland for the financial year ending the thirty-first of March, 1972, with a signed copy of the Auditor General's Report for 1972 in printers type script form. The public accounts are printed with the exception of the second volume which deals with crown corporations. The accounts for crown corporations and copies of the public accounts will be made available to the press and the hon. members this afternoon. The Auditor General's Report, there is only one copy, this original one signed by the Auditor General. The

printers are now engaged in printing copies of the Auditor General's Report which should be available in two or three days so that all I can do today is copy this one

Mr. Crosbie:

just one original. The Auditor General says that copies will be available within a day or two for distribution to members of the House of Assembly.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. CROSBIE: March 31, 1972.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of the members that it is for the year ended March 31, 1972. There are a number of criticisms in the Auditor General's Report, many of them which relate to the tenure of the last administration and a few which relate to the tenure of the present administration. There are a very few in number. But the point is anyway, Mr. Speaker, that we are not satisfied with the Auditor General's Report. I do not mean with what the Auditor General has reported on. An effort will certainly be made this year to see that the matters he points out are dealt with. Many of them are due to genuine disagreements as to the proper interpretation of the Revenue and Audit Act. In any event this year one of the priorities of the Department of Finance will be to attempt to resolve differences with the Auditor General on many of the points that he mentions. Now I commend the report to the honourable gentlemen. It makes for some very interesting reading.

NOTICE OF MOTION

MR. E. M. ROBERTS (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I give notice of a motion, Sir?

WHEREAS, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador has fewer dentists per capita than does any province of Canada ; and WHEREAS, our people as a result do not receive adequate dental care despite the efforts made by the dentists now in practice in this province; and WHEREAS, it is obvious that the present method of providing dental care cannot in the foreseeable future provide an adequate service to our people; and WHEREAS, in at least five of the provinces of Canada dental technologists, sometimes called denturists,



Mr. Roberts

are allowed to practice their profession if properly qualified and under public supervision; and WHEREAS, such dental technologists could help to provide better dental services to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the government be directed immediately to introduce legislation to allow dental technologists or denturists to practice in Newfoundland; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislation shall set forth the professional standards to be attained and maintained by any person practicing as a denturist; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the legislation provide for a public board to supervise the denturists and such public board to include representatives of the public at large and of the government of the province; in addition to at least one dentist, one denturist and a medical doctor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the legislation ensure that denturists are entitled and are enabled to practice other than under the direct supervision of dentists.

HON. T. A. HICKMAN: (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills:

A bill, "An Act To Establish An Electoral Districts Boundaries Commission, To Report Upon The Delineation Of The Province And The Districts For Which Members Shall Be Returned To The House Of Assembly." A bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Assignment Of Book Debts Act." A bill, "An Act Respecting Persons In An Intoxicated Condition In Public Places." A bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Companies Act." A bill, "An Act To Amend The Quieting Of Titles Act." A bill, "An Act To Amend The Justices Act." A bill, "An Act To Amend The Family Courts Act."

MR. HICKMAN: on behalf of my colleague, the honourable the Minister of Rehabilitation and Recreation, a bill, "An Act Respecting the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation."

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. HICKMAN: It certainly is. I was up all night getting ready for it.

MR. CROSBIE: I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting Conflict Of Interest And Matters Of Public concern." It is wonderful to note the enthusiasm with which it is greeted by the honourable gentleman opposite who voted against it three years ago. We do not want to quibble about this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, an "Act Further To Amend The Department Of Finance Act," and "An Act Respecting The Guaranteeing By The Crown Of Certain Bonds, Debentures and Loans Respecting The Making Of Certain Loans By The Crown."

HON. DR. T. C. FARRELL, MINISTER OF TRANSPORTANT AND COMMUNICATION:

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, a bill "An Act Respecting The Department Of Transportation And Communication."

HON. GERALD OTTENHEIMER, MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Department Of Education And Youth Act."

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Somebody else give that notice.

HON. EDWARD MAYNARD, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS: I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting The Department of Forestry And Agriculture," and a bill, "An Act To Amend The Protection Of Animals Act."

HON. HAROLD A. COLLINS, MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING: I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The City Of St. John's Act," and another bill, "An

MR. COLLINS: Act Respecting The Department Of Municipal Affairs And Housing."

HON. GORDON DAWE, MINISTER OF MANPOWER AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS: I give notice that on tomorrow I will ask leave of the House to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting Termination Of Employment Of Substantial Numbers Of Persons In Certain Industries," and a bill, "An Act Respecting The Department Of Manpower And Industrial Relations," a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Employment And Notice Of Termination Act, 1969."

HON. JAMES REID, MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting The Department Of Rural Development."

HON. THOMAS DOYLE, MINISTER OF TOURISM: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave of the House to introduce the following bills, a bill "An Act Respecting The Department of Tourism," a bill, "An Act To Amend The Wild Life Act."

HON. LEO D. BARRY, MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act Respecting The Department Of Mines And Energy."

HON. WILLIAM DOODY, MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting The Department Of Industrial Development."

HON. DR. AUGUSTUS T. ROWE, MINISTER OF HEALTH: I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The St. Clare's Mercy Hospital Incorporation Act of 1960," and "An Act To Amend The Department Of Health Act."

HON. ANTHONY J. MURPHY, MINISTER OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting The Department of Social Services," and "An Act Further To Amend The Maintenance Act."

HON. H.R.V. EARLE, MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SERVICES: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill,

MR. EARLE: "An Act Respecting The Department of Public Works and Services."

HON. ROY CHEESEMAN, MINISTER OF FISHERIES: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting The Department of Fisheries."

HON. THOMAS V. HICKEY, MINISTER OF PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND ENVIRONMENT:  
Mr. Speaker, I give notice I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills, "An Act Respecting The Department Of Provincial Affairs And Environment," and "An Act Respecting Tenancies And Residential Premises," and "An Act Respecting Unsolicited Goods, Credit Cards," and "An Act Respecting The Registration and Regulation Of Credit Reporting Agencies, " and "An Act Respecting The Registration Or Regulation Of Automobile Dealers And Salesmen Of Such."

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

MR. WM. ROWE: I would like to direct a question to the honourable Minister of Justice, he could answer it orally or lay it on the table of the House as he sees fit. Mr. Speaker, could the minister indicate what steps he has taken either directly or through the agency of his own office or any other office of the government, to locate the file and papers enclosed therein which a witness at the enquiry before Mr. Justice Mifflin testified she had seen in July 1972, six months after the present government got in power, but had not been able to locate since and also, Mr. Speaker, the minister might be able to tell us who asked for the investigation to be conducted.

MR. HICKMAN: The investigation was asked for by an official, I have forgotten his title, in the Department of Social

MR. HICKMAN: Services and Rehabilitation, from the Deputy Minister of Justice and the order was given by the Deputy Minister of Justice, who instructed the Criminal Investigation Division of the Newfoundland Constabulary to carry out an investigation.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. If the minister is not prepared to name the official, he may or may not be, would he confirm or deny that this was made with the approval of the minister concerned?

MR. HICKMAN: I do not know.

MR. ROBERTS: Would the minister undertake to find out, if he does not know, Mr. Speaker?

MR. HICKMAN: I will take note of it.

MR. P.S. THOMS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture. Do the government recognize the Newfoundland Egg Marketing Board and if so or if not, would the minister inform this House as to what is government policy concerning the Newfoundland Egg Marketing Board?

HON. E. MAYNARD (MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS): Mr. Speaker, the Newfoundland Egg Marketing Board is, as the hon. member is well aware, a board set up by the egg producers in the province. The government recognize it certainly. The government recognize it through the Natural Products Marketing Act. I suppose that I could make some comment on the recent controversy or release made by the Newfoundland Egg Marketing Board regarding their resignations. I have some background prepared here and I can distribute copies to the hon. members.

On Friday, February 9, the Newfoundland Egg Marketing Board in a press release indicated they were unhappy with the -

MR. ROBERTS: To a point of order. Is this in order? I mean I am quite willing to listen to the hon. gentleman. It is more information that we have had for months but is it in order for him to read a statement which

he said he would distribute?

MR. MAYNARD: Do you want the question answered or do you not?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, of course I would like an answer but the hon. gentleman is not answering it.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

HON. A.J. MURPHY (MINISTER OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE): Mr. Speaker, before we go into Orders of the Day I would like to take this opportunity, Sir, to ask you to accept this certification of appreciation to the members of the House of Assembly from the March of Dimes Campaign Committee. In doing so, Sir, I would like to thank very sincerely all members of this hon. House, members of the press and everyone connected with arranging this wonderful night for the March of Dimes, the Crippled Children, at the Stadium and to say, Sir, how happy we all are that this affair was such a bang-up success, realizing some \$3,000 for a very worth-while project. Seeing, Sir, it is on behalf of all the members of this hon. House, I would ask you, Sir, to hang it in some prominent place to show that there are some among us that are a little bit civilized.

Thank you!

MR. E.W. WINSOR: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the hon. Minister of Communication and Transportation or vice versa the Minister of Highways? Is the minister in a position to say - Is the minister listening?

MR. FARRELL: Yes, Sir.

MR. WINSOR: Is the minister in a position to say whether or not the government will provide a subsidy for people travelling to and from Fogo Island and Change Island and if so, when?

MR. FARRELL: Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the hon. member that I will be making an announcement in due course on this matter.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, if I might direct a question to the Premier. I have a copy of his, I assume it is a copy of his statement before lunch, a diatribe of some - why he said it I would not know but I would ask

him if perhaps he could provide me with the information which led him to base the statement which appears in the last paragraph, on page five of the copy I have. The paragraph begins here, and I do have to read this I think, Sir, to make my question clear, if I may be permitted "There is great reason to suspect that such information is spoonfed by the opposition and to the less discriminating local reporters who take it as gospel." Well, that is the hon. gentleman's opinion and so be it! It is not true but there it is.

The question is, Mr. Speaker, -

MR. MARSHALL: To a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Questions can be asked, Oral questions can be asked in this hon. House, Mr. Speaker, but I think the hon. Leader of the Opposition will agree they are not to be predicated with long rambling remarks in the nature of a speech or a statement within a question itself.

MR. ROBERTS: Now I agree, the hon. gentleman is of course, as always, right. The statement goes on, "If such is the case it would be well worth a reporter's time to also learn that the opposition, in particular the office of the Leader of the Opposition have made considerable use of the Information Service over the past year." I wonder if the Premier could tell me when the opposition either through their leader or through the office of the Leader of the Opposition or the opposition as a whole have made use of Information Newfoundland.

MR. MOORES: Mr. Speaker, I can get the dates and the occasions and the reason why from Information Services but I was advised by Information Services that Mr. Robert Sinclair from the opposition office had gone down and received various releases and certain information and they are welcome to it.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, the Premier says that we have made use of the Information Service, would the Premier please give us

at least give us details. An assistant going to get copies of releases is not useful. Would the Premier either give me details, Sir, or would he withdraw the statement? As it stands, I suspect it is incorrect.

MR. MOORES: I will check with Information Services and regarding the use by the opposition I am sure it was gotten for them by Mr. Sinclair so that they could read, Mr. Speaker.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, the honourable gentleman has not answered the question. I shall deal with it later. May I ask another question? Actually he has just told a terminological inexactitude. But that is his problem, Mr. Speaker.

Would the Premier indicate what steps he or the government as a whole have taken to ensure that the people of Gander are given the right to elect a municipal council immediately? The council of course would succeed the council whose resignation was forced by either an incompetent or malevolent act -

AN HON. MEMBER: On a point of order, on a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. ROBERTS: - of the present Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

AN HON. MEMBER: On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the honourable Leader of the Opposition is getting on with a little more of a speech than a direct question.

MR. ROBERTS: Well let me ask a question. Thank you, Your Honour. Would the Premier indicate what steps he or the government have taken to ensure that the people of Gander are given the right to elect a municipal council immediately?

MR. MOORES: No, Mr. Speaker, Unlike the previous government, the Minister of Municipal Affairs will do that.

MR. ROBERTS: Would the minister care to answer the question?

MR. COLLINS: I have already announced that an election will be held in Gander just as soon as it is feasibly possible. Just as soon as it is feasible. I understand from my officials that it takes about eighty-four days, due to the necessary enumeration to set up the election.



