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SPEAKER; THE HONOURABLE GERALD RYAN OTTENHEIMER

The House met at 3:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): Order.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS:

MR. DOODY: Mr. Speaker, if I may on a point of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Finance.

MR. DOODY: In an item in this morning's edition of the St. John's Daily News under the heading of A High and Windy Hill there is a message in there that says, "Shoot the Queen," and the author of the column says, "I am past the stage, which lasted most of the winter, when I'll bite anyone's head off who comes within range. Now I'll just nod without comprehension at whatever is being said. Go to London and shoot the Queen, as Mr. Doody suggested to the legislature (not, I should point out, in the form of a resolution on the order paper)? " I would like to make it quite clear, Sir, that I had no intention at any time of going to Londong to shoot the Queen or nor do I have any animosity toward the Queen. As a matter of fact, despite my Irish heritage and background I have a great respect for the Queen and great respect for the Monarchy.

I think it is very irresponsible and insulting to the people whom I represent, to myself and to this hon. House that such an item as this should appear in the local press and I would like to register that, Sir, with this hon. House.

As for the reporter, or so-called reporter who would print this sort of thing, I will leave it to the people of this hon. House to make up their own mind about the disposition of such a person.

MR. WELLS: You are saying then that you did not say this.

MR. DOODY: Of course I did not do it. I have no intention of shooting the Queen. Eamon De Valera, one of my heros would not suggest that he shoot the Queen.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for Trinity - Bay de Verde.

MR. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I know it is not in order to debate or reply to a matter privilegè of the House, which in this case I consider it to be, and since I brought this matter to the attention of the Minister

MR. ROWE: of Finance, I was asked the consent of the House to speak to this particular matter.

Sir, this to my mind is one of the most despicable pieces of what—I suppose you can call it reporting, that we have seen go into a newspaper regarding what goes on in the Legislature here. It is an insult -

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

MR. ROWE: I asked for consent, Sir.

MR. NEARY: I just want to get Your Honour's ruling on whether or not a point of privilege raised by an honourable member is debatable, Sir? If it is then, we all, I think, should have the privilege of getting up and entering into the debate.

MR. DOODY: Mr. Speaker, I do not think it was a debate. I think that the hon. member opposite was endorsing the remarks of my point.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): Order, please, I do not consider a point of order to be before the House because the hon. Minister of Finance raised on a point of privilege, which takes precedent over all other matters.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. -

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker,

MR. NEARY: the minister is finished with his point of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): Order, please!

MR. NEARY: The minister is finished -

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): Order, please!

The hon. member for Trinity-Bay de Verde.

MR. F. ROWE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, we quite often in the House of Assembly -

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, this is unheard of!

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I asked for consent to reply to the matter of privilege before the House simply because of the fact that I did bring this matter to the attention of the Minister of Finance, and out of courtesy I suggested that he raised the matter further rather than myself, because it involves his name. But it involves the honour and integrity of this House, and it is insulting to this House. And, Sir, if this is the type of thing that the people of Newfoundland got to be subjected to, and this is the sort of thing that the people of Newfoundland are given the impression of what goes on in this House, I endorse the comments of the hon. Minister of Finance that we flick that particular reporter right out of the Press Gallery altogether, or we have the Press Association or the Association of the Press consider in bringing this matter up, because it is despicable, insulting indeed to this House of Assembly. And, Sir, the most important reason I wanted to rise here is because quite often we have gripes with the press and we shout back and forth that you are attacking the press. Well in this case, Sir, this is one time when I will stand with the hon. gentleman opposite and attack a certain member of the press, with this proviso that you might find, you know, a couple of rotten apples in the barrel, and this does not apply to every member of the press, but this is a despicable display by one member of the press and I suggest that the Press Association, whatever they call themselves, take this matter into consideration with the view of removing that gentleman from the Press Gallery.

MR. WELLS: On a point of order, if it be a point of order, but to the whole matter, Mr. Speaker, -

MR. ROWE: To a point of privilege.

MR. WELLS: To the point of privilege. I would suggest then that Your Honour in consultation particularly with the Minister of Finance who was the person mentioned in the remarks take it up with the press corps or the Press Gallery to see if some appropriate method can be worked out whereby this particular instance can be dealt with. I do not think that we should now sort of make motions. Perhaps an apology would suffice, This we do not know. The hon. member will have to express himself on that. But I do not think it should be just left here. I think it should be taken up with the Press.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): If it is the wish of the House we will take up the matter as suggested by the hon. House Leader. Is this the wish of the House?

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Speaker, let us hesitate in this thing. Let the press be completely free and of somebody offends that is a mere one-tenth of one per cent of what is in the papers day after day and on the air. Let us not be sensitive. I agree completely with the hon. minister. But I do not agree that we should do anything about censorship or censoring or punishing or -

MR. WELLS: Should there not be a reprimand?

MR. SMALLWOOD: Well, let us not.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I am inclined to agree with my hon. colleague the member for Twillingate. This is a matter, Sir, that we should move very, very carefully on. Mr. Speaker, I have to say that in my fourteen years in this House I think we have established a precedent toady where a member stands and says, he brought something to the attention of a member and then he was allowed to enter into debate on it. That is a new precedent in this hon. House, Sir. But I know how the hon. Minister of Finance feels, Sir. He had a recourse to stand in this House, raise a point of personal privilege, and that will be taken note of, and I am sure it will be reported and corrected in the news media. The minister may argue, well, the

damage is done, it is too late to rectify the situation. Well, Sir, you know, that is the way it works. And the minister has made his point. I do not think we should go any further. I do not believe in discipling or censoring the members of the Press in this House should feel just as free as members on the floor of the House, and should not be -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: They should, Sir,

Mr. Neary.

just as free, just as comfortable in this House as members of the House, and I certainly do not think that anybody should get the flick or that we should talk on the floor of this House about giving anybody the flick, especially members who are not down here on the floor able to defend themselves. I do not know what happened or how this thing got reported.

MR. DOODY: They are doubling the guard at Buckingham Palace.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon?

MR. DOODY: They are doubling the guard at Buckingham Palace.

MR. NEARY: They are doubling the guard.

The minister is fairly witty, Sir, fairly witty. Maybe he made a witty remark that was misinterpreted, but I am sure, Sir, on his point of privilege today he has made his point and the matter should just rest at that.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): Order, please!

It is my understanding that the House agreed that the Chair should make arrangements to discuss this matter with the Press Association, and I believe I have read the feeling of the House correctly in that matter.

MR. NEARY: Can that we put to a vote, Sir? Can we vote on that?

MR. ROWE: No vote.

MR. NEARY: You know, you do not own the House. There are other members in the House besides the hon. member for Trinity - Bay de Verde (Mr. Rowe).

MR. ROWE: The hon. Speaker asked for agreement.

MR. NEARY: Two members spoke against it.

PRESENTING PETITIONS:

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Terra Nova.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, I will not take up any time of the House in presenting this petition. However, I do not want to minimize the importance of this petition either, but similar petitions have been presented, and the points made in support of these petitions. I refer to the petition that was presented some days ago by the hon. member from LaPoile (Mr. Neary), and also from Conception Bay South (Mr. Nolan). Sir, this is a petition from the Anglican Church Women's Association of Eastport. And the prayer of this petition is that we in this honourable House support the diocesan council in their efforts in protesting the extensive showing of scenes on television involving social drinking and the serving of alcoholic beverages. As I said I think the two members in presenting their petitions certainly made the valid points that I would want to make, and I just want to say, Sir, that I whole-heartedly support and endorse the prayer of this petition, and I think again the member from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) pointed out that though is a federal matter, that the procedure generally is to put the petition before the House and have it placed with the appropriate department and sent to the appropriate federal agencies. Sir, on that basis I ask to have the petition placed on the table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. member for Harbour Grace.

MR. YOUNG: Mr. Speaker, I would like to present a petition on behalf of - not voters - twenty-one householders in the town of Upper Island Cove in an area known as the Meadow. The prayer of the petition is for a sewer system to be installed in that area, and I request, Sir, that it be tabled and passed along to the department to which it relates.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. member for Trinity - Bay de Verde.

MR. ROWE: I would like to on behalf of my colleagues to support the petition so ably presented by the member for Harbour Grace (Mr. Young)

Mr. Rowe,

on behalf of twenty-one householders of Upper Island Cove for a water and sewer system or just a sewer system?

MR. YOUNG: A sewer system.

MR. ROWE: A sewer system.

Sir, obviously there is a great need for such systems all over the Province, and I hope that this petition will be given sympathetic consideration and the people of Upper Island Cove will get their sewerage system.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. W. MCNEIL: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to present a petition on behalf of the district of Stephenville. The prayer of the petition reads: We the undersigned do humbly petition the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to request that public hearings be held throughout our Province to obtain information and hear briefs on the matters covered by the government's White Paper on the proposed snowmobile legislation, and further that no such legislation be enacted prior to the holding of such public hearings. It will be noted that this petition is one that can and should receive support from all over the Province whereas petitions dealing specifically with the proposed legislation would not because of the variety of problems and opinions existing in the different areas. The holding of such public hearings would provide a proper public forum for the gathering of pertinent and detailed information from all over the Province under which proper legislation could subsequently be based.

These public hearings would allow all of our clubs and associations, together with the general public, to be heard in order that our future rights and treasured heritage can be protected. We ask that you support this petition.

Mr. Speaker, the people of my district are willing to give the hon. Minister of Tourism a helping hand in his attempt to provide adequate legislation to govern the use of snowmobiles in this

Mr. W. McNeil.

Province. I would strongly recommend to the minister that he seriously consider the prayer of this petition. If the regulations drawn up are not changed drastically they will be largely ignored and will only serve to generate contempt for the law. If people

MR. MCNEIL:

of my district feel, as do the government, that legislation must be made to promote the safe operation of motorized snow vehicles to protect wildlife, fish and other natural resources of this Province and to guarantee the availability of various forms of recreation to all citizens and an environment of diversity and quality.

I would suggest that the hon. minister use every means in his power to provide good legislation which will generate respect for the law and its enforcement officers. Mr. Speaker, I ask that this petition be placed upon the table of the House and referred to the department to which it relates.

SOME HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! It has been brought to my attention that we have in the public galleries sixty Grade IX students from Mount Pearl Central High School accompanied by their teachers, Mr. Harvey Hodder, Mr. Calvin Button and Mr. James Cooze. I am sure the hon. members would wish to bid them a sincere welcome.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: Further petitions?

NOTICES OF MOTION:

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. NICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following bills:

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Prisons Act," (Bill No. 27)

A bill, "An Act To Amend The Evidence Act." (Bill No. 28)

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN:

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. the Premier.

PREMIER SCODEC: Mr. Speaker, I have several here of the questions that were asked by the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood). Question No. 18; whether and what safety regulations exist in relation to the use of propane gas and what enforcement of such regulations is in effect? The answer to that is where propane gas is used in conjunction with a boiler installation the system is tested in

PREMIER MOORES:

accordance with the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Act. The regulations to further extend the control over liquefied petroleum gas are under active consideration by the Engineering and Technical Services Division of the Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations.

The Accident Preventative Regulations, 1969 of the Workmen's Compensation Board, Sections 701, 704, 707-13, and 1004 apply to the use of propane gas in the industrial areas. These regulations are enforced by the Board's safety inspectors on visits to industrial areas.

Mr. Speaker, there are quite a few questions here. I will read the ones that may be of interest to the House. The hon. member for Twillingate asked, does the government have an estimate, or if not then a guesstimate, of the probable total amount of money sent out of the Province for the purpose of buying lottery tickets. The only ones we have on that are on the Olympic Lottery tickets. The six draws that have taken place to date, a total of 275,000 tickets were sold in the Province at a total cost of \$2.75 million. The number of that question is Question 48. The following sums of money stayed within the Province: Prizes won in the Province \$1,000,006. The Province turned over to provincial Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation \$137,000; Bank commissions, \$149,000; Distributors Commissions, \$74,000; Advertising, \$135,000, a total of \$1.5 million. Mr. Speaker, I think it is probably best that I table these and any questions that arise from them can be answered at a different date.

The other questions I have here are Question Nos. 62,

Premier Moores:

65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 81, 85, 86, and 94.

I might say - and I have copies here, Mr. Speaker, for appropriate people - I might say that there are 247 questions which have been answered so far, and we will do our utmost on this side to answer as many more as we can as soon as we can.

MR. SMALLWOOD: I thank the hon. gentleman for these questions.

There must have been someone who is terribly curious to be asking so many questions.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SMALLWOOD: Who asks all of those questions? Who was it?

PREMIER MOORES: I beg your pardon, Mr. Speaker, all those questions that I just referred to were asked by the hon. member from Twillingate.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The Minister of Justice.

HON. T. A. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I have the answers to some questions, some I can table. The answer to Question No. 15 on the Order Paper of November 24, 1975 asked by the hon. the member from Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood), I table that. And I table as well the answers to Question Nos. 102 and 103 asked by the hon. member for Twillingate. The answer to Question No. 110, Mr. Speaker, on the Order Paper of November 24 asked by the hon. member for Twillingate: "How many members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are in Newfoundland on duty for the Government of Canada and costing the Government of Newfoundland nothing?" The answer is; 104 R.C.M.P. members, and 58 public servants are excluded from the Provincial contract. The answer to Question 113 by the hon. member for Twillingate; "how many members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police operating in Newfoundland are Newfoundlanders by birth?" The answer is; 130. The answer to Question No. 114, again by the hon. member from Twillingate; how many members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police operating outside of Newfoundland are Newfoundlanders by birth? The answer is 384, 384 Newfoundlanders serving throughout Canada today are very proud members of the R.C.M.P.

MR. SMALLWOOD: 384!

MR. DOODY: We are getting her under control.

MR. HICKMAN: The next one, Mr. Speaker, is the answer to Question No. 115 which I will table. There was also a Question No. 106 asked by the hon. gentleman from Twillingate, and the question was, "the number of Newfoundlanders enlisted in Newfoundland in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Force since Confederation?" That has posed a real problem, Mr. Speaker. And I cannot give a specific answer but I will give to the House the information that we were able to acquire from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Headquarters in Ottawa. Computerization of the record system did not take place until 1973, therefore a count of members engaged after Confederation but who discharged prior to April 1, 1973 is not readily available to the R.C.M.P.

However, 529 members who have served in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police since April 1, 1973 reported their home Province to be Newfoundland. In addition, 50 ex-members, retired members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are residing in Newfoundland. That is

Mr. Hickman.

as far as recorded statistics can go in providing the answer to that. Mr. Speaker, Question No. 56 by the hon. gentleman from Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) directed to the hon. Premier.

Question: If and when the government intends to introduce legislation to lower the voting age in provincial elections to age eighteen as requested by the present Minister of Mines and Energy on March 11, 1971? The answer is, Mr. Speaker, that Section 11 of the Election Amendment Act 1974 being the Act No. 80 and enacted on May 21, 1974 reduced the voting age to eighteen.

Another question, Question No. 82 from the same hon. gentleman requires the same answer. The question is: If his administration - this is to the hon. Premier - still intends to do what the Speech from the Throne promised in March 1, 1972, "My government has decided to lay before this House legislation providing for a reduction in the voting age to eighteen years?" The answer is the same as that given previously that this was accomplished in 1974 by the Election Amendment Act of that year which was approved by this hon. House.

The answer to Question No. 55 is that the matters referred to therein, namely, the question of bail, falls with the exclusive jurisdiction of parliament. I believe from what I read in the press that some amendments to the Bail Reform Act are presently being considered by the Parliament of Canada.

Question No. 59 also falls within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Government of Canada, -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Parliament.

MR. HICKMAN: - Parliament of Canada or at least parliament -

I should rephrase this. Parliament has asserted exclusive jurisdiction in this field and have legislation covering that situation.

MR. SMALLWOOD: What was the question?

MR. HICKMAN: The question was: If and when the government will "bring in legislation guaranteeing the right of privacy to the people

Mr. Hickman.

of Newfoundland and to legislate insofar as this is within the provincial jurisdiction to prevent the use of wiretapping, telephone tapping and other electronic surveillance devices in this Province" as advocated by the present Minister of Mines and Energy on March 11, 1971?" - a great constitutional lawyer.

MR. SMALLWOOD: What is he going to do about it?

