



PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND

**THIRTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF
NEWFOUNDLAND**

Volume 1

1st. Session

Number 60

VERBATIM REPORT

MONDAY, MAY 10, 1976

SPEAKER; THE HONOURABLE GERALD RYAN OTTENHEIMER

The House met at 2:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

It has been drawn to my attention that we have in the galleries this afternoon a four-man delegation from the Town Council of Little Burnt Bay headed by their Mayor, Everett Burt, and I know that all hon. members will join me in welcoming these gentlemen to the House of Assembly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

ORAL QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

HON. E. M. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, my question, Sir, is to the Minister of Provincial Affairs and Environment. Last week he took notice of a question I asked him about tabling the studies in respect of this Rushy Pond Dam on the Exploits River. I wonder if the minister has yet had an answer he can give the House, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Provincial Affairs and Environment.

HON. A. J. MURPHY: My answer, Mr. Speaker, is this; we are getting all of that material together ready for the investigation that will follow as a result of the decision made by government.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, are we to understand that they will be made available for the investigation, but not made public in the House?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Provincial Affairs and Environment.

MR. MURPHY: I think I have answered the question adequately, Sir, in my opinion.

MR. ROBERTS: What was that, 'Ank'?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. S.A. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the hon. Premier in the absence of the Minister of Mines and Energy. Could the hon. Premier tell us just what the situation is now in connection with Eastcan in drilling off Labrador for oil and gas this coming Summer? Will they be drilling or will they not be drilling?

Mr. Neary:

Will the Premier comment on the report in The Daily News that they could not find enough drilling equipment to carry on the work down there?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

HON. F. D. MOORES: Yes, Mr. Speaker, The report in The Daily News is erroneous. The Minister of Mines and Energy will be here in a moment, He is here now, He has met with the Eastcan people, he has checked through on the report, and they have still the same attention as the minister announced last week, the fact that they hope to have two drilling ships, and one submersible rig in operation this Summer. And that report this morning was erroneous.

MR. NEARY: Completely erroneous, eh?

PREMIER MOORES: Pardon?

MR. NEARY: Completely erroneous?

PREMIER MOORES: Well, as far as I know.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary. Would the Minister of Mines and Energy care to elaborate on the Premier's statement in connection with Eastcan drilling off Labrador this year for oil and gas?

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

HON. J. C. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, all I can do is really repeat what the Premier has said. I mean, Eastcan's plans for exploration off the Coast of Labrador this year are quite extensive, and they are planing to use two drill ships and a semi-submersible. Now,

MR. CROSSIE:

there is always some slight chance that something may interfere with that or some slight possibility that it could be interfered with. But that is their plan and that is their programme and there has been no change in that. I think the story probably originated as a result of a meeting in Hopedale, or in that area, when they were being questioned. I mean, there is always a chance that something may happen to a ship where there might be some delay. But their plans are for an extensive programme off Labrador this year. That has not changed. And they plan to use two drilling ships and a semi-submersible rig. They are very optimistic about the prospects there as are we. So there has been no change but there is always a possibility that there could be some interference or something could happen to one of the drilling ships or they might get there a bit later than it is planned for them to get there. But there is no substance to the report that they are not going to be working up there.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Levisporte.

MR. WHITE: A supplementary to the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy. Could the minister indicate to the House what other companies might be drilling off the coast this year? We know about Eastcan. We know about Petrocan and so on, but are there any more that you know about that you could tell the House?

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

MR. CROSSIE: I will have to check on that, Mr. Speaker, as to what other activity there is going to be. There will be some other activity but I have not got the details with me now.

MR. WHITE: A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow one further supplementary, then the hon. member for Terra Nova (Mr. Lush).

MR. WHITE: The reason for asking that was because the BP, British Petroleum were operating last year off the coast in the Botwood area. Now I was wondering if they were going to be back there this year or not.

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

MR. CROSBIE: I will have to check to get accurate information on it.

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

MR. NEAPY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. LUSH: Okay.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. gentleman yields. I will allow one further supplementary.