Mr. Speaker, what I am telling this honourable House is that my officials tell me that it will take about eighty-four days, if it is sixty-four or thirty-four I will be glad to have the election arranged at that time, but I believe it is about eighty-four days by the time we do the enumeration and set the necessary election machinery into motion and give the necessary notice. At any rate if that particular number of days is an inexactitude we will have it just as soon as it is possible.

MR. ROBERTS: Right away.

MR. COLLINS: Right away. You cannot have it right away.

MR. ROBERTS: I think the minister said this, but let us be clear because I believe there is considerably public interest and it is timely. Is the minister saying that the government will make it possible for the people of Gander to elect a council at the first opportunity they can within the law whatever number of days it may take?

MR. SPEAKER: Orders of the Day.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, the Premier is in such an informative mood, I wonder if he could tell us anything about any results of the jaunt which he and a number of his colleagues made to the United Kingdom last week?

MR. MOORES: The trip to the United Kingdom will be the subject of a statement by me during the early days of this sitting of the House, Mr. Speaker, and until that time I am not in a position to make a definite statement on it.

MR. F.B. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the honourable Minister of Education. In view of the fact that a number of school buses have gone off the roads in recent months and that a number of buses have not passed the inspection for licensing and there appears to be inadequate funds for financing school bus transportation and there is no educational programme for the training of school bus drivers, can the minister give us some indications as to whether or not his department has any plans

to avert potential disaster or accidents later on?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: Mr. Speaker, the department is and does have under continuing examination, has under very special examination the whole question of school bus regulations not only from the financial point of view, from the safety point of view as well. Until those findings and recommendations are in final form there is nothing I can say except to say that these matters are being studied and it has been a very short period of time. The officials of the department, professional experts in the department and related departments, will have submitted their advice and views and will be pleased to make those known after I, myself, am aware of them and have had a chance to read them.

MR. F. B. ROWE: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, have any of the buses that have had the reflectorized licence plates taken from them had any sort of reflectorized tag placed on them in place?

MR. OTTENHEIMER: I will have to take that as notice of question.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. S. A. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, first of all I want to recognize the fact that there are some new members of the staff in the House today. I would like to welcome them here. Also, I would like to take note of the fact that sitting on the right side of the House is the member for Labrador South. It is the first opportunity that I have had to welcome the honourable member to the House. I trust, Mr. Speaker, that he will remain on this side and he will not be conned into going across the floor, as we have seen some members do in the past.

Mr. Speaker, my colleague the member for White Bay South, and I were chatting today and we were talking about an item in the "Evening Telegram" I think it was on Saturday. He and I agreed that we were rather taken back by the headline which we thought stated that the Leader of the Opposition was enraged. After a second glance there, we discovered that the Leader of the Opposition was engaged. So I would like to congratulate him.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, to a point of order, if I might. I want, both

on my own account or on the account of an hon member to thank the honourable gentleman and to say that this is other than a very happy occasion, it is also the result of some short-range action as opposed to long range planning. I will give the Premier and his ministers an example.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I do not know if it is in order yet, I do not know whether it has been made official or not, but I understand that the honourable member for Port au Port is going to be elevated to the exalted position of Deputy Speaker of this House. I do not know what the procedure is, whether it has to be moved or seconded or not, but anyway, if it has not happened already, in anticipation of its happening I would like to offer him my congratulations, Sir, and take note of the fact that he has now reached the ultimate in life, self-fulfillment. He is perfectly happy and I am sure his constituents are quite happy. They do not have any problems in Port au Port, so the honourable member was telling me this morning. I am glad to hear that. I am glad to hear it, Sir, and we may hear something on that later on in the session. If he has reached self-fulfillment, Sir, and his constituents are happy, then I would say that he is the only member of the House in that very, very fortunate position.

Mr. Speaker, I was somewhat puzzled by the remarks of the member for St. John's South on opening day. The honourable member mentioned something about the present P.C. Government (or what people sometimes call the "Tory" Government) eliminating fear in this province, leaving the impression with us, Sir, and with all that saw and listened to the honourable gentleman, that such a thing existed. Well, Sir, I have to say to the honourable gentleman that if in fact it did exist, even if it only existed in the minds of those honourable gentlemen sitting on the opposite side of the House (who set out to do a con job on our Newfoundland people) then, Sir, I would say that that picture has been replaced by a fear that is hard to get at, a fear of the machine, even of the cocktail machine, Mr. Speaker.

We have had numerous examples in the past twelve months of the kind of fear to which I refer and that exists in this province at the present time, Sir. We had an example today, Mr. Speaker, a scandalous

display, a scandalous spectacle by the honourable Premier of this province.

The honourable member talks about fear. Let me quote a couple of paragraphs from a statement issued at a press conference today, Mr. Speaker, by the honourable Premier. 'The February 10th. weekend edition of the 'Evening Telegram' is the worst example I have ever seen of screwball journalism.' That is interesting language to come from the Premier of this province, Mr. Speaker. He goes on to say: 'Hiding behind the guise of columns, editorials and forums, the 'Telegram' in my view has lost its credibility. 'The newspaper' he says, 'has become populated with axe-grinders clamouring for a cause. It has reached a stage where the "Telegram" cannot be trusted. I am concerned' the Premier says: 'because the role of the 'Telegram' in the democratic process is being weakened by this form of yellow journalism.'

You can hardly believe your ears, Mr. Speaker, when you listen to it. Then it goes on and says: 'A dozen or more items in the weekend edition is full of biased, personal insults, inaccuracies and contempt.' He says: 'They have forgotten the meaning of the word objectivity.'

Mr. Neary.

Now the hon. Premier says this. Out in Manitoba, Mr. Speaker, if you criticize the government (there was a great fuss about this recently) you are investigated. In Newfoundland, Sir, they go a little further than that. They go a little further. I will deal with that shortly.

The hon. Premier says, "the editorial decision-making at the 'Evening Telegram' is an organized campaign against the government." Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, can you imagine, an organized campaign against the government! "In the main it is all negative comment, misleading and damaging to the province," the Premier says. How dare they down there on Duckworth Street, in the Telegram Office, how dare they criticize this government! The Premier will deal with them. The honourable member talks about fear, freedom from fear. How about freedom of speech? "I would go so far," the hon. Premier says, "to say the people of this province need protection from the poison pen writers at the 'Evening Telegram.'" What kind of protection, Mr. Speaker? He does not spell it out. What kind of protection? Is he going to have the "Evening Telegram" newsmen run out of town, like he had the reporters run off the floor down on the Eighth Floor, like he had two newsmen evicted, escorted out of the building by the police? Is this the kind of action he is going to take? What kind of protection does the hon. Premier talk about? "Freedom from fear." What about freedom of speech?

"This government," he said, "have no intention and no right to try and influence or control the media in any manner, so I would suggest that the media get together and clean up this disgusting 'Evening Telegram' garbage." What language for a premier of a province to use, Sir! What an example for a premier of a province to set! I am surprised that honourable members on the opposite side, intelligent as some of them may be, sit there and tolerate this kind of nonsense by the Premier of this Province.

The hon. member for Placentia West has a great deal of respect. People have a great deal of respect for him in this province but they will not tolerate this kind of nonsense much longer. Democracy at work, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Neary.

"Several reporters," he says, "have called me to say that they are shocked and some are even embarrassed by the sabotage attempt of the 'Evening Telegram.'" It is a bad reflection on the entire media of this province. He says, "I call on all fair-minded Newfoundlanders to protest this outrageous, unjustified act on the government."

Mr. Speaker, need I go any further?

AN HON. MEMBER: What about the attacks on "Joey?" What about the attacks on Premier Smallwood?

MR. NEARY: There they are, Mr. Speaker, "lily-white" and "simon-pure." the Minister of Finance just came back in his seat, the great con-artist of all times and more responsible, I suppose, for having the Tories on that side of the House than any other Newfoundlander alive today. George McLean did not do it, it was the "con" job by the honourable member that helped do it. What kind of a memory do the honourable members have? Remember the criticism of the former administration and Premier Smallwood. The hon. member for St. John's East I am sure must remember it because he was fortunate enough to sit in this honourable House before some honourable members over there ever dreamed that they would be politicians, if that is what you want to call them, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: Now, Sir, I am not going to belabour the point, but I do want to deal with the section the honourable Leader of the Opposition raised on page 5, if the honourable Leader of the Opposition was not permitted to read it, I will read it.

It starts off the top of page 5 by stating the government's information service was the subject of a direct attempt to discredit the services by naming it Information Newfoundland. This was a concerted attempt by the writer to associate the information service with a national organization which has come in for a large amount of public criticism. It has to be a case of either gross ignorance or malice that prompted the writer to associate two organizations - that there are almost no resemblance to one another. It is not the fault of The "Evening Telegram," Mr. Speaker, and I have no love for The "Evening Telegram," they have done the hatchet job on me a few times but I do not hate them. I do not come out and criticize them. That is their prerogative. They do not like me or they do not like any member of this House, then they have a right to say it in their editorial column.

He says in addition the writer plucked the figure of \$40,000 out of the air and applied it to the cost of equipment for that service. I might say, Sir, that that service is becoming well known in the news world as the manure spreader. "A phone call," the honourable Premier says "to any number of people in government, would have provided that writer with the correct figure of less than one tenth that amount for the fiscal year 1972-1973." We will find out when the estimates are brought down, Sir, how much Information Newfoundland is costing. I can tell honourable members this, that it is a lot more than The Newfoundland Bulletin cost. A phone call, Mr. Speaker, just imagine the gall, the insult, a phone call. The Premier has isolated himself from the people of this province. You cannot get through to him when he is in Newfoundland, when he is back from one of these exotic trips that he goes off on, to the delights of Montreal or Paris or London.

Then he says, Mr. Speaker, and this is the part that really hurts,



MR. NEARY: there is a great reason to suspect that any such information is spoon-fed by the opposition to the less discriminating local reporters who take it as gossip. If such is the case, and he is not sure, Mr. Speaker, whether this is the case or not, if such is the case it would be well worth a reporter's time to also learn that the opposition and particularly the office of the Leader of the Opposition, have made considerable use of the information service over the past year. It is hoped that this will continue in the future. Well I can tell the honourable Premier right now that it is not going to continue in the future. It did not exist. We did not believe in such a scandalous waste of the taxpayers' money and the opposition did not use that information service. It has cluttered up our office, Sir, we only have very limited space in this building and all the paper that has come up, the trash that has come up via Newfoundland Information Service, is only cluttering up the files in our office, Sir. If he wants to, he can keep it. We do not want it, Sir.

Then the honourable Member for St. John's South has the audacity to stand in this House, Sir, and talk about fair. Let me give you another couple of examples, Mr. Speaker of fair. In the last session of the House of Assembly we all remember the infamous O'Dea Royal Commission, which was tabled in this House in the last session along with a dastardly summary of the report by the honourable Premier, which attempted to prove people guilty by opinion and Mr. Speaker, following that controversial report, we heard all kinds of vague illusions to Mr. Robinette and Mr. Robinette's advice as to possible action, criminal action on the Tory O'Dea Royal Commission Report.

Nobody ever told us Mr. Robinette's advice, Sir. Is Mr. Robinette's - and I ask the Premier and the government today, is Mr. Robinette's advice being purposely concealed in the effort to continue to bluff the people of Newfoundland? Why does the honourable Premier or the Minister of

MR. NEARY: Justice not table the Robinette Report? Why not?

It is a public document, Sir. It was not paid for by the fory Party of this province, it was paid for the taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, it is strange indeed that the Newfoundland Human Rights Association did not vocalize over this invasion of human rights. The assumption, Sir, that certain people are guilty, not because of facts, Mr. Speaker, but because of opinion by a partisan commission. The honourable Member for St. John's South stands here on opening day and tells us that this great administration

has done away with fear. Well, Sir, let me give them another example, if he is not convinced all ready. It would be interesting, Mr. Speaker, to know whether the RCMP in this province were used as political pawns in the raiding of the home of former Premier Smallwood of this province. I do hope, Mr. Speaker, that this is not so but in the absence of a statement or clarification from the Minister of Justice who seems to be very vocal on all kinds of other matters but is tongue tied in this matter, what else can they think? What else can they think but that the RCMP were used for political pawns? If there is not political background, Sir, to these invasions of privacy, the reasons for the raids must be very serious indeed. The only way that these responsible, the Minister of Justice who went down to CBC on the days the raids took place, Sir, after being in hiding all day, he finally caught up with them, issued a statement, I heard his voice, Mr. Speaker, giving the appearance that he did not know anything about these raids. That is a fact, Sir. The hon. member can shake his head all he like, Sir, but that is a fact. He was trying to create the appearance that he did not know anything about it.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I say to the hon. Minister of Justice that the only way that he can satisfy the people of this province and indeed the people of Canada, because the RCMP is a national force, is to make a complete clarifying statement. You know, Mr. Speaker, the very same gentleman, the member for St. John's South, who stood in this House telling us that fear now has gone out the window, no more fear in Newfoundland, all kinds of freedom of speech and freedom for the press. All kinds! Now when he was telling us that on opening day, my thoughts wandered back to these pre-Christmas raids on the former premier's house.