MR. HICKMAN: This is why I believe, Mr. Speaker, - there are rumours abroad that the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy is taking a long hard look at the federal riding of St. John's West, because he has discovered that the Parliament of Canada has exclusive jurisdiction -

MR. CROSBIE: Is this as a result of a wire tap that you got this information?

MR. HICKMAN: He is looking.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

The answer to Question No. 57 is that government has not given any consideration to that matter as yet.

MR. CROSBIE: That is a good answer.

MR. HICKMAN: Question No. 681 - I had all these things nicely laid out just as I came up here, Mr. Speaker, or before I came up and they have sort of disappeared on me. That is all I have.

MR. CROSBIE: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. Minister of Industrial and Rural Development.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, I cannot compete with my hon. colleague for the longevity in terms of conversation, but I will answer one question proposed by the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary). Question no. 724: I would like to read the question. "What contracts either oral or written were awarded to James Reid or any company which may be known to be a shareholder by various other departments during 1972 through and including 1975? List the details of all work or services provided by the department

Mr. Lundrigan.

and the cost of each individual project. Were tenders called for any of the work? If so, did the lowest bid get the job?" The answer for two departments Industrial and Rural Development is nil for all three questions.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, I have some answers to questions here. Question no. 635 in the name of the hon. member for Carbonear (Mr. R. Moores), and no. 636 in the name of the same hon. member, and question no. 382 in the name of the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood), and 394 in the name of the same hon. member.

ORAL QUESTIONS:

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: I would like to ask the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker, if he has received recently a report from the Newfoundland Farm Products Corporation, a report submitted as the result of an investigation into pilferage and theft carried out by a private detective.

MR. DOODY: Pilferage and theft carried on by a private detective!

MR. HICKMAN: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, would the minister indicate to the House if he knows of any action that has been taken against employees of Newfoundland Farm Products Corporation as a result of theft, pilferage or possible embezzlement?

MR. HICKMAN: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health. In view of the disclosures and revelations that came out recently in connection with a royal commission hearing that was held in Newfoundland into the eyeglass industry, would the minister indicate what action if any he is now going to take to regulate the ophthalmologists, the opticians, and the optometrists in this Province either through Legislation or regulation?

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows full well that that enquiry was carried out under The Combines Investigation Act-I believe that is the right Act-by the federal government. We have not received a report from the enquiry yet and until we receive such report it is presumptuous to say what one must do.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Will the minister

MP. NEAPY: indicate what plans his government have to update an outdated act regulating optometrists, ophthalmologists and opticians in this Province?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. COLLINS: That will be revealed, Mr. Speaker, as this session progresses.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for Lewisporte.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. The President of the Student Council at Memorial University, Mr. Neil Tilley, was on today suggesting that the RCMP were to photograph a special speaker at Memorial and some of the students. I was wondering if the minister knew anything about this?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Will the hon. gentleman repeat that question. I could not hear him.

MR. WHITE: The President of the Student Council at Memorial, Neil Tilley, was on the air today suggesting that there were reports the RCMP intended to photograph a gentleman by the name of Conrad Madwavi, I think his name is, he is from the Marxist-Leninist Organization and they were suggesting that it was impairing academic freedom in terms of having the police around with cameras. Now they had not done this, but they were suggesting it was about to be done and I was wondering if the minister was aware of it?

MR. HICKMAN: I am totally and absolutely unaware of it, Mr. Speaker. I have never heard of the suggestion and I have never heard of the visit of this gentleman, I do not know anything about it but there is no question at all that the definition of academic freedom is getting broader and broader and broader every day.

MR. WHITE: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): A supplementary?

MR. WHITE: Yes. Is the Minister of Justice aware of recent undertakings by

MR. WHITE: the RCMP to check on certain individuals in the media with respect to the Marxist-Leninist Organization?

MR. HICKMAN: Totally and absolutely unaware, Mr. Speaker. Never heard of the suggestion before in my life.

MR. WHITE: Would the minister undertake to find this out, Mr. Speaker?

MR. HICKMAN: No. No.

MR. CROSBIE: What foolishness!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Eagle River.

MR. STPACHAN: A question for the Minister of Tourism, can the minister explain what occurs to caribou seized by his Wildlife enforcement agency from hunters suspected of committing an offence under the big game section of the Wildlife Act?

MR. HICKEY: I beg your pardon?

MR. STRACHEN:

I am asking what occurs to the caribou which are seized by his Wildlife Enforcement Agency.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: It is given to charitable organizations, Mr. Speaker.

MR. STRACHEN: I am sorry, Sir. So I ask here -

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary?

MR. STRACHEN: A supplementary. I want to correct that. I ask what occurs to caribou seized by the enforcement agencies from hunters suspected of committing an offense under the big game section of the Wildlife Act?

MR. MORGAN: He just told you.

MR. HICKEY: I have answered it, Mr. Speaker.

MR. STRACHEN: A supplementary. Can the minister then tell what happens to caribou after the trial is over and the hunters have been acquitted?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge the meat is put in freezers, preserved, I suppose, and if a person is acquitted, as in the case of fire arms or any other property that is confiscated, if the person is acquitted, they get the equipment or whatever material it might be back.

MR. STRACHEN: A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow one further supplementary on this question.

MR. STRACHEN: Can the hon. minister explain then out of fourteen caribou seized from three hunters who were subsequently acquitted by the court, why his department could only return eight of the fourteen? I am asking were they stolen, were they lost or were they eaten by his department?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, that question should more appropriately be placed on the Order Paper. Obviously the hon. gentleman is aware, I am sure, that I cannot give an answer of this kind of detail off the

MR. HICKEY:

top of my head. If he will give me the names I will be glad to look into it.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEAPY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Government House Leader, the Minister without Portfolio. Would the minister tell the House whether or not on Monday of this week he and certain of his colleagues met with the representatives of the Newfoundland Federation of Labour and what action will be taken on the recommendations and complaints that were made by the Federation of Labour in their brief to the minister and to the government?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. House Leader.

MR. WELLS: Mr. Speaker, certain members of the government did in fact meet with the group that the hon. member mentioned. A brief was given and that brief of course will be considered by government.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Lewisporte.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. He has just stepped outside there. I have another one here for the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture. So perhaps I will ask that one. I will ask the other one when the minister comes back in.

Could the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture tell the House whether or not a new regulation has been brought in with respect to sawmill operators which requires them to hire a certified scaler in terms of their wood? I have had a number of calls from small sawmill operators who tell me it is going to be a hardship on them. The minister may not be aware of it, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Forestry and Agriculture.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I will have to take that question as notice. The only way I could see that coming is because of new policy that was recently announced in a joint statement by myself and my colleague, the Minister of Rural Development, and that does not force anybody to have a scaler but they do have to have one in order to come in

MR. ROUSSEAU:

under the programme. I will take the question as notice and check it out.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Carbonear.

MR. E. MOORES: I have had some long discussions with members of the Carbonear General Hospital staff in Carbonear. To the Minister of Health: The hospital I am informed is now ready to open. That is to say that medical services can be provided, operations can be performed. What is exactly your government's position on this? Are you going to open it, or are you going to let it lie there or what?

MR. H. COLLINS: Order Paper, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister of Transportation and Communications is in a position to bring us up to date on negotiations with his counterpart in Ottawa in connection with a cost-shared programme to upgrade, widen, repave, and the twinning of the Trans-Canada Highway? In the meantime, would the minister also indicate now that the mild weather is here, the Spring thaw is coming, if he intends to place a half-load limit on tractor-trailers and other heavy equipment on the Trans-Canada Highway, especially in the Western part of the Province?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, on March 10 the ministers responsible for highways in the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and myself we met with the federal Minister of Transport, the hon. Otto Lang, and submitted to him a submission outlining the needs for the reconstruction, for the ungrading and four-laning of some sections of the primary roads in the Atlantic Region. Of course in Newfoundland the primary road is the Trans-Canada Highway. But in other parts of the Atlantic Region the primary roads include more than the Trans-Canada Highway.

Mr. Morgan:

The submission was made to the Federal Minister with the request that the Federal Minister take the proposal to his colleagues in the Federal Cabinet asking that a programme be devised as soon as possible whereby the Federal Government will participate financially on a programme to reconstruct and upgrade the Trans-Canada in the Atlantic region. That was March 10. To date we have received no reply, no response, and no acknowledgement of our submission to the Federal Cabinet.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): A supplementary.

MR. NEARY: The second part. Would the minister answer the second part of my question about the half-load limit? This is very important now this time of the year especially since the weather got mild. Does the minister intend to implement the half -

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, no plans made to date.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for Lewisporte.

MR. F. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. It is in connection with the Marystown Town Council and some statements by the Mayor. Could the minister indicate to the House whether or not he has given consideration to the requests of Dr. Morrissey and the Council?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

MR. A. L. PECHFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Council was in yesterday and presented some of their problems to us, and we are now presently studying them. When any resolution of their problems has been made by government, or concurrently with the Council, a proper announcement will be made.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for Windsor-Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Highways.

AN HON. MEMBER: Transportation and Communications.

MR. FLIGHT: I am sorry, Transportation and Communications. It is with regards to the detour on the Trans-Canada Highway West of Grand Falls. Mr. Speaker, when that road was flooded there were

Mr. Flight:

statements made that led one to believe - it was alleged that the cause of the flooding was as a result of the level of a dam raised on the Exploits River by Price (Newfoundland). And as a result of this the feeling was wide spread by knowledgeable people that Price (Newfoundland) as a result of their action should contribute to the cost of repairing the damage.

The question to the minister, Sir, is, did the department investigate the possibilities of Price being held responsible with an eye to the fact if we saved \$350,000 there we spend it somewhere else? And if so, what was Price's attitude? Did they categorically refuse to take responsibility for the flooding and the result in damage?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications.

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, shortly after the flooding of the Trans-Canada the engineers from my department investigated the possible causes. They did determine the possible cause. One possible cause was the fact that a dam on the Exploits River was raised just last year by six feet by Price (Newfoundland) Limited. We did not gather any concrete evidence that this did cause the water level to rise on the Exploits, but there is a strong possibility. We hold discussions with the Price (Newfoundland) Limited, the officials of the company and the officials of my department, but the company has refused to accept any liability or responsibility for the damage to the Trans-Canada and we are doing the work strictly on Provincial funds.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industrial and Rural Development. The minister will recall when the government closed down the Steel Plant in at the Octagon we were told of plans for building fibreglass boats and other industry for the Octagon, for the former Steel Plant. Would the minister now indicate if there is in actual fact a boat building industry going on at the Steel Plant in at the Octagon? And what other uses the former building and the property is being used for?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Industrial and Rural Development.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, this is a difficult question to response in detail to. It is a very legitimate one. I can indicate that there is quite a bit of activity going on there. The hon. member would have read in the paper recently about tenders been called by Felcon for a new building, something that perhaps we should be flexing our muscles on in announcing. That building, I cannot quote the amount of money involved, but I believe it is in the vicinity of \$1.5 million, and that is for the underwater connecting electrical system, which is a breakthrough in the world for an electrical system that can accommodate Marine activity of a drilling nature, a very, very advanced type of technology and one which places Newfoundland in a vanguard of that type of activity.

On the boat building - and just as a brief comment I did meet last evening with representatives of the company that are involved in the manufacturing of fibreglass boat. They have several designs, and two or three that are in actual production. One of the problems is the research and development costs of the plug which is the required model to be used for the type of activity that eventually produces the boat. And they have had some problems, but they are off the ground, they are producing, and I hope that with my colleague in Fisheries at some early date, perhaps in the near future, we can talk with these people to see if we can give them a little bit of a lift perhaps on an experimental basis in the short haul to get the industry off the ground. It is very highly labour intensive.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. Would the minister clarify a point that he made there in his remarks. Are these sports craft

MR. NEARY:

or will they be fishing boats? What kind of boats are they?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, the boats I am referring to, they have a variety of types of boats. Some are the new. Some of the sports craft type. But the most fundamental type that we are interested in is the fishing boat. They have designed a thirty footer, for example, a trap skiff that has been used and tried and experimented with very successfully around the world. They found it in Newfoundland. They have plans for other types of designs, a thirty-seven footer which has -

MR. SMALLWOOD: For export?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I beg your pardon?

MR. SMALLWOOD: For export out?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Yes, certainly for export. They are very, very optimistic that if they can make a breakthrough here and convince the public of the value of the kind of a craft - it has got at least a twenty year guarantee of life expectancy. It is a marvellous boat. A thirty-seven footer would have the capability of a forty-eight foot wooden boat, for example. I am hoping that we can - I am only saying this in anticipation - we can give them a bit of a lift at an early date. The Pelcon activity, which is a private company that was - I think, perhaps, the father or the Pelcon in Newfoundland is my colleague, the Minister of Finance who worked for two years with the group. We have never bragged about it. But the reason I want to elaborate for a moment is that it is a brand-new breakthrough in technology in our Province. The hon. the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) will agree that one of the weaknesses in Newfoundland is that we have never been able to develop a highly sophisticated technological base. These people, by the way, when we travelled overseas, we were really flattered with the knowledge that the oil drilling companies in Norway and the Scandinavian areas had of Pelcon as they do, by the way, throughout the U.S. as well and the development of the new technology that has been done in Newfoundland. There are Newfoundland people involved. There is a tremendous

MR. LUNDRIGAN:

amount of scientific knowledge gone into it. They are to the stage, as I have indicated, of calling tenders, I believe they are being published already, for a new building to be built in the Donovans Industrial Park. That will be, first of all, by its very nature it will be a stimulus to our economy this present year. But in the long run it will mean a good bit of employment to Newfoundlanders.

I would like to emphasize again that there are a number of areas like these kinds of things that we could brag about right now. We do not want to do it because we prefer to enable the people in these kinds of areas to operate without a lot of sort of public, political participation in terms of debate. But things are moving on a number of funds of interest to the people of Newfoundland along these lines.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the information that he has given the House so far. Would the minister tell us how long the stockpile of car wrecks will remain on the site creating a eyesore in there? Will they be moved out of it, the car wrecks, in on the site in there by the old steel plant? Will they be left there? Will they be moved out of it or what will happen to that stockpile of car wrecks?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, I am not conversant with car wrecks. So I will have to pass on to - I do not know who is responsible for car wrecks. I will just have to say that I do not know the answer.

MR. DOODY: The Minister for Environment is not here. So perhaps I could just say that we are aware of the problem that these wrecks have been accumulating in there and we are looking at the problem and hope to do something about it. The original agreement was that they should have been scrapped and moved from the Province as they were done. That apparently has not been done. So government obviously has to take some steps in that direction.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Lewisporte.

MR. F. WHITE: A question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mr.

MR. WHITE:

Speaker. Could the minister indicate to the House whether or not he has had correspondence from a citizen's committee in Corner Brook suggesting that his department look into certain activities of the Corner Brook City Council? Could the minister indicate to the House, Mr. Speaker, whether or not he intends to have his officials do this?

MR. B. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I do not know if the hon. member is referring to recent correspondence or correspondence of three or four months old. If he is referring to the older correspondence that I can remember, I think I responded to the citizen's committee indicating to them, I think in both telegram and letter, that specific allegations would have to be made and that from our regional office in Corner Brook and from officials in the department there was no indication given to us in our examination of the administration of the city of Corner Brook that anything was amiss. If specific allegations were made we would then be in the position to reply in a positive way. But unless specific ones were made we could not reply.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, has the minister had recent correspondence on any specific charges made?

MR. PECKFORD:

Mr. Speaker, not to my knowledge unless it came in and it is here on my desk in mail that came in in the last couple of days, well since three thirty yesterday afternoon. But not to my knowledge.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Trinity-Bay de Verde.

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether to direct this question to the Minister of Tourism, Industrial and Rural Development, or the Minister of Mines and Energy, but I would like for one of the ministers if he could to answer. Since we are about to adopt labradorite or, as the geologists like to say, labradorite as the mineral emblem for this Province, could either of these ministers indicate what their department is doing in terms of keeping this raw mineral in Newfoundland for the purposes of processing and manufacturing into souvenirs and jewellery and this type of thing instead of exporting the raw mineral to the mainland where the real money is generated - keeping the raw mineral in the Province and getting extra employment and keeping money within the Province? What steps are being taken by the department?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Industrial and Rural Development.