MR. NEAPY: Would the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy indicate to the House whether or not the drilling for gas and oil off the Grand Banks and off the Coast of Newfoundland is being completely abandoned and that the drilling will be confined this year to off the Coast of Labrador only?

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

MR. CROSBIE: Well, I will have to check to make sure, Mr. Speaker, but the two most prospective areas in oil and gas exploration off the shores of the Province are off Labrador and the Northeast Newfoundland basin. I do not know of any planned drilling activity in the Grand Banks area. I do not think there is any for this year. But I will have to check to make absolutely sure of that.

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

MR. LUSH: A question for the hon. Minister of Education. According to this morning's Daily News, I understand that the Roman Catholic School Board here in St. John's will be laying off specialist teachers. I wonder if the minister is in a position to comment on this and whether or not this will happen in other boards throughout the Province?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I have just gotten back in time and I have not had time to investigate the article in the paper. But apparently as I see it the school board in question will be laying off or replacing or putting in another position six specialist teachers. I do not know off hand how many specialist teachers they qualify for but I think it must be up in the vicinity of sixty or seventy. But last year, last September, they hired six extra, I believe, five or

MR. HOUSE:

six extra teachers over and above their quota. They hired them from the board office. In other words, the board paid for these teachers and they were speculating, of course, they were assuming that the third phase would come in this September. Of course we cancelled that as of October last year. So there is not a reduction in our quota. It happens to be some specialist teachers that they had hired separately. Now that is as I understand it. I do not know how accurate that is.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Terra Nova has a supplementary.

MR. LUSH: I understand further that there is a new regulation or some new conditions with respect to hiring special education teachers which for the benefit of hon. members is different from specialist teachers. So there has been some new regulations for the hiring of special education teachers. I wonder if the minister is in a position to indicate to the House how this might affect hiring teachers for next year?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: There is no special regulation. The regulation still stands, but we are trying to hold it at approximately the same number, except for special circumstances; but there is no hard and fast regulation made.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Lewisporte.

MR. WHITE: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Premier. I think this comes under him directly and that is in connection with the youth conferences that were supposed to be held across Newfoundland this week, and I understand there were quite a few that were a total flop, and in some areas no one showed up at all. I wonder if the Premier could report to the House on this?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: I have no idea, Mr. Speaker. I can certainly find out the information and let the hon. member know.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that we are all asked to rally around the new flag, I wonder if the Government House Leader, the Minister without Portfolio, would react to comments from the Newfoundland Historical Society and various other groups in connection with delaying the debate on the flag until they get an opportunity to make a contribution to the selection of the kind of flag that we should have?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister without Portfolio.

MR. WELLS : Mr. Speaker, various letters have been received, and the letter the hon. member has spoken about. I am obviously going to discuss these with my colleagues, and we will take a position on it and presumably when the act comes before the House there will be a full debate on the whole flag matter.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: My question, I think, should be addressed to the Premier, although possibly his colleague the Minister of Justice might be able to answer it, with reference to the fact that the Supreme Court, the Trial Division of the Supreme Court, have ruled that the Ombudsman has no access to material

Mr. Roberts.

relating to patients at the Waterford Hospital - well, it is a question, I cannot go on - but with relation to the fact that the review board set up under the Mental Health Act can only go into applications for discharge, it cannot go into any other facet of administration of the hospital, are the government prepared to amend the relevant legislation, which I think would be the Hospitals Act - that is the act on which that board are now operating - to ensure that the ombudsman in the course of his duties may - where, it is proper and right - have access to material relating to patients at that hospital or for that matter any other if it is within the ambit of his duties?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, I have not as yet received a copy of the decision of Mr. Justice Noel, which I understand was handed down Friday past. But there is an indication in the paper that the ombudsman intends to instruct his solicitor to file notice of appeal. When the case has been finally adjudicated upon I am sure that government will look not only at the results of that decision but also to ascertain to its own satisfaction whether the review board does indeed have the kind of jurisdiction that is necessary to ensure that the confidentiality of a patient's file is maintained whilst at the same time the administrative processes of the hospital are under the same scrutiny as any other institution.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary - the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, the confidentiality, of course, is protected by virtue of the fact that the Ombudsman acts only when the patient requests him to act. But would the minister consider, in view of the public interest in this matter, requesting the Ombudsman not to proceed with an appeal which could take a number of months at best, and it may be possibly even longer, but instead bring the matter before the legislature so the legislature can take a policy decision which is properly our purview and that will resolve the matter for once and for all?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, I think that ordinary prudence would dictate that I first read the decision of the trial judge before committing the government to any final and irrevocable step, and this I shall do at the earliest opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER: A further supplementary - the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, a further and a final one I would think on this question: Could the minister undertake to let us have the statement in the House within the next few days? I realize he has to get Mr. Justice Noel's reasons for judgment and read them.