I was shocked beyond words, Mr. Speaker, when I heard that the hon. member for St. John's South was appointed as council to represent one of the parties whose office was raided in Montreal. My colleague, Sir, the Leader of the Opposition, pointed out that this appointment was improper and a definite conflict of interest existed. Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member withdrew from the case, but that is not the point, Sir. Even as a newcomer to this House of Assembly, Mr. Speaker, and cabinet rank — I suppose the hon. Premier has announced publicly that the hon. member is going to be a cabinet minister. He is only half a minister now. There are only nineteen and a-half — even as

a newcomer to cabinet rank, Sir, and to this House, the hon. member should realize that he must give up private practice. His action in this matter is indefensible and has all the earmarks of a pretty gross conflict of interest.

Mr. Speaker, in the last couple of weeks, what about the denturists in the province? They felt the sharp knife of the Minister of Justice. God only knows, Mr. Speaker, who is going to be next.

MR. NEARY: With all the royal commissions and enquiries that are in progress since this crowd took over, Sir, the honourable member has the gall to stand in this honourable House and tell us that we need no longer fear this government.

Mr. Speaker, the honourable gentleman is not convinced yet. The honourable member is shaking his head. Let me give him another example; What about the persecution of businessmen and other people in this province, Mr. Speaker, by the George MacClean Public Relations Firm? The Minister of Tourism tried to clear up the matter some time ago, when I referred to these scruffy looking publications that were put out in the name of tourism last year. Another one is about to be put out on economic development in the province, paid for, Mr. Speaker, by the government and by blackmailing advertising contributions.

Your know, Mr. Speaker, talking about this George MacClean solicitation of advertisements for these two publications, is the honourable House aware (and you talk about fear) that the Minister of Finance, who was then the Minister of Economic Development and Finance, gave Mr. George MacClean a letter, so he could carry it around and wave it under the noses of businessmen and other people in this province, approving of this type of propaganda? I do not hear the honourable minister deny that. Talk about conflict of interest! Talk about conflict of interest! The honourable minister cannot deny it.

MR. CROSBIE: What is the noise? It woke me up.

MR. NEARY: That is right! The honourable minister had better wake up. Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the honourable member for St. John's South made these statements on opening day with a forked tongue or with tongue in cheek. As far as the seconder, Sir, of the motion, on opening day, is concerned, I think I will just leave him to his constituents in the District of Grand Falls.

I might point out to him, Sir, that the honourable member

missed the golden opportunity to be able to announce to his constituents in the mining Community of Buchans, that the lifespan of that mine is longer than five years, if it is longer than five years. At least he could have levelled with them. He could have told the people out in Buchans, who are concerned, that the mine is only going to work five more years. He could have told them whether this is true or false, whether the government has any information on this and he could have also, Mr. Speaker, told the members of Local 5457, United Steel Workers of America, six hundred men, he could have told them whether the Premier is going to take any action or not on seeing to it that an official of the company would have to come to Buchans to negotiate in good faith. He had a golden opportunity, Sir, in front of the television cameras, to tell all his constituents in Buchans what was going to happen, what their fate is going to be. But no, Sir, he did not do that, he decided to get up and praise the government.

Mr. Speaker, after making these few introductory remarks. I would like to refer to something else that the honourable Premier said

in the last couple of weeks that rather intrigued me. I intend, Sir, in the main part of my speech this afternoon, and I only wish that the hon. Premier were in his seat. I intend to find out how sincere the hon. Premier really is. The hon. Premier asked the members of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition during the throne speech debate to make some positive and constructive suggestions. Well, Sir, I intend to do that this afternoon and I hope that the hon. Premier is at least within listening distance to what I have to say. If he is not, Sir, perhaps one of his colleagues would pass him on the information.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, I pass on a constructive suggestion in connection with the speaker's forecast of a bill to be placed before us this session which will contain certain items to upgrade the public service. Mr. Speaker, in this province we have never had on-the-job training or in-job training as some people would like to call it. Such a programme, Sir, has worked out splendidly in other provinces, doing much not only to improve the handling of their jobs at all levels in the public service but also, Mr. Speaker, having a tremendous positive effect upon motivation and morale of the individuals within that service. In the Province of Ontario, for example, Sir, one major government department has a built in on-the-job training programme with competent officials to conduct it.

Mr. Speaker, surely the time has come in this province to give very serious consideration to the importance of training as one of the major administrative responsibilities of government itself. Although, Mr. Speaker, there was only brief mention to it, to the bill, in the Speech from the Throne I personally feel that it should contain provisions to strengthen and upgrade the public service and to do an on-the-job training programme. Surely, Mr. Speaker, this method of improving our public service is preferable to that of importing into the public service personnel from outside of it on the grounds that there is no one within

the public service competent to fill the job openings.

May I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that this method of upgrading our civil service would also be much preferable to bringing into it individuals from outside the service, whether they be from the United States or other provinces of Canada or from the ranks of loyal party supporters, Sir, or indeed from relatives of the hon. Premier himself or other members of his cabinet. Constructive suggestion number one for the hon. Premier.

Now, Mr. Speaker, constructive suggestion number two for the hon. Premier. Again, Sir, as I went through the Throne Speech I came across the passage referring to the royal commission established to report to the government the feelings, opinions, aspirations of the people of Labrador. I am sure my hon. friend from Labrador South will have something to say about this when he speaks on the Throne Speech. A constructive suggestion, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. Premier, why not disband the present royal commission before it spends too much more of the province's money and establish a royal commission, Sir, on which citizens of this province who are resident in Labrador will have due representation. Surely, Mr. Speaker, the people of Labrador themselves, if carefully chosen, will know better than any others



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the best methods of discovering feelings, opinions and aspirations of the people of Labrador. That course is suggested, Mr. Speaker, as a constructive effort to the hon. the Premier, to make the work of the commission really effective and not just a sort of political sop to residents of the mainland portion of our province and I do not mean Labrador, Mr. Speaker.

Now, Mr. Speaker, in the Throne Speech there is a topic which is very dear to the heart of the hon. member for Placentia West. The Throne Speech forecasts an attempt to avoid a protractural legal dispute with the Government of Canada concerning ownership of the province's off-shore resources, by acting in concert with the Governments of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec, to negotiate with the federal authorities in an effort to attain a just solution to this problem. There is nothing wrong with that, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say to the honourable member that I do hope that the government of this province, by adopting a hard-nosed attitude in their bargaining with the federal government, will not risk diminishing the federal cost-share programmes in this province, such as that of the Canada Assistance Plan, Mr. Speaker, from which our province has drawn such enormous benefits over the past two decades. Further, Mr. Speaker, may I suggest that if off-shore resources do materialize and even if they are not quite up to the expectations of many people at the moment, that any monies secured by the provincial treasury from such resources be used to finance education, the most practical and necessary rather than the merely academic type of education, Sir; relieving us of the necessity of foisting upon our people the backward step to a property tax, which however justified it is, Sir, or it was in mainland provinces in the old days, when land was the primary source of wealth today, Sir, is more and more fading into the background as the basic tax of financing education. I would suggest to the minister and to the Minister of Education that should we enter this brave new world and we do become fortunate enough to share in the revenue from off-shore

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mineral resources, Sir, that we should follow the example of the Province of Alberta. Under similar circumstances they used the extraordinary revenues from their mineral resources, oil and gas, to finance education. This matter is raised, of course, Mr. Speaker, as a positive suggestion to the hon. the Premier.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to have a few words about the linerboard mill. Again, Sir, reading carefully through the pages of the Speech from the Throne, I came upon a couple of paragraphs referring to the Stephenville Linerboard Mill. There have been many suggestions lately, Sir, from some persons pretending to have some knowledge of economics and of the special branch of economics dealing with forest products, that something is wrong in the logging operation in Goose Bay. Their suggestion, Sir, is that it is going to be very difficult to keep satisfied the Gargantuan appetite of the Labrador Linerboard Mill for wood and that the mill, for a good many years in the future, will operate as an albatross tied on the necks of the provincial taxpayer.

Now you and I know, Mr. Speaker, that the original report on the availability of wood for the linerboard mill came from the talented pen and undoubted researchabilities of Dr. Stuart Peters, presently special executive assistant to the hon. the Premier.

Now that there is some doubt about this matter, Mr. Speaker, as to where the timber for the mill will come from, would it not be a constructive suggestion to urge the Premier to ask his special executive assistant to explain on the floor of this House, Sir, exactly where the timber is to come from that is to feed our linerboard mill? I throw that out to the Premier as a constructive suggestion, Sir.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to have a word about conflict of interest which we have heard so much about in the last year or so. It is a pity that the hon. Minister of Finance is not in his seat to hear what I have to say about this. The Throne Speech, Sir, referred to this matter of conflict of interest and prophesied legislation reflecting conflict of

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interest in this session of the House. In the light of this, Mr. Speaker, would it not be a constructive suggestion for the hon. Premier or to ask of the hon. Premier to decline to make future appointments to the civil service or to special commissions, corporations, contractual offices maintained from the provincial treasury, until there has been brought in legislation affecting such conflict of interest? Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, it might also be a constructive suggestion to include in the legislation respecting conflict of interest, a clause invalidating the appointments already made of individuals placed on the payroll of this province, where there was obviously no effort, Sir, made to publish a competition for the job concerned and where either family ties or partisan, political dedication appeared, to the public at least, Sir, to be the only reason for appointing such individuals as the Director of Information Services, at a salary of \$15,000 annually; salaries of \$8,500 each for a press officer and a research officer. We saw the results of their work this afternoon, Sir. There are other unspecified amounts to secretarial staff in Newfoundland Information Services and the appointment of the hon. member for Trinity North at a reported salary of \$10,000, Sir - \$10,000! The hon. member for Trinity North, I note is not in his seat this afternoon. Oh! the honourable member is in his seat. What does the honourable member do, Mr. Speaker? Is he a bouncer down on the Eighth Floor? There is standing room only down there now, Sir. The Premier struts into his office occasionally when he is in the province and like a peacock says, "kindly move to the rear, there are a few more coming in today." There is standing room only now, Sir. The hon. member for Trinity North is bouncer number one. The hon. member for Green Bay is bouncer number two. The hon. member for Bay de Verde I believe is bouncer number three.

No wonder, Sir, every day is like Good Friday on the Eighth Floor. I guarantee you, Mr. Speaker, that that carpet will not be worn out very quickly on the Eighth Floor, not like it used to be, Sir, in the good old days, when people could come up and see their elected representatives, but not any more, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: They are working up there now.

MR. NEARY: They are working all right, Sir, in Hong Kong, in Venezuela, in Paris, in Africa, in England, flesh pots in Montreal, that is where they are doing their work, Sir, sipping gin. You do not solve the problems of Newfoundland that way. Not only that, Mr. Speaker, then we see two special assistants in Central and Western Newfoundland, at salaries of \$12,000 a year and other fringe benefits we are told. What fringe benefits, Mr. Speaker? One admitted the other day, last week, one by his own admission stated that he had nothing to do for the last year and that is not the only one on the government payroll that is doing nothing, Mr. Speaker. He had nothing to do but sit there and look pleasant and by and by out of the clear blue sky out comes the great white knight, the Minister of Recreation and Rehabilitation and suddenly he has something to do, arranging his agenda, chauffeuring him around, \$12,000 a year of the taxpayer's hard-earned money, Sir, and fringe benefits. What a scandal, Mr. Speaker! What a joke!