MR. LUNDRIKAN: Mr. Speaker, I cannot give the member a detailed outline of what steps have been taken or can be taken but I will tell you what I will suggest, Your Honour. The hon. member was a knowledgeable person in this field from his professional background. I remember this from my association with him as a colleague at the university. He is a professional man in this field. I would certainly would like if he could take a few moments to outline some of his recommendations on how we can achieve the goals and the aims that he has indicated. Obviously all of us support the concept and the idea that he has put forward. I would be quite happy to receive any recommendations from him and feed it into our system for activity.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Trinity-Bay de Verde.

MR. F. ROWE: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. I would be quite happy

MR. F. POPE:

to be acting Minister of Industrial and Rural Development for a few weeks, Sir, but I do not think the minister really answered the question. I asked the minister what steps have been taken to ensure that this raw mineral will be kept in Newfoundland, or has in fact the minister's department taken any steps whatsoever because there is obviously a large amount of export of this mineral to the mainland and the finished product is done on the mainland? What steps have been taken? I will consult with the minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. COSBIE: Mr. Speaker, the Department of Industrial Development has done nothing on this matter, and if they had there would certainly be a jurisdictional dispute since the Department of Mines and Energy has to do with minerals in the Province. It was our brilliant suggestion that labradorite be adopted as the mineral emblem - I sometimes have a little difficulty in pronouncing my words, Mr. Speaker, as the hon. gentleman for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) knows - mineral emblem of the Province. I do not know of any specific steps that have been taken in connection with labradorite to forbid it being shipped out of the Province, but I will check into the matter. I do not think there has been any great raid lately on our labradorite resources. At least I have not had it reported to me. But we will certainly look into it and ensure that there is no lack of labradorite here for anybody who wants to use it locally.

MR. SPRENGER: The hon. member for Twillingate.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question to the minister. Is the minister aware of the fact that in Moscow the tomb of Nikolai Lenin which has been visited by tens of millions of people so far including me - I visited with Mr. Nixon, two of us together - is made of labradorite. Lenin's tomb is made of labradorite but not obtained from Labrador, obtained within the Soviet Union. They produce it as well.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

MR. CROSBIE:

Mr. Speaker, I was not aware that this was so and I consider it my duty as Minister of Mines and Energy to go and check this out.

I hope that these photographers who are going around taking pictures of dangerous Marxists-Leninists have gotten the picture of the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood).

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Lewisporte.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, I have another question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Looking at the latest flash sheet, Sir, that came out March 19, it shows that while the consumer price index increase in food for last month, February compared to February of last year was only 8 per cent, it showed that housing was 15 per cent, the increase in the consumer price index. I am wondering if the minister can tell us whether or not there is anything on a provincial level that we can do to halt this rapid increase in the price of housing in the Province?

Mr. Speaker (Dr. Collins): The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

MR. PECKFORD: That, Mr. Speaker, deserves in its own right a very detailed answer which I will not give now. Suffice it to say that government in the last several months initiated a homeowner grant programme, when the federal government decided it was not going to have anything to do with that programme after December 31. So we brought in our own as of the first of January, 1976 to help alleviate the business of downpayments on new housing construction. We are presently working on existing housing construction which we might be in a position to say something about in the next week or two. Other than that the problem is a very major one, and not an easy one to get around. The only other thing I can say that in housing in general in the Province Newfoundland receives per capita through the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation in our earnest efforts to hammer CMHC whenever we can, we get more per capita than any other province in Canada, and we get more per capita than any Atlantic Province. So that insofar as the reduction in housing costs can be measured by the amount of money we receive and agitate for through CMHC, we are doing our part.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. member for Port au Port.

MR. HODDER: A question to the Minister of Social Services.

What accounting procedures does the Department of Social Services does the Department of Social Services intend to initiate to ensure full administrative and accounting controls over such things as overpayments and to make recoveries, etc., to overcome the problems which were pointed out the Auditor General's Report?

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. Minister of Social Services.

MR. BRETT: Mr. Speaker, to the best of my knowledge there has always been an adequate system of the collecting of overpayments in the Department of Social Services. It is ironic that this thing has come to light, and

MR. BRETT:

it has been sort of tossed around this last four or five days, mainly because of the Auditor General's Report, but then because of the Ombudsman's show on Sunday night. But there is an adequate system there. It has been going for years. The only thing probably that has bothered me a little bit is that we may be a little more rigid than other provinces. And I certainly do not intend to make it any more rigid. As a matter of fact, if anything I am going to check out what the other provinces are doing with the hope of maybe modifying it somewhat. But we do have an adequate system, and I see no real reason for improving on what we have.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. member for Terra Nova,

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, this question is to the hon. Minister of Tourism. I believe yesterday when the minister was commenting on the moose population in Newfoundland I thought I overheard the minister to say that there were no moose in Labrador, and I am just wondering whether he meant that there were few moose there or that there were no moose there, because I believe that the government did make steps to introduce moose in Labrador, twenty, twenty-five years ago or something, so I am just wondering what is happened?

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I meant no moose in terms of moose licences. There was a transplant, I believe they call it, into Labrador some years ago. My staff tells me that has been considered, or to all intents and purposes it is considered a failure in terms of increasing the herd.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Because of the unlawful destruction of the herd.

MR. HICKEY: To some extent --

MR. SMALLWOOD: To a very large extent.

MR. HICKEY: -- I have asked that question, Mr. Speaker, to some extent but to a greater extent the lack of a proper habitat and feeding grounds because of the difficult terrain and the fact that there is not the kind of cutting in the area that there is on the Island. I am told by my staff

Mr. Hickey.

that they look with optimism in future especially in the Goose Bay area near where the Labrador Linerboard people are working, and they are optimistic for the increase of their herd based on the changes that are taking place as a result.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Based on what?

MR. HICKEY: Based on the work that is going on in Labrador in cutting timber which would suggest the development of the kind of environment where moose would increase in population.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Moose, moose.

MR. HICKEY: Yes.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Not caribou, moose.

MR. HICKEY: No, moose.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): The hon. member for Windsor - Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, this question is obviously a supplementary to my first question to the Minister of Transportation and Communications, and I did not get then his Honour's attention.

Mr. Flight:

The minister indicated in his answer that his department had determined that Price (Newfoundland) may well have been the cause of the flooding that will cost this Province \$350,000. My question to the minister is, did the minister or the department attempt to determine whether or not Price (Newfoundland) had the legal rights to raise that river by six feet, which, again, was the action that will cost this Province \$350,000? Now in the view of looking for compensation from Price (Newfoundland), did the department determine whether or not Price (Newfoundland) had the legal right to raise the level of that river?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Transportation and Communications:

MR. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, the matter is now under investigation. There will be further investigations and also further negotiations with Price (Newfoundland) Limited.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): I will allow one further question. The hon. member for Stephenville.

MR. W. MCNEILL: I have a question for the hon. Minister of Rural and Industrial Development. When does the minister expect to make an appointment of an industrial development officer to the Harmon Corporation in Stephenville?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Rural and Industrial Development.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, I believe that question relates to my colleague, the quite capable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

MR. A. B. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, no definitive time can be given on that question as to whether and when that position will be filled. The Harmon Corporation of course had been informed in writing by me, and other representatives in the Stephenville area, of the present position of government relating to that position. If and when that position of government changes the Harmon Corporation, the member and

Mr. Peckford:

any other interested groups in the area will be so informed.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): This being Private Members Day, on Wednesday last when the House adjourned the hon. Minister of Forestry and Agriculture had adjourned the debate.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have left?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): Twenty minutes.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Pardon?

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): Twenty minutes.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Twenty minutes.

Well, Mr. Speaker, as I indicated last week when I stood, I had not intended to participate in the debate, which is a cliché, but the hon. Leader of the Opposition made some remarks about what we had been doing in the area of forestry and agriculture the week before. And then the hon. member for Lewisporte (Mr. White) stood up last week and indicated what we had not been doing. So in the time last week, the twenty-five minutes that I had at my disposal I sort of rambled on and tried to cover a couple of areas in my department, mainly the areas of forestry and the areas of Crown lands, and I tried to split it up as one-third each to give some indication what has been done over the years.

Today I would like to speak for a few minutes on forestry- I am sorry, on agriculture. But before I do, there are a few points last week, naturally, ad libbing, that I do not think I paid enough attention to, but because there is not that much time I am going to have skim over.

I think if I may revert for a moment to forestry from last week's conversation, the Forest Management Programme that we introduced a few years ago, the intention of government to look at just what our inventory is throughout the Province both on Crown land by the government and on private holding by the private companies is proceeding very well. We have thus far about six detailed management plans in which have been developed on units primarily Crown land units. This has been done by the branch, the Forestry Branch in the department. And we are

Mr. Rousseau:

reviewing those now and eventually we will accept or reject them or modify them, by the minister in each instance. And the other two will be finished by April 30 of this year, Mr. Speaker, and the third by late next Fall for Labrador.

Now the companies have also been co-operating, Mr. Speaker, in the establishment of management units on their lands and have presented two plans each for review by government and are working diligently on the remaining units on their land. Now it is anticipated that as a result of these detailed inventories both on crown lands by the forestry people in the department and by the paper companies that we will be in a better position to preserve our forestry resources.

I indicated last week it is not the intention of this government that the forestry resource which we have, which I suggested was second only, at worst, to our fishery as a resource, would not end up in the situation we have now in the fishery. The depletion of the fishery is something of course that is of very great concern to this Province, to the government, to the Legislature and to everybody in this Province, and one would hope as well in Ottawa. We would not want to see the same thing happen to the forest in this Province. So our attempts are to attempt to provide an inventory across this Province, Mr. Speaker, to find out just what our sustainable yield is. As I indicated again last week, there are certain areas where we are going to have to cut back on our cutting permits. They are

MR. ROUSSEAU:

presently over-cutting from the knowledge we have of what is available there. But hopefully these management inventories will be such that they will allow us to make use of our resource for many years to come, Mr. Speaker, not only the people in the Province but our children and our children's children, to insure that a sustainable yield stays forever in perpetuity so that this great resource we have is not overlooked and not plagued by the same problems that have plagued our fishery.

I should have mentioned also, Mr. Speaker, that we had quite a forest access road programme in this Province over the last few years. I would like, if I may, to indicate just how big the forest access road programme is. Now normally you see these small contracts going out here, there and everywhere and one does not think there is a lot of money involved in it. But in 1973 we spent \$1.4 million on forest access roads, over \$3 million - \$3.5 million, \$3.25 million - in the two years 1974, 1975. This year in 1976 we will probably be in the area of doubling that amount. So that is quite a programme. I notice this morning in the newspaper that a gentleman with the Environment Department in Ottawa indicated about the bud worm that we are having many problems with here and the problems involved with spraying. Thus far this Province has not entered into spraying nor is it at this point in time the intention of this Province to do so. They have had it in other areas. We do not think it has worked out as well. Our programme has been one, and this is why there is an increase, Mr. Speaker, in the money put into the access road programme, that we want to build the access roads, get in and salvage these forests before they rot; in other words, to gain accessibility quickly and to cut this wood down before it rots but not to pursue a programme at this point in time of spraying. From my own personal view I would hope that it would never have to come to that.

So these are some of the little things that I did not mention

MR. ROUSSEAU:

in forestry. I am only going to go over them very superficially because I want to spend a little bit of time on agriculture. I mentioned, of course, in other areas of forest resource we had last year, what we were doing, what we had been doing for the past few years. I also mentioned, of course, about crown lands and our attempts to set up regional offices in the various areas of the Province, St. John's, Gander, Corner Brook and Goose Bay, to cover the four regions in the Province in an attempt to expedite the application of crown lands, something which is very important to people in the Province: the programme of surveying and mapping that we have a five year agreement with and that we will be doing quite a bit of this year for control, surveying and topographic mapping in the Province. This is very important, something we have not had before.

Mr. Speaker, the problem, of course, we have with crown lands is not one that I shirked away from last week. I explained the problems we have. I know that people who apply for crown lands do not exactly see the problem as we see it. They want their grant in their hand as soon as possible. We can certainly appreciate that, but I think the people must also appreciate that there are certain controls which must be placed on crown lands in order to insure that the leases or grants that result from their application will be ones that are valid in law for their children or their children's children, or many years in the future that there will not any problems with them in respect to their legality. I also mentioned last week, and I do not think it has caught on in the Province as yet, a major step in the department, Mr. Speaker, last week, in a press release, that no longer will we be giving land for agricultural grant. It will now be on a lease basis. I think:

MR. ROUSSEAU:

That is a very, very important and major step in this Province. It is an indication that government is prepared to support the concept of agriculture in this Province. While, Mr. Speaker, we would be the first in the department, and government, and people in the Province to suggest that we could not nearly be as productive as some of the other regions in Canada, we do think that we have an agricultural base in the Province. It would be our hope that we would, with whatever limited base we may have - and I mean that relatively speaking - be able to produce to the maximum of our capacity and it is certainly our intention to do so.

I have taken the opportunity during the past month and I visited just about all the major farming areas in the Province and talked to the farmers there in Lethbridge and Musgrave Town and Green Bay, in Wooddale, in Cormack, in Robinsons and the Codroy Valley and I have received some feedback from the farmers, quite a bit of feedback. I had a strip or two torn off my back and explained a few problems. The meetings went very well. We got an indication of what their problems are out in the field. I think that the farmers agree, and we agree as a government that we certainly can improve our production in this Province.

The problem is of course in respect to the amount of land available for farming in certain areas, and as I say last week's release and the approval by government to no longer grant lands to people for agricultural use, which in many cases, Mr. Speaker, did not end up in agricultural use, we want to ensure in future that this land does indeed remain in the use that it was granted for. What we will do now we will give a lease out - and there is no problem with leases, the leases are assignable, they are sellable, they are passable to your children or anything else. All government said - and I made a point of it, Mr. Speaker, last week to say this, to put it on the public record - it is not government's intention, after fifty years if a man builds a couple of buildings on it and has a farm producing, to take it away from him. As long as that

MR. ROUSSEAU:

farm or that land remains in agriculture, it is not government's intention to terminate or to do otherwise with that lease. Certainly if the gentleman who has the lease wants to sell it in ten, twenty, thirty, forty years that is certainly his prerogative. He would have to check with the minister because we would want to check to make sure, the department, that the person who will be purchasing the land is indeed serious about continuing the cultivation of that land and the land remains for agriculture use.

We think that is a major step. We have another effort now, a couple of the bills that are now before the House, Mr. Speaker, we have some problems with squatter's rights in the Province. It is this government's intention to attempt to clear up the question of squatter's rights, as I mentioned last week, and as we all know in Newfoundland - Newfoundlanders we all are and we love to have that piece of paper in our hand whether it be a lease or a grant or permission or a permit or what, they like to have it for posterity and in case anything should happen it would be our intention to attempt in this session of the House with one of the bills before the House to clear up the whole question of squatter's rights.

These are a few of the things we are doing in these two areas. I just go over them peripherally with the twenty minutes or twenty-five I put to them last week because I have only about ten or fifteen minutes left, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to spend some time specifically on the question of agriculture.

Many people in the Province say to me, you know, what can we grow in the Province, we cannot grow anything in this Province. I think that we have here going on very quietly for quite a while a fairly good agricultural base in this Province relatively speaking. We are talking about Newfoundland and Labrador. We are not talking about an enormous land mass and we are not talking about a lot of people. But we are talking, relatively speaking, to the size and to the availability of farm land in this Province and to the number of people

MR. POUSSEAU:

who are farming, I think quite a production on the part of these people.

These people are people, Mr. Speaker, I think who are often forgotten. A man who owns a farm, or a man who knows somebody who owns a farm or a man who lives in a farming community must recognize and appreciate that these people are people who work just about seven days a week, 365 days of the year. They have no punch in time. They have no punch out time. One of the few persons by the way, Mr. Speaker, who are not covered -

MR. CROSBIE: They use the sun to punch in.

MR. POUSSEAU: They use the sun to punch in, and the moon to punch out I guess. But, Mr. Speaker, they are one of the few groups of people in this Province, for example, who are not covered by the minimum wage, those who are agricultural workers. It is not an easy life. But people have committed themselves to it, a very hardy type of Newfoundlander who ranks among those who we should respect in this Province. They have many problems to face in this Province. It is not, as I say, a Province that has been given to agriculture but there are people who are attempting to make a go at it.