MR. HICKMAN: I presume it was a written decision.

MR. ROBERTS: Well I assume also. I mean I do not know. But in any event it is written in that it is recorded, and it is his reasons for judgment we need. We know what his judgment is. His judgment was to deny these applications.

MR. HICKMAN: No! No!

MR. ROBERTS: Would the minister undertake to make a statement to the House within the next week or ten days to let us know the government's position on this matter?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker,

MR. HICKMAN: I cannot give that commitment. That is a matter of government policy.

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

MR. STRACHAN: Mr. Speaker, a question for the Minister of Tourism. Could the minister tell the House whether copies of the Wild Life Act are freely available and whether his department have considered distributing copies of the Act to the more isolated parts of the Province?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I certainly am of the opinion that the copies are available. I have not had occasion to have any discussion with regard to their distribution, but certainly anyone who wishes one can certainly obtain one without any problem by contacting us. The matter of having them distributed to the more isolated areas is probably a very good idea and I will certainly take it under notice and see what can be done.

MR. STRACHAN: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary? I recognize the hon. gentleman for a supplementary.

MR. STRACHAN: Would the minister tell the House whether his Wild Life Enforcement Division has been instructed to suddenly strictly enforce the Wild Life Act as it presently stands? Whether they have been instructed to enforce the Wild Life Act?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I have not given any instructions, any special instructions to my Wild Life staff. I could only conclude they are enforcing the Wild Life Act as always. There has never been any direction to enforce part of it in a more strenuous way than any other, but indeed to enforce all of it as the law required. I do not know if the hon. member is referring to a statement made recently with regard to changes or proposed changes in connection with big game licencing and especially with regard to poaching, but certainly there has been no special instructions given my staff by me in this connection.

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

MR. STRACHAN: Mr. Speaker, I am dissatisfied with the answer and under Standing Order 31(g) I wish to debate it in the late show.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the hon. the Minister of Education. Would the minister indicate to the House whether or not any special or extraordinary steps have been taken to tighten up the accounting procedures in the Vocational Schools as recommended by the Auditor General? And in view of the fact that there has been examples of abuses in three Vocational Schools in Newfoundland in the last year or so, what steps has the minister taken to tighten up the accounting procedures, plug the loopholes, and could the minister tell us what is happening now in the case of the Grand Falls Vocational School?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, the inspectors from our department are periodically checking on the procedures and accounts in the Vocational Schools. And as the Auditor General's Report recommended that we have a better procedure or more people, we are putting two more inspectors in the field now as a result of the problems we have had and as a result of the recommendations, I guess, from the Auditor General. We are making periodic checks and, of course, an indication of that is the fact that the inspectors from the department have found some monies unaccounted for in that particular school. My answer to the first part is that we are beefing up our department in that respect. We have some more staff hired.

With respect to the unaccounted for funds in Grand Falls, there is an internal investigation going on and the clerk in question has been suspended pending the outcome of the internal investigation. Of course, we are taking steps also - we are discussing it with the Department of Justice and possibly there will be a police investigation also.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a question to the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture. I think that is the appropriate minister to ask about the Hawkes Bay Lumber Mill. Has the minister finished negotiations with Bowaters? Could the minister indicate to the House when the mill will reopen? When it will start full production again? Can he give us a progress report on the Hawkes Bay mill?