I will say one thing about the hon. member for Green Bay. He is reported as having stated that he is a volunteer, a volunteer on the Eighth Floor. I hope he is right, Sir. When the estimates of this House are brought down we will find out if it is correct. We might have to check the Legislative Disabilities Act.

Well I hope he is right. And you know, Mr. Speaker, here is a dandy, a beaut. Mrs. Terry Neary added to the Premier's staff at a substantial salary undisclosed. No relation, I might say, Mr. Speaker, except by marriage. When the honourable the Premier was confronted by this, Mr. Speaker. he said that she is receiving an ordinary stenographers pay. Well, Sir, we will find out when the estimates are brought into this House. But I would say, Sir, she is not doing bad for a lady who has a key to the Premier's private elevator. A special parking space out in front of this building and a posh office adjoining the Premier's own office. Not bad, Sir, for one ordinary stenographers pay, \$3,600 a year -

MR. MOORES: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to inform the gentleman that Mrs. Neary is moved down to another department she is doing research there - that she had moved down to another department some two weeks ago.

MR. NEARY: Well, Mr. Speaker, if she is moved out there will be two more move in, or if they have not already done so. I would like to know, Sir, if her job was advertised? Did the members of the civil service have an opportunity to apply? We will hear from the Premier when he speaks in the throne speech. Maybe he can answer some of these questions.

And of course, Mr. Speaker, of course we cannot overlook Mr. Nutbeem who was hired mind you at a salary to be negotiated later. The salary to be negotiated later. The Premier asked for a constructive suggestion from the opposition. Is he really serious? Is he sincere?

MR. MOORES: Free labour.

MR. NEARY: Well then if it is free labour, I say he should be given the citizen of the year award. But I doubt very much, Mr. Speaker, it is going to be free labour. But if the honourable Premier wants to construct a suggestion I would say that he should block that appointment immediately. Here is a constructive suggestion.

Mr. Speaker, the most brazen appointment of all was "hanger-on" Harvey Cole, as Chief Electoral Officer for the province at a reported

salary of \$16,00 a year. No election on, Mr. Speaker, there will be no election for the next two, three or four years. Mr. Cole retired down in Colonial Building, \$16,000 a year of the taxpayers hard earned money and the Premier asks the opposition to give him a constructive suggestion. Well I will give him a constructive suggestion, kick him out. Give his salary to the mothers of this province who need it to put some clothes on the backs of their children going to school. Kick out Mr. Nutbeem and kick out all the others, the wives of well-to-do lawyers.

The latest one we have heard here, Mr. Speaker, Terry Williams, appointed as Secretary to the committee making arrangement to whoop her up on the Silver Anniversary of Confederation next year. If that does not top everything, Sir, the unmitigated gall. Because that crowd of millionaires on the other side never did believe in confederation anyway, Mr. Speaker. Now we are going to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of Newfoundland's entry into Confederation. Well then unveil a monument to Premier Smallwood, get down on their knees, get down on their knees and thank him for bringing Newfoundland into Confederation. Will they, Mr. Speaker? Or will they be hypocritical, Sir? Lashing out taxpayers dollars to Mr. Nutbeem, Mrs. Williams, the wife of a well-to-do lawyer and all the others to arrange for the Silver Anniversary of Confederation for next year.

Well, Sir, I would like to know where we are going to unveil the monument to Premier Smallwood? After the crucifixion they gave that man, Sir, and are still giving him, nailing him to the cross, driving the nails into his feet and into his hands and now suddenly here they are going to observe the twenty-fifth anniversary of Confederation. No wonder the honourable Minister of Finance would smile. No wonder he would smile. The honourable the Minister of Finance has to pay the bills. What a joke, Mr. Speaker, what a joke. What a joke.

MR. CROSBIE: Inaudible.

MR. NEARY: Ah, we will see what kind of celebrations they are. The only living father of Confederation, will he play a prominent role? Or will he be just thrust aside by all these "Tory hang-ons" that have been appointed to arranger this whooper-up year next year? You talk about priority, Mr. Speaker.

You remember how this crowd used to talk about priorities? Priority, Sir. Get your priorities straight, they used to say to Mr. Smallwood, the then Premier who brought Newfoundland into Confederation. Get your priorities straight. Now here is a priority for you. People in this province have not got enough bread to put on their table tomorrow morning for breakfast - lash it out to Mr. Nutbeem and Mrs. Williams. I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, where the honourable the Minister of Finance gets the stomach, the stomach to put up with this?

The honourable the Minister of Finance went across the floor and back and forth a couple of times on a smaller issue than that, Sir. A smaller issue than that. Onetime I respected the honourable gentleman but I am afraid I am losing my faith in him.

Mr. Speaker, how about the four deputy ministers who retired on full salaries? Could not fit into the machinery, Sir. Put out to pasture on full salary. Then we have special assistants and executive assistants running around like mad-hatters all over Confederation Building and numerous other political appointments, Sir, which caused NAPE recently to protest vigorously to this government pinpointing the former Minister of Social Services and Rehabilitation, as the number one culprit.

They were right. Absolutely right. Go down to City Welfare, if you do not think they are right. Go down to Exon House if you do not think they are right. The honourable member might get an eye opener. They were right. They were one hundred per cent right.

Mr. Speaker, in this matter of conflict of interest there should also be careful scrutiny of all favours received by members of the government from businessmen and others doing business with the government, as well as a thorough investigation, Sir, into the Mafialike ramifications

of the George McLean public relation firm, whose tentacles, Sir, appear to be extending themselves further and deeper throughout the economic life of this province when every day the tasks primarily, Sir, because of its close identification with the Progressive Conservative Party of this province and of the present P.C. Administration.

If we are to have conflict of interest legislation that is worth the paper it is printed on in the "Newfoundland Gazette," Mr. Speaker, it must be conflict of interest legislation that will extirpate, uproot every trace and vestige of political patronage which is at present undermining the entire morals and morale of people at all levels throughout this province, completely destroying their faith, Sir, in the integrity of politicians and elected representatives of all parties. If you are, Mr. Speaker, to restore the faith in this House, in this government, in this administration, then, Sir, I would say that this conflict of interest legislation to be brought before the House we understand this session, must be the broom with sufficient straw and bristles to clean up what has gone on over the past few months in the eyes of our people all over this province. There is a constructive suggestion for the honourable the Premier.

He wants the Liberal Opposition in this House to provide constructive suggestions, Sir, there are a few. Now I am going to give him another one or two.

I noted in the Throne Speech, Mr. Speaker, with approval the claim of the government to set up a programme beginning in 1972 to assist social assistance recipients to locate and take advantage of employment opportunities,



MR. NEARY: Although, Mr. Speaker, the details in the Speech from the Throne are too few and too vague to get any idea of the type of employment obtained or by what means, and I would like to have more information on this, as well I think the people of Newfoundland would like to have more information on it, that the only thing that I could think of, Sir, the thing being so vague, not being able to figure it out, the only conceivable thing that could come to my mind, Sir, was the type of thing that we have done on Bell Island for the past two years where we have made extensive use of the local incentives programme to provide labour-intensive projects for people and at the same time to add to the resources of the Bell Island Community through so-doing. In the last year and a half, Sir, six greenhouses were built on Bell Island, notable improvements were made in the distribution of water and sewerage systems, picnic areas have been developed, a community pasture has been enclosed and many other projects completed, Sir, serving the twin functions of providing employment for large numbers of our people who were rendered jobless by the economic marooning of the Bell Island Community in 1966, and at the same time, Sir, providing facilities unknown in the District of Bell Island even in the Dosco haydays.

Now while the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, claims that this activity heralds an entirely new approach in the field of social services it is quite farfetched, Sir, for me to swallow this in view of what I said has already taken place commencing two years ago in my own District of Bell Island and that has been happening all over this province. It will be interesting, Sir, to hear from the Minister of Social Assistance the exact details of the projects on which the hon. Premier boasts that five hundred people in St. John's and Corner Brook were moved from social assistance roles to become self-supporting citizens.

Now, Sir, we note also from the Speech from the Throne that the government has been instrumental in commencing negotiations with the Government of Canada for the purpose of implementing an incentives programme into the present social assistance plan. May I suggest, Mr. Speaker, that those who are in the process of negotiating this plan refer back to a brief which was presented during my term of office as Minister of Social Services and Rehabilitation to the hon. John Monroe then Minister of National Health and Welfare in Ottawa outlining a formula for the implementation of the guaranteed annual income with a built in motivator to encourage participation in the work force. From this brief, Mr. Speaker, I might quote one example to illustrate to members on both sides of the House the proposal of which I speak. Accepting, Mr. Speaker, the Economic Council of Canada poverty line, a figure of about two years ago, for a family of five the Federal Government would guarantee each such family the amount of \$5,015 per annum. This of course, Mr. Speaker, in 1973 dollars would probably approximate \$5,100 per annum today. So let us take the example of a family of five receiving a guaranteed annual income of \$5,100. No more welfare cheques, Mr. Speaker, no more building materials, no more fuel allowances and so on, just one monthly cheque, Sir, covering the share of a basic income or annual income of \$5,100. Then the family head, Mr. Speaker, or heads, man and wife, go out and earn more money. If they are employed, Sir, either one or both of heads of the family and they earn less than \$5,100 they will keep half of what they earn. That is, Mr. Speaker, their earnings will be reported to the Government of Canada and their cheques be decreased by fifty per cent of their earnings.

For example, Sir, where a family of five has total earnings of \$200 a month or \$2,400 a year their annual income for that year would be \$5,100 less, fifty per cent of \$2,400 or a total receipt from the Government of Canada, Sir, of \$5,100 less \$1,200, that is, Sir, \$3,900 will come to them during the year in cheques from the Government of Canada so that their

total income for the year will be \$3,900 from the government plus the \$2,400 in earnings for a grand total income for that family for that year of \$6,300, approximately \$120 a week, taxable, and that would be taxable, Sir.

A constructive suggestion, Mr. Speaker, to those representatives of our government who are discussing means by which recipients of welfare benefits may retain a greater amount of earned income and thereby encourage and foster fuller employment in this province. Let them look at that brief, Mr. Speaker, and they will find a good foundation for their negotiations and one with which Ottawa is not only familiar, Sir, but with which it has been favourably impressed and towards which I have a strong feeling, Mr. Speaker, our Federal Government is gravating with every day that passes. The cost, Sir, may not be as great as at the present time. If you take unemployment insurance, family allowances, social assistance and all the other forms of social welfare and lump them all together the hon. minister may be surprised at the net result.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult despite the government's much publicized claims to be saving \$4 million on welfare programmes to see how savings can be made in such an area, such a programme where every grant, Mr. Speaker, and every dollar that is spent is based on needs. Really, Mr. Speaker, what the government is saying; we have taken \$4 million and we are going to spend it on some other programme because there is no need -

AN HON. MEMBER: Who said that?

MR. NEARY: That is what the hon. Premier said. The hon. Premier said there was a saving of \$4 million. What happened to the \$4 million? Was it passed over to pay Mr. Nutbeam and Mrs. Williams and all the other flunkies that are running around Confederation Building?

MR. MURPHY: Workman's compensation, civil service commission -

MR. NEARY: Is that what the \$4 million was used for that was taken from the welfare recipients, taken from the welfare recipients and paid out to expensive executive assistants and flunkies that create an obstruction so

that you cannot get to see the ministers and you cannot get to see the Premier. Talk about restructuring, Sir. The Premier wants a constructive suggestion. I would say knock down the barriers so that the people of this province can get in to see their elected representatives. There is a constructive idea. But, Mr. Speaker, to save \$4 million on a programme that is based on need, does the hon. minister know or has he told the hon. Premier that there are children in this province who do not qualify for a clothing allowance because they are under school age? Did the hon. minister tell the hon. Premier that there are children in this province over school age who do not get a clothing allowance and their parents are on social assistance?

MR. MURPHY: What did you do about it? We increased it, at least we did that much.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, when I was minister of that department I did not come out and announce a \$4 million saving.

MR. MURPHY: You will never be forgotten I will guarantee you that.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, did the hon. minister

tell the hon. Premier that we have men and women, in this province who are sick, who do not have a set of dentures to chew up their food. The hon. ministers shout, "four million dollars saved", they say, and the hon. Minister of Health knows that this is true. You can get a set of dentures, Sir, if you can get down on knees and prove extenuating circumstances, that you have one foot in the grave. You might with the approval of the minister, you might get it. Not with any of the officials of the department, you have to go to the minister.