To give you some indication, Mr. Speaker. We talk about different areas that are very interested in production in this Province. One - and these will come out in the next year or two - but I would like to speak generally about them now. The question of, for example, swine in the Province. We have made a start on this during the budget speech and in the departmental estimates I hope to delve into it more deeply. For example, in 1974, Mr. Speaker, we produced in this Province a little over 3 million pounds of pork, a little over 3 million pounds of pork. We consumed 25 million pounds of pork. So if we were self-sufficient, there is room there for production, about seven times as much as we are now producing to make up for that amount which is consumed in this Province.

MR. ROUSSEAU: And we have to look at that.

MR. SMALLWOOD: A guaranteed industrial plant employing 1,000 people will take a couple of hundred millions.

MR. ROUSSEAU: We are not talking about big production. We are talking about little things, going along with little jobs here and a few here, good standardized procedures, small outlays and helpful to the people who want to get into production. When I was over in Scotland, I guess it was, it was one of the areas in which I saw a swine operation which was no bigger than a stadium, a very rough building, cut in half down lengthwise, little cubicles, and they went in one way and they came out the other way in 178 days at a very minimal cost, and these people were making a good living and I think we can. I think we have a number of problems we have to face. I think the biggest problem, not only for swine but for everything that we produce in this Province, is that Newfoundlanders and Labradorians all have to be proud of the fact that there are certain things we can do in this Province, and we have to support the people who produce in this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. ROUSSEAU: And unless we can get that message across - you know, I would not care who it was, who could do it for me, I would hire him and pay him \$1 million if I thought that somebody could convince the half million people we have in this Province to support the industries that we have in it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. ROUSSEAU: And in my instance I am talking about the ones in my department, but I am sure the other ministers feel the same about theirs. And the Minister of Industrial and Rural Development, of course, would feel the same about all of them.

Twenty-one, twenty-two million pounds of pork and that is going to increase, Mr. Speaker. It is going to increase. We

Mr. Rousseau.

have no production facilities here. We have to send a lot of our products out to be processed outside the Province. Certainly we can give thought and consideration if production became large enough that we could indeed invite somebody, one of the larger packing companies who starts somebody off here in our own Province to get the final product here in this Province without having to send it out and have somebody else do it and send it back to us and sell it at 200, 300, 400, 500 per cent of the cost. Mr. Speaker, a fact that is not very well-known is that in that abattoir over in Corner Brook we are able to put through 100,000 hogs a year - 100,000 hogs a year.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Would the minister allow me to ask him a question?

Is he aware of the fact that about the only obstacle there is in Newfoundland today to the Province becoming in six or eight or ten years entirely self-supporting in pork, the one and only obstacle in the way of that is the absence of a grain storage facility to be put here by the Government of Canada, and that we are virtually the only Province in Canada that has not got a federally financed and operated grain storage so that the hog raising industry will have the benefit of reasonably priced feed?

MR. ROUSSEAU: I can assure the hon. member that this government has already been looking into that, not only for hogs but for all other animals. We have a problem now in respect to the cost of transportation.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Well animals, poultry and animal feeds.

MR. ROUSSEAU: I was talking to one of the dairy producers over in Corner Brook, which by the way, Mr. Speaker, the West Coast dairy production unit out there, which was on the verge of bankruptcy a couple of weeks ago, this government very quickly, in consultation with my colleague, the hon. Minister of Rural Development provided

Mr. Rousseau.

assistance to them to get them back on their feet and hopefully we will have a dairy industry flourishing on the West Coast as a result of that. But one of the problems they had was that last year some time the cost of a hundred weight of hay transportation costs, was somewhere in the area of twenty, twenty-five cents. In December of this year it was up to \$1.98. In February it was up to \$2.12. It is very difficult for people to bring hay into the Province and feed at those increased transportation costs. It is certainly something we have to deal with, Mr. Speaker. We cannot expect to have industries that are relying on the feed in this Province and have to pay the increasing freight rates they are paying to expect them to get a return on their dollar.

I have about five minutes left do I, Mr. Speaker, I believe? Unfortunately because I am - carry on and carried on.

But, Mr. Speaker, we would hope that this Province would become one of the few areas in the world that would produce pathogen free or disease free hogs. We would hope that some day in the future we may become an exporter of disease free hogs. We think there are many jobs to be produced in the hog industry, not hundreds of thousands, or thousands but there is no reason why over the years, Mr. Speaker - and I am not talking about this year or next year or the year after, but in an orderly way that we can create a number of permanent jobs in this Province in respect to this particular industry, the swine industry. We think it is one that has a lot of potential in the Province, and government is certainly looking very favourably upon the question of increasing our hog production. There are many problems involved with it, and it certainly would be our intention to cope with these and hopefully come up with some method by which we can increase the production of hogs in the Province, and add to the jobs, and add to the Gross Provincial Product in this Province.

The area of sheep we are looking at quite closely. We think that we have some future as well in sheep in this Province. Unfortunately

Mr. Rousseau.

I do not have time at my disposal to mention any specifics, but we are looking at the question of increasing our sheep raising capacity in this Province. The dairy

MR. ROUSSEAU: industry, we are attempting to keep the dairy industry viable in the Province, We will do everything we can to assist with that and hopefully some day again to be self-sufficient in the production of milk. For example, eighty per cent of our milk produced in the Province comes off the Avalon Peninsula, but we have a lot of space left to increase our production and again with the ability to permit Newfoundlanders to buy Newfoundland first I am sure that our dairy industry could grow and add many more jobs to our Province.

The question of regional pastures, Mr. Speaker; this government in the last three or four years has tried very hard to increase the number of regional pastures. We have increased the number. We have increased the capacity on each of the existing ones. And it is certainly our intention to continue with that programme.

The broiler industry - the department is actively persuing the objective of self-sufficiency in the broiler industry. For example, Mr. Speaker, recent expansion figures follow in broiler marketing. In 1972 - 820,358 birds which is about 3.5 million pounds of meat. In 1975, Mr. Speaker, 1.3 million birds - 5 million pounds of meat, most of which is consumed here in the Province through one of the outlets which sell what is it - chickens, what is it you call it?

MR. NEARY: - best legs in town.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes, the best legs in town. The best legs in town are Newfoundland legs, Mr. Speaker. That is the one we have the contract with. We supply the best legs in town. So we are pretty proud of that.

AN HON. MEMBER: What do you do with the rest of the chicken?

MR. ROUSSEAU: But, Mr. Speaker, actively, and this is one I am really looking forward to, to explaining what our intentions are, in respect to the blueberry industry. I think there is no question in the fact that we have a great potential here in the blueberry industry. Last year we produced 3 million pounds, the first time we went over 3 million, and our average over the past number of years has been

MR. ROUSSEAU: 2 million. We feel we can go to 10 million. We feel we have a superior product here. We feel that by a systematic management programme of systematic - first of all, finding out where the best areas are in the Province, and we have surveyed quite a few areas, to burn these areas and to manage them, to build roads to them and given accessibility to them, We feel that within a number of years we could reach a potentiality of up to 10 million pounds of blueberries in this Province.

Our blueberries are very good ones. As I understand it they are mixed, one of ours to two of the mainland blueberries to give the good taste that they have, but that is not really our intention. Our hope would be to set up our own processing facilities in this Province so that we would process the resource here. It is no good to give a few jobs during the summer, and then to have a company make a profit on it, which is good for this Province, and after that out it goes and somebody else processes the blueberries and gets the jobs that result from them. And when I speak on the Budget Speech I will talk about that in much great detail.

But I would like to mention one other thing before I sit down, a little thing; last year, I remember one day I was having dinner with the Minister of Health, who was my predecessor, and the Premier and the question of garden plots came up. I do not know at first whether it was serious but the Premier took a very kind ilk to it and we looked into it and as all hon. members know and as all people who participated in this programme last year, it was a very, very successful programme, not done on a large scale last year, hopefully on a much larger scale this year and hopefully it will grow into something that the people of this Province will be very proud of and very interested in.

We had very good results last year. Most of the people worked very hard on their lots. There was very, very, very little vandalism. We had people helping out the people who were growing their products on

MR. ROUSSEAU: these lots and it is our intention to continue with this programme this year and hopefully to enlarge it. This is a very small programme, but I think a programme that interested many people all across the Province and hopefully will grow as the years go by.

There are a number of other things I could talk about, Mr. Speaker, the question of marketing in agriculture but I have gone - I am just about at the end of my time - but the reason why I wanted to bring these up, like I say, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition mentioned two weeks ago, and I let it go and I said I would mention this when the budget came up, but the hon. member for Lewisporte mentioned it last week, and I thought that it might be an idea to get up and give the House some indication of what we are attempting to do in the Department of Forestry and Agriculture. It is not easy, Mr. Speaker, You do not just flick a finger in the department and you all of a sudden decide you are going to introduce a programme. There are a lot of problems involved with it. There is a lot of detail and a lot of bureaucracy that has to enter into the finalization of any programme. But the attempts are there and I do not know what the hon. Leader of the Opposition's motion in respect to the select committee is needed. I have gone around and I have talked to the people that I am concerned with, who are the farmers and the producers and I know what their ideas are, I know what their problems are so I could consider myself as

Mr. Rousseau:

a select committee of one of the House talking to the people who I am working for who are the farmers and the foresters of this Province.

So anyway, Mr. Speaker, that is a few comments on what we are doing in the department and what we hope to do and where we are going. And certainly when the Budget comes down and when I have an opportunity to talk to my estimates in the House of Assembly we can go into much greater detail on the items that I have raised and only gone over very superficially during the past few minutes.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for Baie Verte-White Bay.

MR. T. RIDEOUT: Mr. Speaker, this particular motion that is before us today strikes at the heart of what we are about or what I feel we ought to be about as members of this House of Assembly. It identifies the fact, the well-known fact that many of our people are concerned about the future of our Province. It suggests, and rightly so, that many of our people are concerned about the rate of growth and development of our Province. It suggests that many people are concerned about the kind of development that should be encouraged in this Province.

This motion then, having identified these facts, offers a positive solution; that a select committee of this House be appointed to report on the prospects for economic growth and development of Newfoundland and Labrador, especially those best suited to and desired by the people of the Province. Now, Sir, I think that would be a good thing. I believe it would be right and proper for the people of this Province to have some direct input, some direct say into how this Province should be developed, into what direction we should be going. Such a committee as proposed in this motion, Sir, would give our people that chance. It would provide a much better chance than would a two or three day conference held in some town or city in the Province. It would go to the people. It would be

Mr. Rideout:

assessible to the vast majority of our people. Therefore it would benefit from the thoughts and ideas of the many rather than face the threat of domination by the few and by the powerful and the mighty and the out spoken. That I feel, Sir, would be a good thing.

There are many thousands of people in many hundreds of communities in this Province who have an idea that is particularly suited to their own area, an idea though small in itself that might form the basis for some sort of local development. And I believe, Sir, that that is the type of development that we must go after in this Province, development based on our own resources, development that is based on what we have, development that will enable our people to work at the things that they can do best. In other words, Sir, development that concentrates on using our own resources to the fullest possible extent.

There are, Sir, I suppose those among us who are saying already, there go the Liberal swingers again making a complete about-face and heading off in a different direction that is completely opposite to what the Liberal Party always stood for. But, Sir, is there something terribly wrong with that? Cannot a political party change its views, modify its stand or point in new directions? A political party like another organization in my mind will reflect the ideals and the goals of the people that support it. Therefore it is to be expected that as the composition of the party undergoes a change, so therefore will the party thereafter tend to drift in slightly different directions. That is natural. It is normal. I believe it is good. It provides for new approaches to new problems, approaches moulded and tempered by people of today, for today rather than bound and tied to the past, It means that the party is fresh and flexible, prepared to tackle the problems of the 1970's and 1980's, just as it was prepared to tackle the problems of previous decades.

Sir, I make no apology for that. The member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) in speaking in this debate last week might like to see us in this party sing the old songs and dance the old tunes.

Mr. Rideout:

And we will, Sir, where they offer solutions to today's problems. But where they do not, Sir, we will change. We will be flexible. We will venture into new directions. We will do that because we are a party. Though mindful of the past we are not bound by it; though proud of many of the past achievements we recognize that mistakes were made. This in itself means that we must adopt and change priorities, change emphasis, and change direction. We will do that,

MR. RIDEOUT:

Sir, we have done that, and I have no doubt that all political parties have done it and will do it again. Change bespeaks life, vibrance and living, a healthy sign for any political party. Sir, I am not against developing great industrial projects if they are going to be for the greater good of this Province, but if they are going to be a rock around our necks, if they are going to be more of a liability than an asset, then, Sir, what is the point? I welcome industrial development, Sir, but it must be the type that is suited to our Newfoundland situation. It must to a large degree be the type of industrial development that is based on our Newfoundland resources.

You cannot build a house, Sir, by starting at the roof and working down to the foundation. It must, as we all know, be done in the reverse. In the same way I feel that we in this Province must build a firm industrial foundation. But if it is to be firm, if it is to last, it must be built on what we have here. When that has been accomplished, Sir, when that foundation has been solidly laid, then maybe, just maybe, we can turn in new directions. But, Sir, let us not put the cart before the horse. Let us not lose sight of what we have ourselves because of the glamour and the false hopes offered by huge industrial projects.

Sir, we have many resources in this Province that we are not exploiting to our maximum benefit. In the area of fisheries, for example, in LaScie in White Bay in my district there is one of the largest and most modern fish plants that we have in this Province. Yet it concentrates almost solely on processing cod, salmon and a limited amount of herring and squid. But as I understand it from fisheries officials, there is located in the White Bay area one of the largest areas of queen crab to be found anywhere in Atlantic Canada. But what is happening to that resource, Sir? While the LaScie plant sits idle and our people remain unemployed, the queen crab is being fished by a few fishermen, brought into maybe either Fleur de Lys or Jackson's Arm, placed on huge cold storage trucks and hauled right out of this Province, some of it into Nova Scotia

MR. RIDGOUT:

some more into New Brunswick and most of it into the United States. Yet we have a fish plant right in that area, and as I understand from the people operating it it is capable of processing that crab thereby providing employment for our people for a longer period of time than is now the case. Also of course we could be shipping out therefore a processed product from this Province that would return a very high price from the world market.

Now, Sir, to me there is something wrong for this to be happening. We have the resource, we have the facility to process it. Why are we not then taking advantage of it? That plant in Inverness, as I understand from the people directly connected with it, could also process seal meat for human consumption and also squid. Local officials at the plant tell me that there is a good market for squid in Japan on an experimental basis, again as food for people. But as yet we are apparently dragging our feet.

In other words, Sir, as I have said before we are not developing to the greatest possible extent for our own good those things which we have, our own resources. I have only used the fisheries as one example. I know there are many others in the fields of mining and forestry and tourism and handicrafts and blueberry development and so on. It concerns me that we in this Province are, number one, not utilizing our own resources to the fullest extent and, number two, when we are doing so we tend to ship the resources out of this Province in raw form, in an unfinished state to be further manufactured elsewhere thus providing more jobs and earning more money for others.

Sir, if we are to build a firm economic base in this Province this type of thing has to be stopped. Where possible we must begin to use the resources we have for our own greatest possible good.

Sir, another part of this motion which concerns me - and I believe that it is an area of deep concern to many people in this Province - is the kind of growth and development that should be

MR. BIDEOUT:

encouraged in Newfoundland. In developing our resources, Sir, we must become more aware and be more concerned about what the long-term results of such development will be. What will be the effects of such development on the environment? What will be the effects on the health of people who work or who live in the area of a particular development? Sir, I do not buy the argument of development at any price. I never did and I hope I never will subscribe to such a theory. Yes, we want jobs. There is nothing else we want more in this Province. We need jobs. Everybody will agree with that. But, Sir, there comes a point when one has to make a decision. What is more important, the few jobs that a particular development will provide or the health of the people of the whole area? I am thinking now, Sir, in particular of places like Bay Verte and St. Lawrence. I will have more to say about the Bay Verte situation at a more appropriate time.