What about eye glasses, Sir? You have got children in this province, Sir, who can hardly see. They are nearly blind, nearly blind. Women and men, senior citizens, Sir. The hon. Minister of Health was bursting to get on his feet there when the leader of the opposition brought in a resolution legalizing denturists, so at least these people will have a chance, as slim as it may be, to get a set of operational molars. The Minister of Health will have his opportunity on private members day. Eye glasses, I was dealing with eye glasses, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, may I be permitted to carry on in silence? The hon. member did not tell the Premier, the hon. minister, about the number of senior citizens and old age pensioners and veterans and children and men and women in this province who can not see, who are almost blind. Take the four million dollars, scatter it out, pay ten thousand dollars to the member for Trinity North, lash it out to the member for Bay De Verde and Mr. Nutbeam and Mrs. Williams but do not extend the programme, Mr. Speaker, do not extend the programme. Save the money, save the money, Mr. Speaker, while these men, women and children in this province do not have enough food on their table, not enough nourishment, not enough fuel in this cold winter that we are having, Sir. What does the Premier say? He boasts about it. I would not boast about it if I were the Premier and the hon. ministers should have told the hon. Premier that there was four million dollars there, but let us extend the programmes. Let us give a five dollar increase on the fuel allowance as the previous administration did. Let us up the food allowance. Thirty dollars a month, thirty-five dollars a month for an adult for food, thirty dollars a month for food for a child and the hon. Premier says that we saved four million dollars

on this programme. What a joke, Mr. Speaker, what a joke. That crowd of millionaires on the other side, they do not understand, Sir. Now, understand it. They pay the penalty, Sir, with the number of letters and requests and phone calls that are pouring into our office every day about poor, hungry children in this province and they are hungry, Sir, and people shivering in their shoes, living in shacks and the hon. Premier has the gall to tell us they saved four million dollars on this programme.

The hon. Premier will have a chance to get up and explain himself to this House and to the people of this province. It is a fact, Sir, it is true. The hon. members only saw some of the conditions that I have seen in the last four or five years in this province. Mr. Speaker, there were more reforms. Yes, I did look after Bell Island and I am not ashamed of it. If the hon. minister were living in some of these shacks and houses and dumps, he would look after his constituents too and I hope that he battles for his constituents as much as I battled for mine.

What did the hon. minister do for Peterview out in the district of the hon. member for Gander? Eighty-three thousand dollars to upgrade housing, a blank check, and he was right. I agree with him. Yes, the Blackhead Road, I approved one for the Blackhead Road and I did the right thing and I was in the process of approving one for Mundy Pond and I would have done the right thing. If I had been there, I would have approved it up in Peterview. Anybody who has seen Peterview would be ashamed to admit that he was a Newfoundlander. Why not upgrade the houses?

Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister talked about the poor man's champagne and the price of beer. "When we are elected," he said, "when we get up there in Confederation Building, down goes the price of beer." Down goes the price of beer, my foot, up goes the price of screech. That is what the hon. minister did, that was his reward, that was his reward for conning the people of this province.

Sir, I was elected to this House to speak my mind and if the hon. gentleman does not like it, he can always leave. Mr. Speaker, the hon. Premier has the nerve to boast. This was his Christmas present to people who were unemployed in Newfoundland through no fault of their own. This was their Christmas present.

"We saved four million dollars on welfare", he said, "up to the present time", and children hungry in this province. I am sure he could have taken a part of that four million dollars and given it to bus driver from Port De Grave to help bus the poor little children in Juniper Stump in to school. He could have at least acknowledged a reply to some of the correspondence they had from the town council over in Bay Roberts to extend their water and sewerage. No more water and sewerage. That is finished. Enough infrastructure in Newfoundland, we are told by the Premier. Kids standing on the side of the road in the district of Port De Grave. We can document it, Mr. Speaker. Kids not picked up in Juniper Stump. The hon. member drives by, behind the wheel of his bus, drives behind the wheel, Sir, on a wet, cold day.

MR. WILSON: Mr. Speaker, that is not a point of order. Sit down. That is not a point of order. Mr. Speaker, is this a point of order? Sit down. Sit down.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. I would like to remind the hon. members that the gentleman from Bell Island does have the right to be heard in silence.

MR. WILSON: Mr. Speaker —

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, if it is getting to hot. I will make the charge. The hon. Minister of Finance is coming to the rescue, coming to the rescue the great white knight, here we come. To the rescue! The hon. Minister of Finance better get some friends over here because he does not have very many left. He better make a friend of the member for Port De Grave and, as I started to say, Mr. Speaker, what about the town council of Bay Roberts? Not even the courtesy of a reply to other correspondence of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and to the hon. Premier and to the hon. member to extend water and sewerage in the Town of Bay Roberts.

The hon. member will have an opportunity when he speaks in this Throne Speech, Sir, to answer some of these queries but I can not help, on a day like today I can not help but thinking about these poor little children standing on the side of the road in Juniper Stump and in other parts of the district of Port De Grave, passed by. The hon. member sits up behind the wheel of the bus, driving her by. I do not know if he is going to be included in the safety programme that my colleague, the member for White Bay North, was talking about, or St. Barbe North. I hope so, Sir.

MR. NEARY: and if I had the time, Sir, I would have a few words with the honourable gentleman about rural development loans too. But I will deal with that when the time comes. I will deal with it, Mr. Speaker. You talk about conflict of interest, Sir.

MR. CROSBY: You can talk about renting equipment too.

MR. NEARY: I will talk about renting equipment. I will talk about logs and saw mills and who is benefiting by it. The honourable Premier better smarten up, better perk up. He is getting taken to the cleaners. Anyway we will deal with that later. We will deal with the honourable member later, Mr. Speaker. Constructive suggestion to the honourable Premier, though that he put a stop to this.

There we have it, Sir, without repeating myself I am afraid that that is one statement that I could not swallow and I paid very strict attention to what the honourable Premier said about saving \$4 million on social assistance. \$4 million, he says, and the children of this province below school age not given a clothing allowance by that government who saved \$4 million, children above school age, what are they supposed to put on them to wear, Mr. Speaker? Would the honourable Premier tell me? No eye glasses, no dentures, no school tax, fuel allowance not enough to heat up these poor little houses that they live in, Sir, no insulation. Save the \$4 million the Premier says, lash it out to Mr. Nutbeem, and Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Neary and all the other well-to-do people in this province. There is a constructive suggestion.

As I started to say, Sir, the guaranteed annual income concept with a built in motivator to encourage participation, even if it is only on a seasonal basis, Sir, in the work force, is the only true way to help the welfare recipients in terms of dollars and in terms of an erosion of their morale. I hope that the honourable Premier has made a note of that constructive suggestion.

I note with approval, Mr. Speaker, the government's intention to proceed with the plan that I announced some three years ago, of



MR. NEARY: regional homes for the aged which would be strategically placed in keeping with the environment in which senior citizens spent their lives and close to their relatives and friends with whom they are familiar, Sir. I am very pleased, Mr. Speaker, to note that one of these homes is going in Your Honour's own district. As Your Honour knows, I went to Lewisporte and negotiated with an inter-faith group in Lewisporte for this home and approved it before I got the boot, before I got kicked out, approved that home in Lewisporte as well as the one in St. Anthony, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is the Babb Construction Memorial Home.

MR. NEARY: The honourable Leader of the Opposition will deal with the Babb Memorial. Sir, the one in Grand Bank, the honourable Minister of Justice's lobby was not successful in this instance. He may have been successful in getting victims of industrial accidents included in the special welfare fund in St. Lawrence but his lobby to get us to buy that motel in Grand Bank or Fortune, located between Grand Bank and Fortune, for a senior citizens home, was not successful.

AN HON. MEMBER: It was the whole building not just the lobby, that was the trouble.

MR. NEARY: So, Sir, I was the instrument in getting these homes approved. I have to say that I am in agreement with that part of the Throne Speech. But an even more important part of that original plan was overlooked. World experience, Mr. Speaker, has shown that for every senior citizen who will be reasonably happy in an institution, there are fifty for whom institutional life is a curse. So may we hope, Mr. Speaker, that the present Social Assistance Department, the honourable minister will make every effort to provide the services. I am not talking about rehabilitation as such, I am talking about assistance to old people. I will deal with that in a second. If the honourable minister would just relax and take it easy I will enlighten him. I hope that the present Minister of Social Assistance, Sir, will make every effort to provide

MR. NEARY: the services that will enable the aged to live on for as long a time as possible in their own homes, for there they will be the most happy.

In this regard, Mr. Speaker, three years ago I announced a plan, over here at the Arts and Culture Centre, for looking after senior citizens who wanted to remain in their own homes and who needed assistance to repair these homes. It was announced down here at the Arts and Culture Centre, Sir, and also for veterans, the honourable minister was there. He probably heard me. Veterans who have contributed so much to our society, who are today living on fixed incomes and people on old age pensions, I said and I repeat it here today, that the government that I was a member of would help these men and women and children to repair their homes. No sooner had this administration taken office, Sir, when that was cut out, dropped. No more assistance for senior citizens to enable them to live in their own homes and that admission was made recently by an official of the honourable minister's department down at the Mifflin hearing. Cut out - it is not new to me because I heard it before. I am getting the rumblings from senior citizens in this province and veterans and other people who are unemployed through no fault of their own or sick or disabled or widowed. The only ones that would get material to repair their homes, we were told, were people who were on long-term assistance.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hogwash.

MR. NEARY: That is not hogwash and the honourable Premier boasts about saving \$4 million. How are you going to encourage old people to stay in their own homes, Sir? They may not qualify for other forms of assistance, Mr. Speaker, but the least we could do would be to give them a bit of building material to fix up their poor old ramshackled house that had a broken window or a leaking roof or that the wind and the snow was whistling in through.

MR. MURPHY: Is it true you were not permitted to buy insulation for these homes?

MR. NEARY: No, it is not true.

MR. MURPHY: There is a lot of truth in it. I changed it last month.

MR. NEARY: There it is. There is it, Mr. Speaker, the very first act of this government was to give the poor old mothers - the school allowance got the axe. Then, Sir, along comes the honourable Minister of Social Services and he gives the senior citizens and the veterans the axe and people who are unemployed through no fault of their own and the Premier asked for a constructive suggestion. I would suggest to the honourable Premier, Mr. Speaker, that he reverse these decisions that were made in haste and without thinking. There is a constructive suggestion.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I would like to deal with the matter of youth and education.

MR. SPEAKER: Before the honourable member continues, I would just like to remind him that he has ten minutes left.

MR. NEARY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I think I can wind up in ten minutes. Mr. Speaker, there was a promise in the Speech from the Throne to establish a major division of the new Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation be voted to youth activities and the setting up of youth advisory councils throughout the province. Mr. Speaker, that will just be a lot of gobbledygook unless there is a departure, Sir, from the bonds and the chains of the irrelevant school system and curricular that we are processing young people through today.

There must be fundamental changes made in our education system, Sir. Education itself must be completely retaught. Ivan

MR. NEARY: Illytch or Illytch as maybe the Minister of Education might want to call it, made a plea for deschooling society. Sir, that plea is worth listening to. I agree, Mr. Speaker, that society must be deschooled from the kind of school we have had in the past. Unrest today, Sir, among our young, throughout the United States, in Europe and the Far East, has not yet hit Newfoundland with its full tidal force, but it will, Mr. Speaker, unless something really and fundamentally different is done in the area of our thinking on educational matters.

Mr. Speaker, today our young people, more and more in every province, even here in the Province of Newfoundland where we pay them to go to school, are rejecting education, particularly at the university level. On the mainland today, Sir, universities in Ontario and Quebec and some other provinces are going into the red financially because students are no longer flocking to them. These institutions, Mr. Speaker, are suffering decreases in anticipated enrollment that plunges them into grave financial difficulties.

Let us be warned by what is going on elsewhere. Sir, and make every effort to restore common sense to education. Let us above all, Mr. Speaker, concentrate on devoting a good part of the educational process to developing in our young people the right attitudes to life and living. The attitudes, Sir, that will ultimately lead them to that self-fulfillment in their lives and life's work which is among the chief expectations and the chief human rights, properly a birth entitlement of all human beings.

I am glad to see, Sir, that the government intends to do something about the quality of instruction in our schools. For too long, Mr. Speaker, the entire educational structure has been dominated by a mad rat race of certificates, certificates, Sir, which had no real connection with professional competencies, with the ability of the teachers to instruct.

What practical value, Mr. Speaker, is there to a child, in the elementary or in any grade school of this province, to have his teacher go through a series of many hours spent at boring evening or summer vacation lectures at Memorial University, just to acquire a mess of fancy papers entitling him to an upgrading? What our teachers need today, Mr. Speaker, in the elementary schools in particular and even at the high school level, is training in actual, realistic teaching methods. Common-sense teaching methods. Sir, not crackpot innovations. We must find a way of rewarding competent teachers who have the ability to instruct and educate rather than merely the ability to collect pieces of paper from the Education Department over at Memorial University.

Everywhere in North America, Mr. Speaker, except here, the teaching certification racket is being exposed for the fraud it is. Does the present administration have the courage and the common sense to go to the heart of what is wrong with our educational system and right matters? There is a constructive idea for the honourable Premier.

HON. G.R.OTTENHEIMER: (Minister of Education): What specifically does the honourable member mean; "go to the heart to right it."

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I only have a limited amount of time and I have to cover restructuring.

MR. OTTENHEIMER: What does the honourable gentleman actually think...

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, in the concluding paragraphs of the Speech from the Throne, we learned that the government is now completing a five year financial plan which will allow for long term, orderly borrowing or spending. I do hope, Mr. Speaker, that the government is also working on as effective and efficient a plan for repaying the huge amounts so lavishly borrowed to enable them to reach tremendous peaks, unprecedented peaks that we have attained over the past twelve months in lashing out treasury money right, left and centre.

I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, that I will have to keep my tongue at least a bit in check and have more constructive comments on this when the budget is brought down.

Mr. Speaker, we are told in the Speech and I quote: the description of the new administrative system: "Flexible, ongoing and sensitive to the needs of our people." How on earth, Mr. Speaker, can this government be sensitive to the needs of our people when each minister is protected from all disturbing contacts with proletariat bacteria by squads of executive assistants and platoons of public relations men? As for the efficiency, Mr. Speaker, restructuring - I have some very serious doubts about the economic practicability of the whole matter. I am told, Sir, for example; that the restructuring changes have cost the province already, just in stationary alone, a bill of \$1 million. No one has yet been able to calculate the cost of the revision and the reprinting of various acts necessitated by restructuring. It will be a few months yet, Sir, before we know about these amounts and what will be spent in the rental for premises of our rapidly mushrooming (if the honourable members will allow me to use that term) of so many government departments, as well as the cost of pensioning off on full pay those unable to be fitted into the new machinery. They are just not limited to deputy ministers, Sir.

I do have grave doubts about this whole matter of restructuring, but I need not emphasize them here, as in recent weeks in the columns of the people's paper, "The Evening Telegram," which the Premier is so sensitive about have appeared several excellent articles exposing the inefficiency, the unsuitability and the dreadful extravagance of this whole restructuring brain-wave, which is not so much a brain-wave, Mr. Speaker, as it is an incubator for hatching new jobs for party supporters, friends and relatives of the administration. Harmony hall, Sir, with nebotism added.

Mr. Speaker, in drawing these constructive remarks to a close, may I point out to the honourable the Premier that despite his promises, his specific promises before each of the past two provincial elections on Bell Island, nothing has been done to improve the ferry service between Portugal Cove and Bell Island.

May I make another constructive suggestion, Mr. Speaker? That the honourable Premier do something to carry out this election promise. May I also constructively suggest that he also work to see that Bell Island is included in the designated DREE areas of the province, so that industries may be set up, Mr. Speaker, and as many as possible of the people be removed from welfare by the organization of labour-intensive industrial projects and full use be made of the existing infrastructure. May I also, constructively of course, Mr. Speaker, suggest to the honourable Premier that Bell Island prior to the opening of the Dosco mines was a well known vegetable garden for St. John's and that it now be included in any rural development plans. The success of the six large greenhouses built under LIP grants, Sir, already proved in the nine tons of tomatoes produced and sold last summer when only three were functioning (six will be functioning this year) added direct sales to the distribution of St. John's supermarkets.

Inclusion in rural development plans, Sir, I am certain will give that additional stimulant and would enable residents of Bell Island to make an even greater contribution to the healthful eating of the people of St. John's through the production of a wide variety of vegetables and some fruit.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I hope that the honourable Premier will give serious attention to the constructive suggestions I have placed before the House today and also to those which my colleagues among Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition will be voicing in the days ahead. We hope, Sir, that we may take him at his word when he suggests that he is seeking suggestions for the good of the people of Newfoundland and

Labrador, whose will is the only valid reason, Mr. Speaker, for all forty-two of us sitting on the floor of this House of Assembly of Newfoundland and Labrador.

HON. W.W. MARSHALL (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker, I rise to my feet at this point in time, principally because I was scheduled to speak and I have to confess after hearing the honourable member for Bell Island, I feel rather like going home.

I wish that the honourable member for Bell Island had perhaps heard my words before, with reference to the "people's" paper and with respect to the subject of conflict of interest before he addressed his remarks to the Premier's press conference. I might add that it is not my custom to speak from prepared notes, but I have some of this written out which I am prepared to give to the gentlemen of the press afterwards, some copious notes to ensure that I am quoted correctly.

Mr. Speaker, I do not seem to have too much of a problem in getting quoted, the point is getting quoted correctly. Mr. Speaker, I should first like to direct the attention of this honourable House to that part of the Speech from the Throne relating to conflict of interest. The editorial appearing in the "Evening Telegram" (and in accordance with the rules of the House, I have the papers here for filing if necessary, the full papers) on February 8, last, jumped to the unsubstantiated conclusion that government was weakening in its resolve to enact potent conflict of interest legislation. I should like to point out at the outset that this is untrue, without any foundation



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and in fact without any substance whatsoever. We shall bring to the floor of this House, in this session, adequate legislation affecting this area as will be discerned when the particular provisions of the bill are revealed. However, before this specific measure is introduced it might be well to address our thoughts to this subject of conflict of interest and how the unfair and unjust application at the hands of the uninformed or the pure, plain, malicious can destroy the very roots of this Assembly by casting doubts upon the honesty and integrity of the individual members. This, Mr. Speaker, is a very real danger which must be avoided at all costs.

In my opinion, no more real example can be afforded than in the recent allegations directed to me in the "Evening Telegram," to me the effect that a conflict of interest has occurred because in private life I continue to act as solicitor for a client of ten year's duration; namely, the Bank of Montreal which happens to be the prime (you will note) but not the sole bank of this province and has had this position for a period of over five decades. In these accusations I might say, Mr. Speaker, as might be expected, the hon. Leader of the Opposition joined in characteristic fashion, ever constant with his vituperative, and seemingly careless of the consequences. I might state that when the hon. Leader of the Opposition was quoted in the paper, where the headline said: "The Marshall Affair Was Going To Be Aired," he joined in the fray, doubts entered my mind since it is quite obvious that if any one were an expert in conflict of interest, he most certainly was, having seen it in operation and having acquiesced in its practice for so many years.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, when the smoke cleared, if in fact it has, that great bastion of public liberty in the people's paper had so distorted the facts, in its application of its conflict of interest principles, as my own personal reputation, integrity and honesty was impugned by innuendo which neatly avoided the laws of libel but cast a shadow which I have no intention, Mr. Speaker, of ignoring; therefore, I wish to avail of this

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opportunity to place on record in this honourable House the complete facts. By this I would hope not only to plainly set forth the true position but to demonstrate how application of this conflict of interest principle, in the hands of the uninformed, can result in driving people out of public life. Let me first recite the complete facts about the situation.

Again I note that I have been acting for the Bank of Montreal as its solicitor for over ten years. While I have not enjoyed this position exclusively (I will repeat that. I have not enjoyed that position exclusively, Mr. Speaker, since other lawyers also act for the bank in various matters) it is one of my clients. It has been for ten years. I have managed to gain this client as a result of fifteen years of hard work in the practice of law. There has never been any attempt to hide or keep this relationship secret because there has never been any reason so to do. If anything, there would be a tendency to welcome public recognition of the fact that one enjoys the confidence of such a large concern. It is also a fact, Mr. Speaker, that the Bank of Montreal has been prime banker for this government for a period longer than the lifetime of most members of this Chamber. It is not the only banker and I emphasize that again since most other banks and indeed most other fiscal institutions in this province also conduct business with the government in one way or another. This was the situation then, Mr. Speaker, when I entered the cabinet in January of 1972 and remains the position. I do not mind informing the honourable House that as far as I am concerned it is going to remain the position. Furthermore, I hope the relationship continues despite the efforts, the base efforts contrary.

The only material change, Mr. Speaker, since my entry into this cabinet has been this: I have not, I would not, I would not be requested to act for the bank in its relationship with this government. The bank would not even contemplate asking me and any work which was required by necessitating

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any approaches or dialogue with this government, if they did in fact arise, because I do not know, must have been conducted by one or more of the other legal firms which the bank uses from time to time. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, if I were a weak enough individual to allow my solemn word of honour to be doubted to such an extent, I might be prepared to swear on a bank of lie detectors that during my tenure as minister of this crown, I have never uttered one single syllable about any client in an effort to gain an advantage or avoid a penalty for that person or concern. Most assuredly, Mr. Speaker, I have never breathed a whisper about the bank's position in relation to the O'Dea Royal Commission and this fact, Mr. Speaker, could be verified, by any one who chooses to doubt my word, by any and all of my colleagues. These then are the bare facts of the situation and let us now look, Mr. Speaker, how the practice of base, yellow journalism in its worst and cheapest form can so twist the facts that my own reputation, honesty and integrity have been called into question and impugned. When listening to this story, Mr. Speaker, let no member in this honourable House rest comfortable since the same incredible distortions can affect him tomorrow. Afterwards, perhaps, let us try to define sensibly that expression which has become a cliché phrase, that is "conflict of interest", and how the application of this phrase by the irresponsible or the ignorant or by the ignorant and the irresponsible can tear at the very fabric of this assembly and indeed our society.

On Thursday, February 1, 1972, there appeared in the "Evening Telegram" an anonymous letter signed by, "Amused" and allegedly emanating from Halifax, Nova Scotia. This poison-pen letter suggested that the real reason for the government's failure to act is the Premier's wish not to interfere with the hon. member for St. John's East. The innuendo expressed in this letter, Mr. Speaker, is false, is cowardly, is vile. As you might expect, Mr. Speaker, when considering the facts first recited about my long

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tenure with a private client, these unfounded charges in that letter were rather upsetting to see on the Thursday night. I refrain from calling anybody or doing anything until the following morning. The next morning at about 10:00 A.M. I picked up the phone and called Mr. Steve Herder of the "Evening Telegram" whom I have known for some years and conversed with him about the letter. The check, I state, was a private one in which I acquainted him generally with the above facts, the facts that I have already recited and told him that it seemed rather unfair to print the letter. During that conversation, I also pointed out that while I was, (I want to emphasize this fact, Mr. Speaker) I was not disputing the paper's right to print observations about public figures; even elected members had private lives. I suggested that I did not feel that a very satisfactorily and honestly held and maintained solicitor-client relationship ought to be jeopardized by a poison-pen letter, I informed Mr. Steve Herder that since I preferred not to reply, having no wish to involve a private client,

That should surely be understandable. That should surely be understandable. Any one who has more than Grade III education, Mr. Speaker, or who has no education at all, can understand the confidential relationship that exists between a solicitor and a client. I then stated that regardless of the views, I told Mr. Herder that I thought the facts were untrue. In any event it seemed rather unfair to allow an accusation to be flung at public figures while allowing the accuser's identity to remain anonymous. The conversation I might say was most amiable. Mr. Herder had not read the letter at that point but he interrupted the conversation

to read the text. His immediate reaction was one of dismay, if one can judge the emotional reactions coming across the telephone wires. He indicated that the insertion of a letter of this nature in that form did not meet the "Telegram" standards and intimated that he would look into and call me back. I rang off rather happily feeling that this was an end of a distasteful incident which unfairly and falsely attacked my integrity and invaded as I say a legitimate private solicitor/client relationship.