But there are certain aspects of that particular situation that I feel relate to the guts of this motion. There are 500 people directly working at Advocate Mines in Bay Verte. I do not want to see that operation close down. We have had more than our share of close downs in the industrial history of this Province, Sir. The whole economy of the Bay Verte Peninsula centers around the mining industry as it stands today. So no fool would wish to see the operation fold. But, Sir, we must be concerned. We know now that asbestos dust is dangerous to health. We know in fact

MR. RIDEOUT:

that it has been proven deadly. We know too that certain levels of asbestos dust can be tolerated by the human body, but we also know that dust levels in and around Baie Verte are far greater than the accepted tolerance level. So, Sir, we have an obligation to insure that that particular hazard is controlled, and it can be controlled. This is an area where we should move with the greatest of speed. I am not an advocate, and there is certainly no pun intended, of doom or panic. But we cannot afford to play games with or take chances with the lives of people in that area or any area. The problem has been identified. Now we must move quickly to control it. It is too late to moan and groan when the people begin to show the ill effects of over-exposure to asbestos dust. If we were not aware of the problem, Sir, there probably would be an excuse. But we are aware of it, so we must act. Sir, as this motion suggests, the input of the people should and could be vital in a situation such as this.

So, Sir, we do need to chart a course for the future of this Province. This motion is a positive suggestion of how it can be done. While we need and we will continue to need the advice of experts, Sir, let us not overlook the expertise that is available right here amongst our own people. The experience, the expertise, the initiative, the desire to survive and make a living of our own people probably is the greatest thing that this Province has going for it. So let us go out and tap that experience, Sir. I suggest that a select committee of this House, as outlined in the motion before us today, is the best possible way of doing just that. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think that all that the previous speaker has said I could agree with 100 per cent, except the part that deals with the select committee, which is, of course, the real guts of the motion. In my opinion, Mr. Speaker, we have had enough studies and committees and so on looking at the resource potential in this Province, looking at chartering a course

MR. PECKFORD:

for the future and all the rest of it. But when you boil it all down, Mr. Speaker, when you boil it all down into one or two ideas or thoughts, it seems to me that what has got to happen in this Province is that there has got to be a revolution in attitude by all the people of this Province, and the revolution in attitude away from demanding all the social amenities which we all want and need, and rather put our emphasis on the resource based kinds of activities that is going to create the kinds of dollars that will then give us the social amenities that we want. It seems to me that over the last couple of decades what we have been doing as a Province, and what we have been doing as a country is that we have been putting most of our dollars in the basket of social programmes and very few in the basket of viable economic programmes so that we find today in many places around this Province expensive hospitals, which are needed, and expensive schools, which are needed, expensive water and sewer systems, which are needed. We have gone overboard in our emphasis on the social programmes, which are dynamite politically, and thereby sacrifice all those dollars in those social programmes which nobody can argue with to the detriment of getting small viable industries going around this Province.

Now I think with all due respects to the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) that the emphasis was during the first ten or fifteen years of his administration, even though he can say that he is for big industry, large industry, medium industry, small industry, tiny industry, the emphasis was, and as he readily acknowledges it has been a Liberal philosophy for a long time—the railway in 1895, Price (NFLD.) in 1905, Bowaters in 1925, and so on—all these great industrial enterprises which have proven to be beneficial to the Province were developments that occurred under a Liberal administration and so on and I readily acknowledge that.

MR. PECKFORD: It seems to me the emphasis has been - when there has been a sound industrial development policy, or a policy - the emphasis has on the major one where it took large sums of capital borrowing by the Province to bring them about.

Now it seems to me, what we have to do - and it is no good for every member in this House to get up and pay lip service to this kind of an idea and to this kind of an attitude - the people of the Province in every community and district must begin to recognize that if this Province is ever going to be saved, in the sense of being a have Province, they are going to have to sacrifice some of the social amenities in the next decade in order to get the economic things that we need so that we can then carry on on a more balanced course toward a proper - or the destiny which we all want.

MR. MURPHY: Hear, hear!

MR. PECKFORD: Otherwise we will never get it and we will always remain no more than a glorified colony of Ottawa. As I have said in public speeches around the Province in the last six months, all we did in 1949 in actual fact, was to change the capital from London to Ottawa. And although Confederation means by its very definition, in its formation, that we will provide equalization grants from the wealthier province to the less wealthy provinces to try to get the balance and to have - that is what Confederation is all about and all the rest of it. But we as proud Newfoundlanders have as our aim - although our methods may be different as parties here in this hon. House - have as our aim to be a have Province. And if there is anybody in this Chamber or in this Province who has as their aim anything less than that, then I do not think they are being true to Newfoundland and its destiny.

But I come back to the point that we must develop strategies and it cannot be done through a select committee. I believe that we all know here, we have read the reports over the years done by a lot of people, which the hon. the member for

MR. PECKFORD: Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) had had a lot of them done through the old Department of Community and Social Development and through other departments, everybody seems to recognize, and I am glad that the Leader of the Opposition does recognize, because I have read statements that he made in this hon. House in the Come By Chance oil refinery deal back in 1968, or whenever it was, which I will quote later, where his whole thrust was on heavy industry and I am glad to see him change his philosophy, much to the chagrin of the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood), to a more balanced one of developing the small industries that can work in LeScie or Fleur de Lys or wherever - or Jackson's Arm where I am sure something can be done.

But you cannot, on the one hand, advocate the kind of thing that I am advocating, and on the other hand go out to your district as a members - and you have to get down to facts about it - and forget the idea of economic development for that district, but just push for roads and water and sewer and this and that and something else and yet the unemployment rate in that very community is 25 or 30 per cent. You cannot have it both ways.

MR. SMALLWOOD: What the minister is saying is that Newfoundland cannot afford to have both.

MR. PECKFORD: At the same time.

MR. SMALLWOOD: At the same time.

MR. PECKFORD: Right! Right! Exactly! And we have to - that is an issue that we have not, as a Province, really addressed ourselves to, and I think today, with inflation and so on, has brought it to our attention a lot quicker perhaps than it otherwise would. We have to be serious about saying to our own constituents and to Newfoundlanders in general - and not only that, we are going to have to work harder with the same amount of money or less than another worker is getting on the mainland. Our productivity per man must be greater - not as much as, not equal to - but greater than the productivity of another individual in Ontario. It has to be if we are ever going to create the new dollars.

MR. PECKFORD: But we now have it the other way around and it is part of the social revolution. I was astounded when I went to London there after the Fall election to study some housing projects outside London and in the Midland area of England. I remember one evening coming back and I was going in through the lobby of the hotel and there were two gentlemen sitting there and I was buying some newspapers and I said hello to them and I asked them who they were and so on. These two individuals, fascinating! I asked them what they were doing. They were unemployed. So I said, "Very good, where do you live?" and so on. They were unemployed, they were collecting something like Unemployment Insurance, number one. Number two, they both had an apartment which was subsidized by the government, which

Mr. Peckford.

had a maid come in and clean up their room, their apartment every day free of cost. They were burdens on the taxpayers of England, and perhaps that might not be characteristic of England, but I can only say from my small bit of experience. But if it is, no wonder England is in trouble. They have gone too far on the social, and you cannot have it both ways. Forget about England. Here in this Province, in the position that we find ourselves in, it is impossible, completely impossible. Something has got to give. I cannot have a water and sewer system in Green Bay, and expect at the same time to try to get the Department of Fisheries or the Department of Forestry and Agriculture or some other resource department to be able to stimulate employment in that area. I cannot have it both ways, and the Province cannot have it both ways.

MR. SMALLWOOD: If the minister will allow me? Does he not realize that overwhelmingly the social development we have had has come from Uncle Ottawa, overwhelmingly, roads, almost everything you can think of?

MR. PECKFORD: Right. But we are in a position now, as the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) knows as well as I do, that we are locked into a system right now where to maintain hospitals, to maintain roads, to maintain - what is for a hospital, the Minister of Finance, the capital cost of a hospital? Say it is \$40 million. In two and one-half years the maintenance cost will equal the capital cost.

MR. SMALLWOOD: We are living very high on the hog, are we not?

MR. DOODY: The current account -

MR. SMALLWOOD: But the budget will take care of that.

MR. PECKFORD: What we got to do as a Province, and I am not being partisan -

MR. SMALLWOOD: We hope.

MR. PECKFORD: - what we got to do as a Province is that we do not

Mr. Peckford.

need a select committee, Mr. Speaker. Everybody recognizes that there has to be a more balanced approach to our economic and industrial policies. And what we have got to try to do with any monies that we have is to get on with the job of developing strategies to bring employment in the small and medium sector of our economy, always with an eye open to a good sound deal for this Province that might be proposed to us by some entrepreneur from wherever. But that is what has to be done with those. And I was very pleased to be a part of and approve the policy brought in by the hon. Minister for Rural and Industrial Development relating to the bigger sawmills in the Province there a couple of weeks ago to buy their lumber and leave it on their premises. That is a good step forward. It has to be developed further and made into a permanent kind of policy to help out the sawmill industry in getting into even - you know, talking about making axe handles or whatever you can get a market for.

And in the blueberry industry, you know, that we mentioned in the Speech from the Throne and so on and some gentleman was down here from the Mainland, and was president of some association, talking about it, and we can do a lot more in that field, and it is fairly labour intensive - and on the fishery angle. I do not think a select committee is the answer to it. It is going to be difficult to get. I think that we know what the trends would be through a select committee, through the regional development associations that are established in twenty-five or thirty areas of the Province, Sir, continually agitating through their members and through ministers of the government, of the kind of plans that can be brought into fruition that will stimulate and increase employment in their area. That is not the answer. The answer is twofold. One, with what money the government have available at its disposal after it gets rid

Mr. Peckford.

of the maintenance costs on all public things that its bound into, with whatever they have left over, they have to try to reduce where possible, and they got to reduce where possible, the capital on social programmes and use a fair amount of that capital from the social programmes on the economic programmes, and if the government can do that, and show the people that X number of dollars, which would have been used for that, is used for this industry which now has forty people employed and it is viable, then I think the people of Newfoundland will buy it, and at the same time indicate to them that this kind of trade off has to continued to be made for the next twenty years. So you will slow down your rate of capital construction on social programmes, and simultaneously increase with what is left over the capital funding in resource programmes. And it is only in that way that we are ever going to get out of the bind that Newfoundland has been in. It is very, very interesting to read Newfoundland history from 1895 say to 1970, which I have been doing

MR. PECKFORD:

a fair amount over the last six months, very interesting, and to find the same things happening over and over again, and that we are still in the same bind that we were thirty or forty or fifty years ago. No difference only right now there is no world war but we are in the same kind of economic bind. The only difference is that socially, yes, through Ottawa we are better off, obviously; the standard of living, if you relate it to housing, if you relate it to whatever, we are.

But we have got to recognize as a people and it has got to seep down to the last individual sitting in his rocking chair in Toogood Arm that from thenceforward for the next twenty years we have got to stop making ourselves in our own homes to have the same comforts and everything as they have in Hamilton, Ontario but yet our per capita debt is three or four times greater. There is something wrong, something wrong. So I think the twist has got to go around and we have got to make trade-offs. The rate of money put into social capital construction has to be sacrificed, and increase that rate in the resource area and it has got to be done on a sound basis. It has got to be done on an action programme over ten or fifteen years, and you have got to identify what we can do well.

In one place the new little fish plant will work. In another place it cannot work, and you say it cannot work and you are not going to have a fish plant, because it is not viable there, but it is viable here and go ahead and put it there. And blueberries will grow here, and they will not grow there. So I know they grow here so we will develop the roads and burn the bushes and get blueberries growing here. Identify those areas and go ahead and do it.

The reason why there is not a new hospital there, or a new school there is because we wanted to get on with creating new dollars, which will in fact ensure a better social programme fifteen years down

MR. PECKFORD:

the road for all our people and for our children and our children's children and so on. That is the answer and that is the only answer. Until that comes through to the people of the Province then we are in trouble, because you can take it theoretically, on the democracy side as saying, whatever the people say, agitate for as a group, the majority in my district, I am compelled as their representative to reflect and pass on their views and to have programmes initiated there to satisfy those demands. But in the first instance they might not be proper.

MR. SMALLWOOD: That is because they have not read Edmund Burke, is it not?

MR. PECKFORD: Yes, or John Steward Mill or -

MR. SMALLWOOD: No, Edmund Burke.

AN HON. MEMBER: James Charles Fox.

MR. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, in addressing myself to the resolution I would say that we do not need a select committee. We, as a government, have to get on with the job of developing the kind of sawmill policy that we just initiated on a temporary basis. We have to get on with the job of bringing in a sound forestry management programme which will release more wood for our loggers to cut. I think it is down in my own area where a management area will soon be coming into existence, and there are 300,000 or 400,000 cords of wood lying near Robert's Arm that should be cut. Hopefully under this management policy the annual allowable cut will be identified on that block.

It belongs to Bowaters, and they go to Bowaters and say, "Bowaters, this is the annual allowable cut on this block. Are you going to cut it? You have to cut it." If they say, no, then we charge them a tax on that annual allowable cut. Or if Bowaters say, I will give it to Joe Blow in Roberts Arm to cut, fine. Fine and dandy! This will provide more jobs. Now it has been taking a long while to get that management policy in place. I am the first

MR. PECKFORD:

to say as a member of government it is taking too long. It is frustrating. But if you are going to get a good programme and being fairly close to that programme, because I am in a forestry district I realize the problems inherent in changing the policy around and getting the companies to sit down and so on, but it is vitally necessary, in the fishery and the Premier's recent trip overseas and so on to try to do something on that score. We have got to get on it. We know what the problems are.

I do not mean to sound like we are all-perfect and have the panacea to all the economy ills but I do not think a select committee can do it. We have the responsibility as a government now to lead and to get on with the job of trying to provide jobs, cognizant of all the studies and all the things and recognizing that there has to be some social sacrifice and that there has to be a revolution of attitude within this Province if we are ever going to be a have Province and to take our place in the sun.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. J. HODDER: Mr. Speaker, I believe that we should have a select committee to inquire and report upon the prospects for Newfoundland and Labrador including those of economic growth and development, and in particular consideration of those types of developments which are suited to foster and to encourage the Newfoundland way of life. I feel that this committee and its findings should be the center of a plan for the future. What is Newfoundland's present plan for the future? Where are we going? After five years in power this government still does not have an overall plan, a list of priorities, a plan for the future. There have been some royal commissions. Some studies have been done on selected areas of the Province. While those studies are good in themselves and may help us in the short run perhaps over specific problems, they do not give us a specific goal. We have yet to develop a sense of priorities.

Mr. Speaker, our population is growing. Our spending has doubled and unemployment gets worse. With this backdrop we go to Ottawa and say, "Help us. Give us a hand. We need more money to stay afloat. The ship is sinking." Would it not be better if we went to Ottawa and said, "This is our plan. These are our priorities. This is what we want now. This is what we will be looking for in two years time." Then we can show Ottawa that we have a plan, one that our people presumably are aware of and approve. Mr. Speaker, the people would not mind cutbacks so much if they were made in conjunction with an overall plan, if they knew that the government had priorities and that the cutbacks were temporarily and that this government was still moving towards stated goals. The government cannot do it all, I realize that. However good they are they cannot take the Province by the boot straps and drag us up. But they must know in what direction we should go and they must set up conditions to insure that these directions can be best adhered to. I speak in terms of overall stated goals with certain time sequences in which to carry them out, plans that have been arrived at in consultation with the people, the experts and all the parties.

MR. BODDIE:

Mr. Speaker, we have all heard of Russia's five year plans. I do not think that they have achieved what they set out to do once. But the country has kept moving at a very steady pace. They came from the most backward nation on earth in the 1920's to a world leader in the 1950's. There are still problems but they have moved forward rapidly. Now I would not like it to be taken that I am advocating an authoritarian government. I am merely saying that a government must know where they are going with people, proved, stated objectives so that when another government takes over the plan is still there. If a plan has publicly stated objectives it will not be easy to turn around. As I said earlier there has been some planning. We are all aware of this. Studies have been done but we still cannot say where our main thrust is. We are, as the Leader of the Opposition stated earlier in the debate, lurching from policy to policy and from crisis to crisis. While we have been running to Ottawa for this or that the Province of Prince Edward Island has received a development plan. It was not all their own, but they have been moving on a fairly even path for the last seven or eight years. They have looked at their province as one unit and have instituted land use programmes and they have decided what future they want. They seem to know where they are going.