Let me point out this again, that my conversation with Mr. Herder, Mr. Speaker, was a private one. It was private between us. It was styled as being off the record, which is a general description of such encounters. However, there is no way, Mr. Speaker, there is no way that I intend to accept the unfair and treacherous attacks made in the best traditions of cheap and sensational journalism without revealing all of the facts involved. If "People's Paper" wishes to infer dishonesty on my part, I have no intention of remaining mute and will defend myself with all the information available.

It is interesting to note, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. Herder stated that the cheap poison pen letter, now he did not call it a poison pen letter, but the letter he did refer to which started it all did not meet "Telegram" standards. This is certainly true I might say, Mr. Speaker, of the standards set by the former owners and maintained scrupulously up to recently by the late Mr. James Herder up to the time of his death.

However, the standards of the "Telegram" was obviously lowered when control passed to the Baron of Fleet and the editorial policy of this once respected paper changed to the pursuit of yellow journalism in its basest form, in an effort to sell papers at any cost, apparently careless of the reputation and integrity of all.

My next contact, Mr. Speaker, with the "Telegram" came in a telephone conversation with Mr. William Kelly of the "Telegram" at about four-thirty o'clock that afternoon. Now to come back into perspective, I called him on Friday, I called Mr. Herder on Friday, the 2nd. of February. That afternoon after I had hung up, in the morning, at four-thirty, I received a telephone

call from Mr. Bill Kelly who referred to the anonymous letter and asked for my comment.

Now I might state for the edification of the gentlemen of the press who are here, I had intended to write all of this out. I have what I have said to date, in form that I will pass to the members of the press. But now I am speaking from notes because the responsibilities of the House and other meetings prevented me from doing it in the detail. So now the gentlemen of the press, Mr. Speaker, may note that I am speaking from notes and they can take notes accordingly if they so desire.

Anyway four-thirty I had received a call from Mr. William Kelly of the "Telegram". The conversation which I am paraphrasing went something like this. He said, "Bill, did you see the letter in the paper yesterday?" I said, "yes." He said, "what have you got to say about it?" I said, "I am not saying anything to you, Bill, I have been talking to Steve." "Steve, who?" "Steve Herder". We rang off. Immediately thereafter, about ten minutes thereafter I received a call from Mr. Stephen Herder at the "Telegram" who was somewhat concerned about the fact that he thought that I might think that he had set his reporter on me as a result of the conversation that morning. I assured him this was not the fact. At that time he again referred to the letter and said and did make words, statement to the effect that the letter was not up to the standards of the "Evening Telegram". I hung up then and received another call again from Mr. Kelly. This is the second call now within about an hour.

The conversation went something like this, Mr. Speaker, and I am repeating it in substance. "Bill, I just talked to Steve and he said that your conversation was private". I said, "yes." But he said, "what have you got to say for the public"? I said, "well, as I have told you, I have already talked to Mr. Herder". "Well what comment have you got for the public"? I said, "Mr. Kelly, I have already told you that I have spoken to Mr. Herder". Mr. Herder was at liberty to talk to Mr. Kelly, obviously.

So then he said, "can I quote you as saying you have no comment?" Mr. Speaker. I am in public life but I am an individual as well. The press do not own me and nobody owns me and I said, "you can blank, blank". I will not repeat it here, "print what you blank, blank what you want to" - and hung up the phone".

I still presumed that decency would prevail that they would get together with respect to it. Because I had told Mr. Stephen Herder that morning substantially all of the things that I am talking about now. But no, what happened? The result is on Tuesday, February 6, a headline on the front page - Marshall Solicitor for the Bank of Montreal - The "Evening Telegram" investigating a charge levelled in a recent letter to the editor has confirmed that government House Leader, William Marshall, acts as solicitor for the Bank of Montreal, the province's banker. Great revelation, Mr. Speaker. Great revelation. Nobody had ever attempted to hide it. So they pin a filthy, rotten, headline as if I had been doing something that was criminal.

Then again on Wednesday I was called by the press, CBC, CJON - gave them a report on it. Wednesday morning I was called by Mr. Garry Callahan of the "Telegram" and I issued a rebuttal which appeared in the paper that day and which I might state Mr. Garry Callahan fairly reported. So that was not the end of it, Mr. Speaker, we had to come again. We had to come back again and we looked on Thursday and what do we see? "Liberals plan to debate on Marshall affair." They got it down now, "the Marshall affair," you will note in the paper. Included in which is Mr. Roberts, as quoted as saying that he will reserve comment on the "Marshall affair". I will get to the honourable Leader of the Opposition in a moment, He promises a detailed statement in a few days, which I am just waiting for, Mr. Speaker, with hated breath.

Then what happens further in this great saga? On Friday I believe it was, although I think you will feel, Mr. Speaker, I think all members will

realize that at this time one is probably a little bit punch drunk, I received a call from the Secretary of the Law Society of Newfoundland. Because when I had issued my statement, Mr. Speaker, to the press, I had made a statement that the source referred to by the "Evening Telegram" that was obviously -"apparently" I use the word, a member of the Law Society is unnamed and is obviously motivated by malice. I said it. I repeated it to Mr. Mercer.

Mr. Mercer is a fine fellow. He did not like to get involved in this. But what is the substance of the telephone call? Mr. Kelly rings him up and asks him whether I am going to be disciplined by the Law Society of Newfoundland as a result of these statements? Hence we see another Marshall statement "questionable" says the Secretary of the Law Society.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to accept this at all. The over-all result is this that I am in the private practice of law, when I ran I was in it. I am going to remain in it. I am going to remain in this House of Assembly despite the "People's Paper". But the effect of this is, Mr. Speaker, that it effects my private practice. I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that the base way that this came about that it is fair.

I want to make something abundantly clear in this chamber, I have never spoken for any client, I have never taken any thing for this government, I have never acted for any client in relation to the government and all that I intend and insist upon doing is retaining the clients that I have, already have and honestly have held after a number of years of hard work.

I regret the involvement of the bank in this. It is too reputable, The Bank of Montreal is too reputable and too big to ask me, and they would not ask me, I repeat that, to go to government looking for favours. They never did it, Mr. Speaker, obviously, while I was a member of the opposition



and when I was a member of the opposition, Mr. Speaker, I acted for the Bank of Montreal and I am thankful for a national concern such as the Bank of Montreal that is prepared to have a member of the opposition act for them because there were many national concerns who came into this country within twenty years who to the people on the other side of the House were persona grata. I continued to act for the Bank of Montreal, Mr. Speaker, while I was president of the P.C. Party, while I was leader of the party on a temporary basis but obviously on an even more permanent basis than the present Leader of the Opposition, while I was a member for St. John's East and the "Evening Telegram" and the Leader of the Opposition can take full note of these statements. I have no intention, Mr. Speaker, of losing, as I say, any clients as a result of this. I lost enough clients, Mr. Speaker, when I was in the opposition and in defending myself right now, I am going to make a statement that I have never made before. When I was involved in a certain case, a certain law case in this province before I came in the P.C. Party at all, after the carrying out of this case I was informed by one of my clients, Mr. Speaker, a person with whom I had enjoyed a very good relationship up to that particular point, that I could not act for him because I was, to use his phrase, "Persona non grata to the then government." He was obtaining a loan that was being backed then by the government I understand or required some concessions, I do not know what they were because I did not act for them afterwards and he informed me that I was persona non grata and thus could not act for him and he went off then to be an illustrious firm, another illustrious firm, let us put it that way, and I have not acted for him since, and the hon. Leader of the Opposition knows I believe to whom I am referring.

MR. ROBERTS: No, I do not.

MR. MARSHALL: If the hon. Leader of the Opposition wants me, the hon. Leader of the Opposition's father was the person at the time.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, then, Mr. Speaker, if I may, I have no knowledge of

my father's legal affairs at all and my father may have made a statement, this is a statement of privilege I guess,

MR. MARSHALL: Is this a point of order?

MR. ROBERTS: May I make a statement of privilege, if not, you know the hon. gentleman is lying.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, now we will have a point of order. I shall invite him to retract that statement. I can recount that we were in the Old Colony Club at that particular time and what I say is exactly true, exactly and positively true and I am not, Mr. Speaker, going to take the cynicism of the Leader of the Opposition when he talks about the Marshall affair and he is going to air these things and join in the cynicism of the "Evening Telegram."

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, if I may reply. My father is not in this province to defend himself. He is in Ottawa on his way for his vacation. I say that the reason my father dropped the hon. gentleman was professional incompetence and let the hon. gentleman withdraw a charge against my father who is not here to defend himself. If he wants to be so scummy and so slimy and so low as to make a charge against a man not in this House, then I say the hon. gentleman is lying.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. PECKFORD: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: Ah, shut up Peckford. You are overpaid now.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, -

MR. SPEAKER: I realize that the hon. member sometimes get emotional in the heat of debate but I would remind him that he should follow the rules of parliamentary procedure and I trust this will continue.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I am not talking about the hon. gentleman's father, I am talking about the fact that I was persona non grata.

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman quoted my father as allegedly saying it himself. Now let him produce the proof or else I say he is lying.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, -

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MR. MARSHALL: Now, Mr. Speaker, what is the -

MR. ROBERTS: Lies.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, does the hon. the Leader of the Opposition wish to withdraw that remark?

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman said that my father made a statement to him as to why my father went to another law firm. My father is not here to defend himself, the hon. gentleman will not allow me to say anything so let him prove the statement or else I will say the reason my father moved that account was the incompetence of the hon. gentleman and I can produce details because my father told me about them at the time. The same I might add goes to the hon. gentleman's incompetence with regard to transactions of the Newfoundland Building, Savings and Loan Company where he was guilty of what amounted to professional negligence.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I shall ignore these remarks.

MR. ROBERTS: Well, the hon. gentleman is lying and he cannot prove it.

MR. MARSHALL: I do not like having to bring out -

MR. ROBERTS: He cannot prove it.

MR. MARSHALL: I do not like having to bring this out, Mr. Speaker, but I think we can pardon the hon. gentleman's outburst because the hon. gentleman has the -

MR. ROBERTS: Sure because my father is not here to fight back, you low slieven. If you had any guts you would put up or shut up.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please!

MR. ROBERTS: Slieven. He is a slieven.

AN HON. MEMBER: Throw him out.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, throw me out. Come on throw me out of here. Come on throw me out. Throw me out.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. members are not following some of the parliamentary

procedure rules and debates and vocabulary and if it continues I shall not hesitate to name the hon. member, on either side of this House.

MR. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman would love to be named but I do not think we shall go through the exercise of even to try to bring this about.

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman is -

MR. MARSHALL: Now, Mr. Speaker, I shall continue on with my speech. I am not in a conflict of interest position.

Your Honour, I think the hon. the Leader of the Opposition needs to control himself.

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman slandered my father and my father has no recourse. Now let him defend himself. You liar.

AN HON. MEMBER: (Inaudible).

MR. ROBERTS: I am not trying to get thrown out of here. I fought hard to get in here.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please! I feel that the -

MR. ROBERTS: (Inaudible).

MR. SPEAKER: Order please! I feel that the word "liar" is very unparliamentary and I would suggest that the hon. Leader of the Opposition might like to rephrase his statement.

MR. ROBERTS: Very well, Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman, the member for St. John's East is guilty of a terminological inexactitude.

MR. MARSHALL: Fine, Mr. Speaker, I do not even wish to reply to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Which is the synonym of that other phrase?

MR. MARSHALL: Now, Mr. Speaker, my relationship with the Bank of Montreal I will repeat is not a conflict of interest situation. As a subsequent editorial in that paper said, "There could be an opportunity." So, Mr. Speaker, could there be an opportunity with anyone with any spare money in his back pocket? He might buy a building and rent it for the

government. So, Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition and other members around have opportunities because they have shares in certain companies

MR. ROBERTS: Sure I have shares in a lot of companies.

MR. MARSHALL: and I remember, Mr. Speaker, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition when he was Minister of Health when I was on the other side of the House and a question came up about his ownership and his relationship with respect to shares in a drug company.

AN HON. MEMBER: Elizabeth Drugs Company.

MR. MARSHALL: I called the hon. gentleman aside beforehand and informed him of the fact that I was going to ask him a certain question, a question with respect to whether or not the government of the day had given out any contracts to Elizabeth Drugs. He appreciated at the time. The question was asked afterwards. He informed this hon. House that he did not. His words, of course, were accepted.

MR. ROBERTS: That is wrong.

MR. MARSHALL: It was not wrong. But the point I am making, Mr. Speaker, is when I make a statement to the press to the effect that I did not have any relationship with the government on behalf of the bank, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition chooses and selects to turn around and cast innuendo and say, "Ho! Ho! We will talk about the Marshall affair -

MR. ROBERTS: I have cast no innuendoes and we will talk about it. There will be no -

MR. MARSHALL: He is quoted in the paper as saying it. Now, Mr. Speaker, for the sake of the press I shall read, this will be also appearing in the statement. I want to make it abundantly clear that I do not question the right of the media to pose questions about an elected member if it reasonably and responsibly feels an elected person is in a position where he could or has the opportunity to further his private interest by the use of his elected office. However, I do not feel it fair to allow these

questions to be raised by poison-pen letters; clearly put so the elected member can know the identity and source of the enquiry there can be no complaint. However, Mr. Speaker, I violently object to any presumption that once there arises a situation where there could be an opportunity to further one's private interests it is taken as given that such a course will be adopted.

The thesis in the editorial in the "Evening Telegram"

MR MARSHALL: in effect is based upon the assumption that the member must remove himself from the temptation because he cannot be trusted not to feather his own nest. In other words, M r. Speaker, there is a presumption of dishonesty and no regard held for the honesty and integrity of the public figure. This assumption, I and I am sure no members of this hon. House have any intention of accepting. Let us look at what happened. This seeming suggestion was made by a poison pen letter. When its implications were denied by me on Wednesday, my statements were not accepted. Instead, I was treated contemptuously and greeted by headlines the next day that said quote, "the Marshall affair was to be taken up" and then later remarks, made in answer, were questionable and disciplinary action might follow. Now, if this thesis of the "Telegram" is correct it means, do not put anyone in the position of possibly being in a conflict of interest position. If so, you will be presumed, Mr. Speaker, and gentlemen of the House of Assembly, we will all be presumed to be crooked. That is the mandate, Mr. Speaker, that I have no intention of accepting, certainly not from the "Evening Telegram" and I will accept it from no one.

I do not pretend, Mr. Speaker, to have any premium on honesty in this hon. House and I will defend the right of all members of this hon. House to be assumed to be honest instead of to be assumed to be seamy and dishonest, ready to grease their own paws and palms.

Now I am not, Mr. Speaker - I will say something else as well - I am not prepared either to pay the price that arose as a result of a certain law firm, Messrs. Curtis and Dawe, in relationship to the old, other administration. In that case, M r. Speaker, with wild abandon, M r. Curtis was Attorney General of the Province and Mr. Dawe came in acting for clients. Similarly, the facade became really ludicrous, really ludicrous, right up to the last moment when they switched their positions and M r. Curtis came into one of his partners who was Attorney General.

I have never, as I say, acted, I will never act in connection with anything that requires an administrative decision by the government, I will never come in to negotiate and nobody in this side of the House has ever done it or will do it. I shall go to register deeds, I shall appear before independent boards but I shall not and I have not, Mr. Speaker, done it. As a matter of fact, it is nobody's concern, to anyone else, the very reason why I terminated a very,

very satisfactory relationship with my former partners, last year, was purely and simply because of the fact that I wrote them a letter saying that we act for fairly large concerns and I do not want to be in the cabinet while you people are coming in dealing with other cabinet ministers, as you must in the course of your legitimate business. I do not want to be in the cabinet passing on those decisions so, consequently, for this purpose and for this purpose only, I launched out on my own. If this continues on, Mr. Speaker, we are going to tear at the very fabric, not only of this Assembly but of our society and it is going to be very hard for anybody here to sit, for anybody to sit as a member. If a dishonest presumption pertains and a person can not keep his legitimate, private dealings without being presumed to be a crook, without being presumed that he is going to grease his own paws, or something like that, then there is not much future.

It is all right for that cesspool of cynics down at the "Evening Telegram", those great arbiters of right and wrong and the hon. the member for Bell Island smiles up at the press when he says that because obviously they have been given much more fodder this afternoon than perhaps even the hon. Premier gave them this morning, but there is more to come. This cesspool of cynics at the "Evening Telegram", the great arbitrators of right and wrong, who have never, Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge, and I am talking about the management now, of the "people's paper," have not taken part in the public, civic or any community activity. They have gone completely mad. I think their ultimate aim is to provide that there be absolutely no government at all. There are driving people out of office. They are making a situation where you have to have a million dollars in your back pocket or be stone broke or you do not dare to come in over the doors of the House of Assembly.

Look at the editorials, Mr. Speaker, from now on. We will see them now. Marshall can not take it, Marshall can not take it. If he can not stand the heat get out of the hot kitchen I say to these great scribes on the "Telegram", if they can not take this talk, they can scratch their backs with their quills.

Mr. Speaker, I will not - this imputation against my character, insinuation and the diatribe from this paper against my integrity is unwarranted. But I do not expect anything to result about there being any apology or any recognition



of wrong. Look at the silly girations the rag went through when councillor Jim Fagan who happens to be, so he is reputed to be or he was once a liberal, on the city council now but he happens to be a very decent fellow. He is employed in, I think a concern calls Domac Engineering, one of Mr. Andrew Crosbie's Companys. Andrew Crosbie and Company make an application for a complex on Water Street, that every one knows about. Mr. Fagan acting not only honestly but acting in accordance with the act, The City of St. John's Act. I would say, knowing Jim Fagan, he would do that anyway, absented himself from the chambers when the thing was being discussed. There was great editorial in the paper, he should not have absented himself. He is absolving himself from responsibility, his responsibility, but somebody pointed out that he was duty bound so to do that? Instead, they write a little editorial in the paper and what do they write? Do they admit that they are wrong? No, they turn around and they say, well, his employer is involved in so much commerical activities, in this Island, that perhaps he should not be on this council anyway. What utter and complete Balderdash!

What kind of an attempt this is to impune the integrity and the honesty and the good intentions of every elected member, be it on this side or that side or in the city council chambers and how long is this going to continue on?

The public, Mr. Speaker, wants responsibility and is entitled to responsibility for its members. The public is entitled to responsibility from the press. The "Evening Telegram" has always been noted for having its skin as thin as the paper on which it is written and I might say that the substance of the paper is becoming thinner than the paper itself. I would, Mr. Speaker, say to the "Evening Telegram", and I have this written out as well, this little statement which I can pass out so I will be quoting correctly. If the "Evening Telegram" would like to come out from its cowardly cloak of innuendo and implication and print independently that is not related to the report of this my statement in the House of Assembly, for which it has a certain immunity, if then it wishes to print the statement, this statement now quoted to them, that Marshall had used his elected position for the purpose of advancing the interest of himself or his clients or both

and this is what the paper is hinting, let him have the courage to come out and say it. If they have the courage to make that statement directly, then let it be done, Mr. Speaker, and I will recover damages which might even tax the resources

MR. MARSHALL: resources of the Baron of Fleet in whose servitude this once reputable paper now labours. But if, Mr. Speaker, the paper is not prepared to take this measure, if it is not, then I suggest it cease its absolute scurrilous attack by innuendo and seeming hints. The public is entitled to expect responsibility from its elected members but also from the press itself. We have gone through, Mr. Speaker, twenty-three years of one administration and by any yardstick this society is very sick as a result of it. There were good things that were done but there were other things, Mr. Speaker, that I do not think our grandchildren will brag too much about in the future. We have inherited a very, very sick society and it is up to us, Mr. Speaker, to see that this sickness does not become terminal.

Since the honourable member for Bell Island made a few constructive suggestions, perhaps I may as well. I would make this suggestion -

MR. NEARY: To the honourable the Premier?

MR. MARSHALL: I am still on the honourable the press, or the honourable "The Evening Telegram." They have been notorious. The management of the news media in this province have been absolutely notorious for paying about one cent above the minimum wage to their reporters. Instead of that, they have paid them very low and every person interested in journalism in this province should at least be supported by the management of the media but they are not. The management of the media could well give to the press club - from the press club to a certain extent of this province, and do something like bringing in a programme for giving a monetary award for the best story of the month and at the same time pick out the worst because it is only by this way, by a measure such as this, that our standard of journalism can increase.

But, Mr. Speaker, I am appalled, I am completely appalled. I have no intention, not only of not accepting the implications against my own

MR. MARSHALL: House. Because when they were on this side, Mr. Speaker, when they were on this side a similiar bill was brought into the House of Assembly. It was introduced by us in the opposition and the record will show it was described as stupid in the extreme. It cannot be done. It is impossible to be done, we were told. It is not done in any province of Canada. It cannot be done here. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that any kind of investigation and perhaps if we had the largess of generosity of grants to the opposition, that the opposition now enjoys, where we could have done a little more immediate research, we would have found it sooner rather than later but we found it at a time when we are prepared to implement it. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Speaker, that the right, which is really a sacred right of the Legislative Assembly, any Legislative Assembly, to pass on the amount of public borrowing is sacrosanct and ingrained in the acts of just about every province of Canada as well as that of the federal government. We do as we speak. We said we were going to do this and we are going to do this and this is a part and parcel about what the honourable the member for St. John's South, in his very eloquent speech on opening day referred to when he said we were returning freedom to Newfoundland. This is a part of it, Mr. Speaker, no more, no more will our credit of our children and our children's children be balled within the confines of the secret cabinet chambers.

MR. NEARY: Inaudible.

MR. MARSHALL: Absolutely no relationship to it, Mr. Speaker, is the

Mr. Speaker, as the honourable member for Bell Island will find out when we get to that point.

Another item that I want to draw to Your Honour's attention as being a very, very beneficial item is the provision made with respect to universal suffrage in the City of St. John's. A matter that was recommended by the Phelan Royal Commission but not implemented but which the honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs who is now conducting that department in a matter that has perhaps never been conducted before -

AN HON. MEMBER: Not quite true.

MR. MARSHALL: very beneficial for the people of this province.

AN HON. MEMBER: Inaudible.

MR. MARSHALL: Very beneficial for the City of St. John's as well. This is an example, Mr. Speaker, of freedom in return to the City of St. John's where every man, the poor little people that the honourable the member for Bell Island was regaling us with a moment ago. Everybody is allowed to have a vote. The honourable the member for Bell Island agrees with this. I am sure the honourable the member for Bell Island will show the honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs with his justifiable accolades as a result of his initiative in doing it. I am sure, Mr. Speaker, the honourable the member for Bell Island will be prepared to condemn the previous Minister of Municipal Affairs who was there at the time when the Phelan Royal Commission came in for not implementing it. So let us be fair in connection with it.

Mr. Speaker, another great beneficial act, another great beneficial thing in this throne speech relates to the measures being taken in the Department of Education with the collective bargaining given to teachers. With respect to the situation that has already been announced by the Minister of Education, with respect to Memorial University.

You see, Mr. Speaker, in this government we do not have to control everything. We do not want to control everything and direct everybody hither tither and yon. We recognize the fact that there is a molecule

of intelligence in persons not in the government itself. And that these people have a right to exercise their right for selection of people and the ensile perpetrates by the previous administration in this area really boggles the imagination.

Now, Mr. Speaker, as we go on in this report or this speech from the throne - the throne speech I can only say that I heartily endorse each and every item that is in it. We will be hearing in this session of the House that government are doing this , that the government are not doing that. We will be hearing about the little things that we have not done. They will be picayuning things, they will be picking little things, tiny little things that they can jump on but, Mr. Speaker, which they never had the courage to even whisper about when they were in their own respective cabinets.

We will be hearing the great freedom fighters coming through now and telling us as they have been what we should do and what we should not do and how sweet it is and how mute they were, Mr. Speaker, just a few short months ago.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that is about the sum total of my remarks with respect to the speech from the throne. The honourable House will be gratified I know, the members on the opposite side will just love to hear the fact that I intend to be speaking here a great deal more for a good many years despite the scoreless scum that comes out of that "Evening Telegram".

MR. A. DUNPHY: Mr. Speaker and members of the House of Assembly -  
Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the debate it is now five minutes to six.

On motion the House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, February 13, at 3:00 P.M.

This House stands adjourned until tomorrow Tuesday at 3:00 P.M.