We must as well, Mr. Speaker, look to our energy, our primary resources, our energy, our fishery, our minerals, our forest products and our tourist industry and most important of all our people. We must decide where we want to be as far as their development is concerned in two years, five years or ten years. Our fishery industry, to pardon the pun, has missed the boat. We are further behind the rest of the world today than we like to think about. The present Department of Fisheries seems sold on the idea of bringing in large companies from the mainland. This may

Mr. Hodder:

take up the slack, so as to speak, it may help in the short run, but it is a very short-term answer. In the long run we must train the local entrepreneur and the local fishermen to show his own initiative.

In my district, the historic district of Port au Port, both the fisherman and the farmer forsook their professions to avail themselves of the more secure livelihood offered by the Americans when the Base was built, and they have not really recovered from it. The fishery became a part-time occupation for many and its development was retarded in this area by about twenty years.

Mr. Speaker, we are told that we have a community college in Stephenville with courses in sewing, leather craft, embroidery, pottery, bridge, chess, dark room techniques, photography, fly-tying, re-upholstery, personal income tax, and defensive driving. These courses are good in themselves. They are desirable, and they lead to a better educated and perhaps a better skilled community, perhaps a more well-rounded community. But those courses do not help the fishermen or the part-time farmer in my district to earn a living. No skills are taught there that will improve him as far as his occupation is concerned. Are we afraid to tackle this problem in our schools?

Turning to the tourist industry, the tourist has found Newfoundland but we have not found the means to keep him here and to bring him back. After many successive ministers we still do not know where we are going. It has been hodge-podge development. I will look at the Province of Prince Edward Island again where they have tourist attractions all throughout the Island, things to bring the visitor to out-of-the-way areas of the Province, things like antique car museums, storylands and a variety of other attractions. I look to the States of Maine and New Hampshire, states which are in much the same global position as Newfoundland with similar climates. In those states it is possible to buy a cooked lobster or clams at a roadside from clean premises. Those are the types of things that

Mr. Hodder:

tourist come for. The tourist in Newfoundland may be able to try for a tuna, but he may have great difficulty trying to get someone to take him out to jig a codfish.

For many years we have paid lip service to the idea of tree farming and replanting, and still not a great deal has been done over vast areas of cut-over woodlands. It is a case of nature looking after herself in many areas. And in most cases she has a struggle, because the land has been torn to pieces by tree harvesters and other heavy equipment. The soil has been torn to pieces, and must revitalize itself first. And in the midst of it all our hardwood has been left to die and yet we make no attempt to develop secondary industry to make use of it, while at the same time the whole country, and much of North America is crying for hardwood. I might say too that there is a great potential for the exportation of Christmas trees. We have made an attempt, we have made a start, but I think it is something that we could much greater advantage of.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: We made one this year, a big start. The best Christmas ever, this year.

MR. HODDER: That is good to hear that.

Mr. Speaker, there must be a way through planning to get the best out of our Province. When economic conditions get tough we must look to our priorities. We must decide what sort of society we want and then we must work towards it. Our educational leaders must help in this pursuit, because I do not believe for one moment that the schools or our University are really tuned in to the problems. We need courses in Newfoundland studies that lead our students to an awareness of themselves, our destiny and our problems. None of these things can come about in any logical manner unless our leaders have their own priorities sorted out first -

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. HODDER: - and unless their aims are clearly stated, and there is an awareness throughout the Province as to where we are going.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (MR. YOUNG): Is the House ready for the question?

The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. T. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I am not going to keep the House too long. I wanted to say a few words on the resolution, and I was prompted to have a few words to say after listening to my friend, the member for Lewisporte (Mr. White), last week who had some things to say about tourism. And as the minister responsible I felt that I should comment

MR. HICKEY: with regards to some of the things that he said. I was even more convinced after listening to my hon. friend this evening.

Sir, it is fine for hon. gentlemen on the other side to tell us what we should be doing or what we have not done, and criticism of any government is good as long as it is constructive. I have had the privilege and the honour of sitting on the other side of the House for five years and I know the dilemma that I found myself in. One has to say some things because indeed very often one has to say as much as one can. But, Mr. Speaker, the thing to remember, the thing for the public to remember who read those comments, is that when one is in the Opposition they are not required to produce what they say. They can suggest that we all go to the moon, for that matter, because they are not in government, they are not going to be called upon the next day to produce, and therefore it is wide open. One can say whatever they wish.

To deal with some of the things with regards to the tourist industry, I refer to my hon. friend who talks about a number of ministers and yet we do not know where we are going. Mr. Speaker, that is not a fair comment. We know exactly where we want to go. I think it is fair to say too, and I think I can say with some degree of certainty that we know where we are going. And, as I said, we certainly know where we want to go. The question is, Mr. Speaker, how we get there and where we find the funds to get there.

It is easy, for example, to say that we should put untold millions of dollars in the tourist industry, very easy to say that, and I certainly agree. But, Mr. Speaker, when one develops a budget or an estimate for a department like the Department of Tourism, when one competes with departments such as Fisheries, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Transportation and Communications, Health, Social Services and on it goes, but those especially Mr. Speaker, it is not so easy to sell government, it is not so easy for government to sell the people on putting millions into an industry such as the tourist

MR. HICKEY: industry, while the demands for more paved roads, better roads, more hospitals, more schools, more social programmes, and all of those things, when all of those demands continue.

I listened with great interest to my colleague the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and I think that his comments, Mr. Speaker, were very appropriate. We cannot have it all. We cannot have our cake and eat it too, and we cannot have it both ways. A

MR. HICKEY:

province like Newfoundland and Labrador, while it has some of the greatest potential for a tourist industry of any province in Canada—indeed it could be argued, Mr. Speaker, of any part of the free world, for we are an area where we have some of the few unspoiled areas left, a clean environment. We used to be able to say an abundance of fish. We cannot really say that anymore but certainly we have a great potential in terms of fish, be it sports fishing, hunting and the like.

Mr. Speaker, I think one has to address themselves to what has happened in other regions, in other countries in terms of the development of the tourist industry. One gentleman some years ago in addressing an audience in this Province who had a speech prepared, his first time in Newfoundland had gone out to various areas and looked around, saw some of the most interesting areas of the Province and when it came time to address his audience tore up his speech and spoke for probably a half an hour without any notes. His opening remarks, Mr. Speaker, were very appropriate. He said that he had prepared the speech but having looked around and having seen what we have by way of potential, he decided to tear up his notes and he put it all into a few words when he said that Newfoundland and Labrador are so far behind in so many areas that they are ahead. That should not be taken literally, Mr. Speaker, but it applies in so many instances. In so many areas we can learn from the mistakes of others. The tourist industry is certainly no exception. It is fine for hon. gentlemen on either side of the House to say, let us develop the tourist industry and let us get on with it. Mr. Speaker, that would be rather shortsighted. The tourist industry must be developed on a very planned, well-organized and a well-planned basis. If not, Sir, we will run into the same problems as many other areas have, where there will be a backlash to the tourists to such an extent there indeed will be no tourist industry ten to fifteen years from now, maybe much sooner than that. Other areas have found it and are continuing to find it, where they allowed the tourist industry to develop almost uncontrolled, certainly not planned, and now they have got their problems of backlash where the tourist is considered a problem,

MR. HICKEY:

where the tourist is considered a parasite, so to speak - that is not a very good word - but one who comes in and spoils the environment, takes the fish and the game and the rest and goes on his way. It has got to be put in proper perspective, Mr. Speaker. The people who come into the Province as tourists, without exception, I would say, Sir, make, say, a fairly large contribution to the economy of this Province as in any other region where people go as tourists. It might well be argued that there is a great difference between, and indeed there is a great difference between tourists if you look at the people who come in with campers, camper-trailers as compared to people who fly in, who rent cars and who stay for an extended period and who have plenty of money to spend.

MR. HICKEY:

Be that as it may, Sir, I think the important thing for us to recognize is that if we are going to develop the industry, as in many regions where it is happening today, we determine or we identify the people that we would prefer to have as tourists. That is not to say that there is any barrier to anyone visiting the Province, but that we go after a segment of the population in the market place where the salary range is from \$12,000 up where you get the most benefit, where they spend the most money and so on.

Mr. Speaker, this might be termed to be a rather callous way of looking at the tourist industry. It might well be argued that the environment, our Province, and all that goes with it should be for everyone to share, and surely it is. But if we are talking about benefits to the economy, if we are talking about bringing dollars into the Province, and surely we are, then we have to go that route. Maybe we have to be callous. Maybe we have to determine the right markets to promote our Province, the right people to promote our Province to, or the right people to attract.

My friend, the last speaker, suggested that very little has been done. I assume he means by this administration. Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to quarrel with my hon. friend, but I think it would be wrong to let that statement go uncorrected. I should point out to Your Honour that until this administration took office, not this administration, the first P.C. Administration in 1972, there was not even a Department of Tourism, there was a Division of Tourism. And in too many instances as it applies to too many issues pertaining to the tourist industry, Mr. Speaker, that division was buried in the Department of Economic Development.

Surely, and I am not suggesting in any way that it suffices to just name an area of responsibility, a department and then let it

MR. HICKEY:

be or leave it at that. I am not suggesting that at all Your Honour. I am simply pointing out that the first major step to place emphasis on the tourist industry was indeed or did indeed come about by this administration, to create a Department of Tourism, to place emphasis on it and to go on to develop a programme and a package, so to speak, that we could go out and vigorously promote. But, Mr. Speaker, as I have said, we will go out and promote this Province and we will develop the industry in an orderly fashion or, for my part at least, we should not develop it at all.

All that is good that we have in this Province should first and foremost be for our own people, and surely that is the objective and the goal of every Newfoundlander. If we do not develop the industry, Mr. Speaker, in an orderly fashion, if we do not protect the environment, if we do not promote the Province in a way and at a speed with which we can cope with the people who visit, if we do not do it that way then we are shortchanging ourselves and the generations that will come after us will curse us for it.

I think, Mr. Speaker, it could be argued that to develop the tourist industry in any other manner than we are approaching it and attempting to do it would be very shortsighted. What is the point, one might ask,

Mr. Dickey.

in putting on a great promotional effort, seeing a great influx of people visit the Province as tourists, only to find they have nowhere to stay, and those who have a place to stay cannot even get mediocre type service. What happens, Mr. Speaker? The thing that happens is the thing that my hon. friend from Lewisporte (Mr. White) very appropriately mentioned last week, the image of the Province is distorted. We create an image which certainly does not lend itself for people to come and visit. We indeed destroy the industry before we give it a chance to develop, all for the sake of rushing into it for a few quick bucks on any given year. Is this the kind of development and promotion my hon. friend's opposite would like to see? Mr. Speaker, we can only move as quickly as we can. We cannot rush out and find funds, especially this day and age, to build hotels and motels. And even if we had the funds, Mr. Speaker, where do we build them? Do we build motels and hotels all over the Province in rural Newfoundland? Do we build hotels and motels which will be filled to capacity during the prime season of maybe two or three months, and empty, or all but empty for the rest of the year? What businessman, Mr. Speaker, is going to enter into that kind of a business? I suggest to you, Your Honour, no one, no one with any business head at all, with any business brain is going to get into the hotel or motel business unless they have some assurances, unless they have some guarantee, unless indeed they can see where they are going to have a viable business. Surely no one argues that the tourist industry hinges to a great extent on the service industry, be it accommodations, be it service in those accommodations and all that goes it, be it the craft shops, the service stations and all the rest that follows as the industry develops.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is useless to put the cart before the horse, so to speak, and if we promote in any great way or with any greater speed than we are, we would simply be doing that. The area, Mr. Speaker, that we have to work at and indeed which we are

Mr. Hickey.

working at is to develop the industry, not by means of attracting people here this year, next year, but a development plan, long-range which will see prime areas in the Province, and one can list them ad infinitum; the Southern Shore; the Western section of the Province which has so many areas of potential; the Burin Peninsula, which the people very often feel are left out because their area is not being pushed or promoted as much as some of the other areas.

Mr. Speaker, as minister I can say to my friend who represents the area and to those people, and to my colleague, the Minister of Justice, that it would be suicide to go out with a special brochure and attract people into the area any more than we are doing until we are in a position to take care of those people and to provide attractions. There are some there already but there has to be development, and there has to be more accommodations before we can go out and hard sell that particular area. That particular area, Mr. Speaker, is not unlike many other areas of the Province so that if the people of that region or any other feel that we are soft selling the area, they are perfectly correct. We must in the interest of the industry, in the interest of the people who live there. For after all, as I have said a couple of times already, and it cannot be said too often, that what does it profit us to just bring people in, an influx of people in for one given season if they are not going to come back? And if

MR. HICKEY:

indeed this is done year after year, bringing in new people, and the area or the environment or all that goes with the environment in that area suffers as a result. What has to be done, Mr. Speaker, money has to be found. As I said it is not easy. It is not easy to make the decision to put great sums of money into the tourist industry when you have such needs as I have outlined in my opening remarks. But there has to be money found over the next few years to develop the industry, to develop some of the harbours that we have, marinas, to develop more historic places and sites, to develop the craft industry which we are working at which has a great potential in this Province which is almost - if you look at the potential versus what is done, one can almost say that it is untouched. Indeed one could argue, I suppose, that the tourist industry itself is basically untouched in terms of the potential that we could realize if we had the funds and given the time to do the proper job.

But, Mr. Speaker, I think the critical message that should be gotten across to our people, or the important thing that has to be emphasized, is that to do anything other than we are doing is to say the least suicide in terms of developing the industry. My friend from Lewisporte (Mr. White) mentioned the image of the Province and he mentioned the - he mentioned two items, I think the Greenpeace and Brian Davies. That was a very appropriate comment because there is - let us face it, Mr. Speaker, anyone who thinks for one second that this Province will not suffer as a result of Mr. Davies escapades in the Province as well as the Greenpeace have got their heads buried in the sand. We are looked upon as a bunch of people who go out and slaughter and slaughter for the hell of it, for the sake of it.

I like my friend's comments with regards to showing the other side of the coin, where the guy that is out killing the seal is interviewed and where he tells of his situation and what brings him out there and why he is out there. Maybe if that was done, Your Honour, then the thing would be put in proper perspective and we would

MR. HICKEY:

not be viewed as indeed we are. We will have to do something to counteract, and we are and we will do something to counteract this adverse publicity.

But, Mr. Speaker, how many times are we going to do it? For how many times has Mr. Davies damaged this Province in terms of image, projecting an image of our people which is certainly not one to be proud of? How many more times are we going to allow him to do it? The man should not - I suppose one has to acknowledge - it is too bad sometimes in terms of the person of Mr. Davies that we have to acknowledge that it is a free country or there is freedom of movement. I suppose it is too strong to suggest that the man should not be allowed in the Province. It may not be too strong to suggest that the man should not be allowed in the Province to do or to carry on as he has. Maybe the gentleman should be indeed questioned. Maybe there should be an enquiry into how he is financed, how much money he collects and what salary he makes and what he did before he started or before he hit on this gold mine.

If Mr. Davies, Mr. Speaker, gets some satisfaction out of projecting the wrong image of Newfoundlanders maybe we should give him some of his own treatment.

MR. HICKEY:

Maybe we should create an image for him, and not the wrong one but the right one, maybe we should put him in proper perspective so that the Canadian people, and the people in the United States and the people, for that matter, in various parts of the world who send him large donations can see him and his organization for what they are. So that there has to be something done, Your Honour, to counteract the adverse publicity.

That gets me to the other point which I think is critical too, and which we all must resolve, Mr. Speaker, because sometimes we are all guilty of it, but especially the news media must surely resolve. I heard only yesterday evening a commentary on one of the television stations complaining and pointing out the possible damage done by those groups who came here. Yet, Mr. Speaker, the very station was a front-runner in providing publicity and giving publicity and almost within five minutes after the comments, said tune in such a time and we will be able to view what went on with the Greenpeace in relation to the seal hunt. Absolute inconsistency! Maybe somebody is just missing the point altogether but it seems to me that it is purely inconsistent for a station to have an editorial on the one hand which says, you know, this bad publicity we should not have allowed and we should not give so much publicity, and in the next breath they are going to show for all the world to see again what took place. Surely, Mr. Speaker, the worst thing we could have done, the worst thing the media could have done was to even recognize or make mention of the fact that Mr. Davies or the Greenpeace people were here.

MR. ROBEPTS: I agree it is the station's responsibility, but surely they must report the news, whether they like it or not. But in the circumstances they could have a distinctive editorial policy against the two groups.

MR. HICKEY: It is a valid point, Mr. Speaker. I am not suggesting that - and I suppose what I said indeed sounded, literally, that they should not even make mention that they were here. But what I mean is of course I agree with the Leader of the Opposition that it has to be reported, that they have a responsibility. I am not denying

MR. HICKEY:

them that. I am simply saying that it should not be played up to be the big deal that it was. Because the more this thing is played up, the more credibility was indeed given to both groups. I think this is probably where we went wrong. I think this is probably the wrong direction that we headed in in allowing ourselves to be taken in and providing the opportunity and providing coverage for a situation, was indeed spreading the wrong message and providing adverse publicity to our Province and our people.

So, Mr. Speaker, to conclude I simply want to say to my friends who have addressed themselves to the responsibilities that come under my department, I simply want to say to them that we believe and we believe very strongly that we are promoting the Province at a pace that we can live with. It would be irresponsible to do anything other than that until we have a sizeable chunk of money to go out and do the job completely. It would be critically wrong to move any quicker or any faster or in any different direction until we know exactly what the federal government is prepared to do for the tourist industry as they have in other provinces. I can say that we have not received the greatest degree of co-operation from them in this regard. We are still pushing. We are still working and we are still attempting to get an agreement signed. But it has not been easy. I would not be able to say today, and I doubt if my colleague, the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs would be able to guess, at what date there might be an agreement signed with DREE with regards to an overall tourism plan.

Until we can do that, Mr. Speaker, it would be very wrong in my view, as much as I want to see the industry developed, as much as I believe in the great number of jobs that can be created by it, I think it would be irresponsible and wrong to just forge ahead committing money, investing money or spending money in areas where other Provinces have indeed profited by federal involvement. As I said before,

Mr. Hickey:

the number of people who are visiting the Province is steadily increasing. Certainly we are not going backwards, we are making strides and we are making very good strides. The thing is I think that everybody probably feels as I do, we want to see the full development yesterday, but that cannot be done. We have to be realistic enough to appreciate it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (DR. COLLINS): The hon. member for Burin-Placentia West.

MR. P. CANNING: Mr. Speaker, I have studied this resolution. I have read it quite thoroughly. I have made my mind up what the principle of it is, what was meant by the hon. Leader of the Opposition when he when he brought it to the House and why he brought it here. But for the last ten minutes, however long the hon. Minister of Tourism spoke, I grabbed my few notes I have here, and said, I wonder if he is talking about the same thing that I am going to have a few words on this evening.

Mr. Speaker, as I see this resolution I think it is an extremely important one. I think that it suggests something that we should have been doing years ago, and that is listening to the people, not making all of the decisions in here, not making all of the political speeches in here, not even making big decisions within a cabinet with ten or fifteen men. Mr. Speaker, that is our system, but I think we should be listening a little more to the voices of the people. Mr. Speaker, I guess that was a failure, it was a weakness of the Liberal Government at times to carry on industry, pick sites, go out on ventures without discussing it with the people who had experiences in that direction of industry, people who would be affected by it and areas that would be affected.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to give my interpretation of this resolution. I think it is meant that we would have more communication with the people, more participation with the people, with the government. Mr. Speaker, it was only a few years ago that our students at Memorial, our high school students, our younger people in industry and in professions began to shout out that they wanted to get involved, we

Mr. Canning:

want to have a say. And, Mr. Speaker, why they got into it was because they were better educated, they looked at what was going on around them, they were observing what I was doing as a representative of a district, They were watching the government in which the fate of the Province lay, or the government in which the fate that Canada lay, and they were not satisfied.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I come on to the time when those same students, some of those students are here in the House with us this afternoon, and two of them have spoken out quite elegantly, quite well, expressed their opinion, mostly the opinion of our people, in two or three instances he said, what they tell me in the district or what they want in the district, and, Mr. Speaker, this is the whole gist, the whole intention, I think, the whole motive behind this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that our people participate, that our people have an opportunity to participate in the governing of our country or our Province.

MR. CANNING:

We boast of our great democratic system, of our democratic government. Mr. Speaker, when I look at it I get so far through our process, our government process or our ruling process, but when I leave the polling booth where the people decide on whom they are going to have to rule, whom they are going to have to run the Province or run the country, after they have that great privilege, between that and the next time they go to the booth to put out or come in or re-elect they do not have too much say. Mr. Speaker, one way to give them an opportunity to participate in governing the Province is by doing just what this resolution recommends.

Mr. Speaker, the other day the hon. member for Burin when speaking -

MR. HICKMAN: Grand Bank.

MR. CANNING: I am sorry! Grand Bank, Grand Bank! I have Burin now. I am proud of it, delighted with it.

MR. HICKMAN: You are the member for Burin.

MR. CANNING: They are two good places. So I do not mind saying one or the other, one name or the other, Grand Bank and Burin, two of the finest places in the Province, Mr. Speaker. I am proud to say that I found Burin, when I went into it, they accepted me very well, wonderfully well, I should say. Most of them voted Liberal. Mr. Speaker, I know that we broke a record there in the last election. I won a booth for an area of Burin proper that was never won before since Confederation. So I think they received me quite well. Anyway I am not going to waste the time like that. I was going to say something nice about the hon. minister. Now, Mr. Speaker, when he was speaking to this resolution I think he was against it. I think all the other side of the House, I do not think, agreed with it. Most of them said, I am not in favour of this resolution. They have not given me too many good reasons why they are against it, why they do not want to go out and talk to the people, because this is what this means, go out and get their opinions. Now, Mr. Speaker, that is where we got to go.

Mr. Speaker, to get back to the hon. member for Grand Bank, that great town of Grand Bank, he gave an example of where the government had

MR. CANNING:

gone to the people. He said that they had formed a couple of commissions on the South Coast, Southwest Coast, went before the people, discussed the communications, transportation problems. They were held. They went from place to place. I think he said then, well, what is the good of it? There was nothing happened afterwards. Mr. Speaker, that is perfectly true. It was a case of the government of Canada, the Federal Government just not listening to the people.

MR. DOODY: Do not make a political speech now.

MR. CANNING: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to make a political speech, a Liberal speech for Ottawa, none whatsoever, for except in this case he mentioned it was just a case of the people putting their input. They were looking for something they needed and something that anybody with any common sense at all would agree with and know that the Peninsula or the area is affected by the lack of it. The people should have been listened to. Mr. Speaker, I do not think there is too much communications with Ottawa. We are trying to communicate, Mr. Speaker, but we are not getting it back. There is no backfeed of it, very difficult to - well, it is impossible to get a minister - very difficult even to talk to the offices. I do not know if they

MR. CANNING: know we were down there. The last time I phoned the federal department it took me about three minutes to tell them that I was not belong to New Brunswick, there was a placed called St. John's in Newfoundland.

Now, Mr. Speaker, to get back to my point and try to adhere to this; I think it an excellent idea and Mr. Speaker, if I had the time I surely could give a lot of examples, a lot of instances where the Liberal Government slipped up badly by not communicating with the people, industries we brought in, put them in the wrong places, put them in the wrong sites, the wrong parts of the Province and Mr. Speaker, a lot of other projects that we need to have industry, that we need to develop, there was an awful lot of mistakes made because they were decided by somebody up in Ottawa or somebody in here who were making decisions for the Burin Peninsula or the Southwest Coast or the Northeast Coast and very often did not know the local situation or did not communicate with the people to see if they were going in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, one of the speakers who spoke on the opposite side of the House in the last hour or so, I think it was the Minister of Municipal Affairs, he said that the Premier telling of planning, telling what you should do, he mentioned the fact that the Premier was in Europe looking into certain matters pertaining to development. It seemed like it was a good idea from them over there, but Mr. Speaker, I am wondering as far as the fishery is concerned, when the Premier and when the Minister of Fisheries went to Europe, wherever they went over there, I am wondering if they should not have gone up to the Burin Peninsula, if they should not have gone to Grand Bank, or gone to Burin, or gone to Harbour Breton, or have gone up to Penney's in Ramea and sat down with them, people who were carrying on the industry and people who have proved that they are successful.

Mr. Speaker, if I were to tell the story of Burin, of a fish plant in Burin, I think it was the first fish plant I have - it was not the first fresh fish, but it was the first fresh frozen fish plant of its size ever brought into Newfoundland. Now, Mr. Speaker, I assure you

MR. CANNING: that the hon. member for Grand Bank (Mr. Hickman) now will agree with me that there is no other area in Newfoundland during the last twenty-five years, no other town and its environs have been more independent, have been less dependent on social services, social help, Mr. Speaker, they operated efficient industry. They operated draggers with the finest men in the North Atlantic, or finest in the West Atlantic or North Atlantic or in the Western world, perhaps in the world, the finest men, I would say that the hon. member had less calls from there looking for work or looking for relief or looking for unemployment insurance than he had from any other place perhaps. But then, Mr. Speaker, that is the oldest one, it is one of the areas that I think it is just wonderful the way the people stayed with the industry. They had very little turnover in their personnel, and I would say very little turnover at sea until of course the men got old and went on and the sons took over from them.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think that perhaps a select committee would be more effective if it were appointed to talk to these people in those areas. Because, Mr. Speaker, if we are to develop what is small or medium or whatever you may call it, minor or major industries, I think that the people of Newfoundland can have a good constructive input to do it.

Mr. Speaker, what is wrong with a select committee of the House, both sides, going and

Mr. Canning.

talking to the people. I do not know.- the hon. Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Speaker, comes from a fishing area.- I do not know how old he was when he left it, but the minister has been apart from the fisheries for a good many years. He does not have too much experience with the Southwest Coast where we do the deep sea fishing, the dragger fishing. I guess he has quite a bit of experience and would know all the shore fishery. But, Mr. Speaker, I think that a select committee going to Burin or going to Ramea up to the fishing areas and the hon. minister is with them, I think he will get a lot more out of it than he would get by going to Europe seeing how they do it over there.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CANNING: And, Mr. Speaker, if the select committee would go up and sit down with the owners of those plants I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that they are going to recommend that we would go to Europe for draggers, to take their old draggers or take their older draggers. I think, Mr. Speaker, they would recommend that we build modern, good, seaworthy ships ourselves to increase our fleet or to replace any that have been worn out.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): Order, please!

MR. ROWE: Adjourn the debate.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Speaker, I adjourn the debate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WELLS: Mr. Speaker, I do move that this House do adjourn until three o'clock tomorrow Thursday.

MR. SPEAKER (Dr. Collins): It is moved and seconded that this House do now adjourn. Is it the wish of the House to adopt the motion? Carried.

This House stands adjourned until Thursday, March 25, 1976 at three o'clock.

I N D E X

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TABLED

MARCH 24, 1976

Answers to Question No. 18 asked
by the Honourable Mr. Smallwood
(Twillingate) on Order Paper dated
November 24, 1975

Question: Whether and what safety regulations exist in relation to the use of propane gas and what enforcement of such regulations is in effect?

Answer: Where propane gas is used in conjunction with a boiler installation the system is tested in accordance with the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Act. Regulations to further extend the control over liquidified petroleum gases are under active consideration by the Engineering and Technical Services Division of the Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations.

The Accident Prevention Regulations 1969 of the Workmen's Compensation Board Sections 7.01, 7.04, 7.07 (1)(3), 10.04 apply to the use of propane gas in industrial areas and these regulations are enforced by the Board's Safety Inspectors on visits to industrial areas.

Honourable Mr. Smallwood (Twillingate): To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

Does the Government have an estimate, or if not then a guestimate, of the probable total amount of money sent out of the province for the purpose of buying lottery tickets?

Answer:

Six draws have taken place to date. A total of 275,302 tickets were sold in the province at a total cost of \$2,753,020.00

The following sums of money stayed within the Province:

Prizes won in the Province	\$1,006,400.00
Funds turned over to the provincial Dept. of Rehabilitation & Recreation	137,600.50
Bank commissions	149,000.00
Distributors' commissions	74,000.00
Advertising	135,700.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$1,502,700.50
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Net total leaving the Province	\$1,250,319.50
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Answer to Question No. 62 asked by
the Honourable Mr. Smallwood (Twillingate)
on Order Paper dated November 24, 1975

Question: What action if any has been taken by him to implement the policy advocated by him in the General Election of 1971, namely, the ending of ex-parte injunctions in labour disputes? Would he be agreeable to having this matter brought before the House for debate?

Answer: The Labour Relations Act was amended in 1973 to deal with ex parte injunctions. Section 57A of Amendment No. 107(73) states that no injunction shall be granted ex parte to

(i) a party to the dispute, or

(ii) any other person or party

to restrain any party to the dispute from doing any act in connection with the strike or lockout;

The Amendment also deals with affidavits and notice of motion.

65. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

Whether, where and how and to what extent he has fulfilled his Administration's policy as stated in the Speech from the Throne on March 2, 1972: "My Ministers will encourage participation by all fishermen through discussion groups; by providing them with information developed in the Department and through the establishment of Regional Advisory Councils which will work with the Department in the formation of future plans and policies affecting each particular region?"

ANSWER

The Department has set up and maintains Field Staff in every area of the Province and they are available to liase between the Government and fishermen.

The Department of Fisheries has, through its Field Service Division, dispensed information to all fishermen of the Province. Mailings, describing various changes in programmes or announcing new ones etc. have been sent to all fishermen on a number of occasions, the latest being a letter describing changes made in the gear subsidy programme, which was sent out in late January. As well, a Fisherman's Handbook was researched and compiled by the Department and idistributed last autumn to all fishermen.

In addition, the Fisheries Liaison Committee has been established, the purpose of which is to act as a vehicle by which a means of communication may be maintained between the fishing industry and Government. The group is representative of the industry in that processors, union personnel and fishermen have been appointed.

66. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

What his Administration has done to "introduce a new programme to give better assistance to inshore fishermen to obtain boats, gear and equipment? A special incentive programme will be introduced to assist fishermen in obtaining large multi-purpose boats which can be used for dragging, seining, mid-water trawling and longline fishing."

ANSWER

In recent months changes have been made in the interest rates on loans dispensed by the Fisheries Loan Board, which affect the purchase of used fishing vessels, new engines, new winches, electronics and related fishing equipment. The down payment of a purchase of an used fishing vessel was reduced from 25% to 15%. The down payment on new winches and other hauling equipment as well as electronic and other fishing equipment was reduced from 30% to 15%. In addition, the down payment on fishing equipment used in converting fishing vessels to other forms of fishing has been reduced from 50% to 25% of the cost of the vessel conversion, including equipment, materials and labour.

As well, in May, 1974 the Government introduced a gear subsidization programme which enables fishermen to purchase gear at much less cost. Actual rates are available from the Department of Fisheries.

Three multi-purpose of 65' have been constructed, one of which is operational and the other two soon to be. The technology and methodology developed for and by those vessels will be of great benefit to the entire fishing industry at large.

67. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

What his Administration has done to implement his undertaking given in the Speech from the Throne on March 1, 1972. " My Ministers will introduce legislation concerning a new financing approach to provide the supply of fish necessary for existing fish plants around the coast, in order that they may be utilized to as near full capacity as possible?"

ANSWER

In addition to the improved bounties of the Fisheries Loan Board and in view of the limited resources available to our fishermen under ICNAF, this Government has deemed it pertinent to consider entering into joint ventures with other interests.

68. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

What if anything has been done to carry out his intention, expressed in the Speech from the Throne on March 1, 1972: "Legislation will be introduced to establish a Corporation which will own or lease rights on a new fleet of trawlers? This fleet will add to the production of new or existing processing plants. This new trawler fleet will be in addition to the existing fleets in the Province."

ANSWER

A feasibility study of the proposed trawler fleet was undertaken.

The implementation of the proposed programme is being held in abeyance in view of the present lack of resource and in response to federal rationalization programmes, licencing schemes etc for the Atlantic Coast ground fishery.

69. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

For the details of the "new and realistic programme of bait assistance to the fishing industry. These strategic locations will ensure a continuous supply of suitable bait and when necessary prohibit excessive export of scarce and desirable bait from the Province", as set forth in the Speech from the Throne on March 1, 1972.

ANSWER

The operation and construction of bait holding units plus the service of supplying bait to the Province's fishermen is the responsibility of the Federal Government under the Terms of Union Section 31, Part g.

The Government, through the Department of Fisheries, does not provide these services.

70. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

For a copy of the legislation announced in the Speech from the Throne on March 1, 1972 "to establish, in conjunction with the Federal Government, an inexpensive shared cost insurance programme covering loss of fishing gear."

ANSWER

No legislation exists regarding an inexpensive shared cost insurance programme covering loss of fishing gear.

However, the Province, in conjunction with the Maritime Provinces and the Federal Government, has recently entered negotiations to consider a comprehensive federal-provincial fishermen-funded lobster insurance programme. All matters relating to a gear insurance programme are presently being examined by officials of the Department of Fisheries.

71. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

For some account of the implementation or otherwise of his Administration's declaration, through the Speech from the Throne on March 1, 1972. " My Government will immediately embark on a programme to encourage the establishment of additional advanced reprocessing facilities for fish within this Province. My Government feels that there will be a great many jobs created by the processing of our fish products."

ANSWER

This Government, through the Department of Fisheries, has carried out a number of programmes etc. to encourage the processing industry into further development of fish products:

1. We have given loans and loan guarantees to various members of the processing industry.
2. We have entered into an Agreement with the Canadian Salt Fish Corporation under which they have undertaken a successful programme for the processing and marketing of herring on the north west coast - a programme which we intend to pursue.
3. We have introduced and supported further, the use of new technology in the form of machinery and skills at various plants around the Province.
4. We have provided production management advice to fish processing establishments which has enabled them to pursue further developments in processing on an economically viable basis.
5. We have encouraged industry to go into areas of the Province where it was necessary to provide a buyer where fishermen could dispose of their catch where previously such had not existed.
6. The Department has been, and is, engaged in a general programme for the upgrading of community facilities throughout the Province. It has completed water systems to a number of fish processing plants in various locations, and is involved in providing ice-making facilities to various areas. This is an ongoing programme.
7. Under the reorganization of the Department of Fisheries, a specific unit was organized to deal with the development of new products etc. This Product Development unit is engaged in assisting and advising industry in the development of new products.

Answer to Question No. 81 asked by the Honourable Mr. Smallwood (Twillingate) on Order Paper dated November 24, 1975.

Question:

What has been done to implement the undertaking given in the Speech from the Throne on March 1, 1972: "My Ministers will create an Advisory Council that will play an active role in creating closer liaison between employers and employees, either individually or through their organizations, with a view to overcoming many of the problems which lead to major Labour-Management disputes? Immediately upon receiving the Cohen Commission Report my Ministers will be consulting with the representatives of Labour and Management and as quickly as possible thereafter, introduce appropriate legislation."

Answer:

During recent years the Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations has developed close liaison with employer and employee organizations. Since receiving the report of the Commission the Minister has carried on discussions with the Federation of Labour and various employer organizations with respect to the recommendations of the Commission and on the extent of changes to our legislation. Furthermore, the Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations has appointed two (2) senior Labour Relations Officers as Consultants in the field of Labour Relations to assist Labour and Management in establishing joint Committees to deal with problems which arise between the parties. This consultant service is now being developed and should be fully implemented during 1976.

85. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

If " the establishment of a Forty Million Dollar fund for the construction of deep water fishing boats ... equipped with the latest technology" has been established as announced in the Speech from the Throne on January 31, 1973: where is the said fund at the present time; what if any payments, and to whom, have been made from it?

ANSWER

We have not found it advisable to establish such a Fund to this date in view of the change in the status of the resource availability since 1973.

86. HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

What have been the results, if any, of the announcement on the Speech from the Throne on January 31, 1973 that " It is the intention of my Government to make every effort during the coming year to ensure food products produced in the Province for export, will be taken to the most advanced processing stage possible."

ANSWER

Within the means available to this Government by virtue of the Constitution, we have taken action to discourage the export of live crab and of unprocessed crab sections and encouraged the production of unexploited species, specialties etc. As well, the Canadian Salt Fish Corporation has been encouraged to put up larger volumes of consumer-packed salt fish products.

This Government is committed to this principle now and in future.

Please refer to answer to Question # 71 as well.

Answer to Question No. 94 asked by the
Honourable Mr. Smallwood (Twillingate)
on Order Paper dated 24 November, 1975.

Question: For a report on the results, if any, of the following declaration in the speech from the Throne on February 26, 1975: "My Government intends to develop a totally new and definitive manpower policy for the Province so that the development of our human resources may be carried out in the most rational manner".

Answer: A manpower policy for the Province is presently being developed by the Department of Manpower and Industrial Relations.

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MAR 2 1976

15. Question: HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Premier to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

For the names of the members of the Public Utilities Board, with dates of appointment, salaries, number of employees, with total aggregate salaries of said employees.

Answer: The Members of the Public Utilities Board are:

Name	<u>Date of Appointment</u>	<u>Salaries per Annum</u>
Clarence W. Powell, P.Eng. (Chairman)	26.2.57	\$37,000.
Charles W. Earle, C.A. (vice-chairman)	11.1.73	30,000.
George Lawrence (Member)	12.10.67	<u>23,000.</u>
	T O T A L:	<u>\$90,000.</u>

No. of employees - 18

Total aggregate salaries of 18 employees in addition to the above Board members = \$181,889.80

MR. NEARY (LaPoile) - To ask the Honourable the Minister of Rural and Industrial Development to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:

- 1) What contracts either oral or written were awarded to James Reid, or any company with which he is known to be a shareholder, by various Government departments during the years 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975?
- 2) List details of all work or services provided by department and the cost of each individual project.
- 3) Were public tenders called for any of this work, if so, did the lowest bidder get the job?

ANSWER:

- 1) Department of Rural Development - Nil.
- 2) Department of Rural Development - Nil.
- 3) Department of Rural Development - Nil.

NOTE:

Regarding the Honourable Member's reference to various Departments of Government, I can only reply on behalf of the two Departments for which I have responsibility as Minister.

March 17, 1976

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MR. MOORES (Carbonear) - To ask the Minister of Health the names of all persons whose land was purchased or expropriated to accommodate the building of the Carbonear Regional Hospital, the total area of lands purchased or expropriated from each person, and the amount of monies paid to each person for said lands.

PROPERTIES EXPROPRIATED FOR THE CARBONEAR HOSPITAL SITE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AREA</u>	<u>AMOUNT PAID</u>
Charles Murray	0.126 acres	\$10,000.00
Charles Murray	0.097 acres	1,000.00
Mrs. Hannah Kennedy	0.201 acres	12,000.00
Mr. Ronald White	0.201 acres	500.00
Mr. Paul Thomas	0.145 acres	500.00
Mrs. Mary Carroll	8.571 acres	23,810.00
Mr. Walter Butt	2.059 acres	35,000.00
Mr. Nicholas Thomas	0.953 acres	15,330.00
Mr. James Thomas	0.572 acres	18,000.00
Mr. Vincent Seaward	0.348 acres	20,000.00

Our file also indicates that the following persons were paid for property by the Carbonear Community Red Cross Memorial Hospital Association. Our records do not provide details of these transactions.

Mrs. Chesley Evelyn	\$ 200.00
Mr. George Garland	13,000.00
Mr. Walter Earle	2,000.00
Mr. Albert Earle	1,000.00

#636

MR. MOORES (Carbonear) - To ask the Minister of Health the number of contracts let, the cost of each contract, and the company or concern to whom each contract was let; with reference to the construction of the Carbonear Regional Hospital.

ANSWER ATTACHED

#382

HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Honourable Minister of Health to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:-

A statement showing the various estimates made from time to time of the capital cost of the new Memorial University Hospital; and the latest estimate of the probable cost to completion, including furnishing, equipping, etc.

The various estimates made from time to time of the capital cost of the new Memorial University Hospital are as follows:

1971	\$45,000,000
1974	48,000,000
1975	49,319,692
1976	57,682,501

The latest estimate of the probable cost of completion, including furnishings and equipment, etc. is \$57,682,501, for the entire Health Sciences Complex.

March 23, 1976

HONOURABLE MR. SMALLWOOD (Twillingate) - To ask the Minister of Health to lay upon the Table of the House the following information:-

For the financial years 1950-51, 1960-61, 1970-71, what was the incidence of mental and nervous diseases as a proportion of the whole population?

Information is reported for calendar year.

For 1950 and 1960 the statistics are for the Waterford Hospital only. For these years, psychiatric services in general hospitals were not organized for purpose of reporting. Also there are no statistics available for incidence of treatment by physicians and specialists outside the hospital based programmes.

	<u>Hospital Admissions</u>	<u>New Patients seen in Out-Patients Dept. and Day Care Centres</u>	<u>Proportion of whole Population</u>
1950	293	429	0.20%
1960	735	744	0.33%
1970	2198	1838	0.79%

March 23, 1976

CARBONAR GENERAL HOSPITAL

<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>COST</u>
Boiler House Structure	Babb Construction	\$ 143,091.00
Window and Curtain Wall	LeeMatt Tracers	228,969.33
Smoke Stack	Babb Construction	189,000.00
Hospital Structure	Lundrigan's Limited	1,443,774.58
Water and Sewer	Babb Construction	159,000.00
Masonry	Jack Green Limited	454,862.75
Mechanical Service	Becker Mechanical	2,158,339.51
Electrical	Art Noseworthy Limited	956,509.47
Controls	Honeywell Controls	100,329.00
Miscellaneous Metals	Eastel Industries Limited	48,175.15
Elevators	Dover-Turnbull (Heap and Partners)	361,005.55
Finish Hardware	J. C. Pratt (1974) Limited	112,643.12
Finish Hardware Installation	Seabord Construction	82,334.18
Roofing and Flashing	Sino Leno Limited	94,789.53
Hollow Metal Doors and Frames	J. C. Pratt (1974) Limited (Stanley Bumeda Limited)	40,642.00
Solid Core Wood Doors	Newfoundland Hardwoods Limited	78,678.19

<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>COST</u>
Kitchen Equipment	G and H Equipment Limited	\$ 160,756.54
Metal Siding	J. C. Pratt (1974) Limited (Construction Specialties)	43,949.10
Casework, Wood and Metal Cabinets	Blier Incorporated	284,239.71
Millwork and Carpentry	John Furey Limited	68,290.53
Window Stools	Furey Construction Limited	64,992.49
Wall Panelling	Mark Gosse and Sons	34,057.00
Cubicle Rail and Curtains	Custom Interiors	13,278.07
Drywall, Plastering Metal Stud	Suburban Construction	328,497.81
Ceilings	A. E. Hickman Company Limited	68,283.00
Resilient Flooring	Ayre's Contracts Limited	118,975.56
Non-Resilient Flooring	DelTile and Terrazzo Limited	131,652.80
Quarry Tile	DelTile and Terrazzo Limited	100,503.00
Painting and Decorating	Paint Carft Limited	99,450.01
Vinyl Fabric	Hubert Stokes Limited	31,817.00
Pavement, Curbs, Sidewalks	Pennecon Limited	207,137.71
Sterilizer & Decontamination Equipment	Amoco Canada Limited	82,964.44
Aluminum Entrances	LeeMatt Traders Limited	28,280.00

50,516,272.72

C O N T E N T S

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<u>PRIVILEGE</u>	
Mr. Doody raised a point of privilege concerning references made to him in an article in the March 24, 1976 edition of <u>The Daily News</u> .	3713
Mr. Rowe commented.	3713
Mr. Wells suggested Mr. Speaker raise the issue with the Press Gallery Association.	3716
Mr. Smallwood commented.	3716
Mr. Neary commented.	3716
<u>PRESENTING PETITIONS</u>	
By Mr. Lush in behalf of the Anglican Church Women's Association of Eastport protesting the extensive showing of scenes of social drinking and the serving of alcoholic beverages on television.	3719
By Mr. Young in behalf of residents of the Meadow, Upper Island Cove, requesting installation of a sewer system.	3719
Supported by Mr. Rowe.	3719
By Mr. McNeil in behalf of residents of Stephenville district requesting that public hearings be held throughout the Province to obtain information and hear briefs on the matters covered by the White Paper on snowmobile regulations before legislation is passed.	3720
<u>NOTICES OF MOTION</u>	
Mr. Hickman gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce Bills Nos. 27 and 28.	3722
<u>ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN</u>	
Premier Moores responded to Questions Nos. 18, 48, 62, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 81, 85, 86, and 94.	3723
Mr. Hickman responded to Questions Nos. 15, 102, 103, 110, 114, 115, 106, 56, 82, 55, 59, 57 and 681.	3724
Mr. Lundrigan responded to Question No. 724.	3727
Mr. Collins responded to Questions Nos. 635, 636, 382 and 394.	3729
<u>ORAL QUESTIONS</u>	
Report on pilferage and theft at Nfld. Farm Products Corporation. Mr. Neary, Mr. Hickman.	3729
Action against Corporation employees. Mr. Neary, Mr. Hickman.	3729
Regulations or legislation to control eyeglass industry. Mr. Neary, Mr. Collins.	3729
Purported RCMP plans to photograph a person associated with the Marxist-Leninist movement and those attending a meeting he was scheduled to address at MUN. Mr. White, Mr. Hickman.	3730

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<u>ORAL QUESTIONS (continued)</u>	Page
Purported RCMP plans to check on members of the media associated with the Marxist-Leninist movement. Mr. White, Mr. Hickman.	3731
Caribou meat seized by the Wildlife enforcement agency. Mr. Strachan, Mr. Hickey.	3731
Disposition of the caribou meat after a trial in which the accused have been declared not guilty. Mr. Strachan, Mr. Hickey.	3732
Details sought of a specific case. Mr. Strachan, Mr. Hickey.	3732
Brief of the Newfoundland Federation of Labour. Mr. Neary, Mr. Wells.	3733
Certified scalers and sawmill operators. Mr. White, Mr. Rousseau.	3733
The Carbonear hospital. Mr. R.Moores, Mr. H. Collins.	3734
The Trans-Canada Highway. Mr. Neary, Mr. Morgan.	3734
Half load limits. Mr. Neary, Mr. Morgan.	3735
Marystown town council. Mr. White, Mr. Peckford.	3735
Query concerning the responsibility for the flooding of the Trans-Canada Highway West of Grand Falls. Mr. Flight, Mr. Morgan.	3735
Fibreglass boat construction at the Octagon. Mr. Neary, Mr. Lundrigan.	3736
Type of boats produced. Mr. Neary, Mr. Lundrigan.	3737
Car wrecks accumulated at the Octagon. Mr. Neary, Mr. Doody.	3739
Corner Brook council. Mr. White, Mr. Peckford.	3740
Correspondences on specific charges. Mr. White, Mr. Peckford.	3740
Government action to keep supplies of labradorite in the Province for processing. Mr. Rowe, Mr. Lundrigan.	3741
Exporting of labradorite. Mr. Rowe, Mr. Crosbie.	3742
Ministerial awareness that Lenin's tomb is made of Labradorite. Mr. Smallwood, Mr. Crosbie.	3742
Price of housing. Mr. White, Mr. Peckford.	3743
Administrative and accounting controls in the Department of Social Services. Mr. Hodder, Mr. Brett.	3744
Moose in Labrador. Mr. Lush, Mr. Hickey.	3745
Legal rights of Price (Nfld.) to raise the water level of the Exploits. Mr. Flight, Mr. Morgan.	3747
Industrial development officer for the Harmon Corporation. Mr. McNeil, Mr. Peckford.	3747

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<u>ORDERS OF THE DAY</u>	Page
Private Members' Day	
That a Select Committee be established to enquire into and report upon the prospects for Newfoundland and Labrador, including the prospects for economic growth etc. (continued).	
Mr. Rousseau (continued)	3748
Mr. Rideout	3762
Mr. Peckford	3768
Mr. Hodder	3779
Mr. Hickey	3783
Mr. Canning	3796
Mr. Canning adjourned the debate.	3802
<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	3802