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

MR. ROUSSEAU: Mr. Speaker, we had some talks in here with Bowaters I think about three weeks ago and they have been looking at the situation. There is some wood available there but not enough to continue the operation. I will be meeting with Bowaters again Wednesday morning. They are coming in, the manager, and the assistant manager and the woods manager. I will be further pursuing this question.

Certainly it is government's wish that the Hawkes Bay operation would resume at full capacity so far as the company that is operating the mill is concerned. They would like to have insured a continuous supply of resource, naturally, so they will not have any shutdowns. And we have another alternative which I would hope to be in a position to announce next week, sometime next week, in which there may be a further supply of it, but I would hope that we would have something definite within the next couple of weeks.

We have sufficient wood there now that we could probably operate it for a month, six weeks at the most. We want to ensure that we have a continuous supply so that if there is a start up that it will not be just a start up for a short period of time and close down again.

MR. NEARY: The hon. Minister of Forestry and Agriculture again, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Is this a supplementary?

MR. NEARY: No, Sir.

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

MR. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee to appoint the Standing Committees. Could the minister, Sir, indicate to the House when these committees will be named, the committee such as the Public Accounts Committee?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs.

MR. PECKFORD: Mr. Speaker, I cannot give a definite time when they

MR. PECKFORD: will be appointed. I understand that there were to be some discussions between the Leader of the Opposition and the House Leader on this side of the House and that until these discussions were held I have not been advised as yet and I guess the House Leader will advise me of those meetings, and when he has then I will take appropriate action.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Trinity Bay de Verde, a supplementary.

MR. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, not a supplementary but, Sir, I am dissatisfied with the answer to that question and I give notice under the Standing Orders that I wish to debate it during the Late Show.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice, Sir. Would the Minister of Justice indicate to the House who has jurisdiction over the regulation of ferry rates between Portugal Cove and Bell Island? Is it the Province via the Public Utilities Board or is it the Canadian Transport Commission via the Water Transport Committee? Could the minister clear up the matter and tell us whose jurisdiction the regulation, the setting of rates, whose jurisdiction that it is under?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: That is a question that I would rather discuss with the hon. gentleman from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) behind the curtain because anything I say, Mr. Speaker, should be without prejudice. The question of jurisdiction is being considered very carefully by solicitors on the staff of my department and that advice will be taken into account by government when a decision is made to implement a policy decision that has already been made to take whatever steps are appropriate to protect, if at all possible, the people of Bell Island with respect to the Government of Canada's action which has resulted in a proposed tariff being submitted before the board to the Commissioners of Public Utilities of Newfoundland.

MR. HICKMAN: In that respect I can announce to hon. gentlemen that the Government of Newfoundland has retained the services of Mr. John J. O'Neil, Q.C., to appear on behalf of the Government of Newfoundland to oppose the application that has been filed with the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, and take what other steps he may deem appropriate in that regard.

It would not be fair for me to indicate what approach Mr. O'Neil will take, because I am sure he has not had an opportunity to address himself to all of the issues, one of which is the question of jurisdiction.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary. The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, is the minister aware that a year and a half or two years ago, when the Government of Canada called public tenders for the operation of that service, that the Province intervened on the grounds that the Newfoundland Transportation Company had an exclusive franchise granted by the Public Utilities Board and barred the federal government, the Government of Canada from calling public tenders for the operation of that service. Is the minister aware of that?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

HON. T. A. HICKMAN: I am aware that the Newfoundland Transportation Company indicated to the Government of Canada and/or the regulatory agency in Ottawa that they had back in 1951 or 1952 or thereabouts, in the early 1950's, obtained a decree or an order giving them a franchise to operate a ferry service between Bell Island and Portugal Cove, and what influence that had upon the Federal regulatory body I do not know. But it is a fact that the Newfoundland Transportation Company were given the franchise to operate the second boat. And the question of jurisdiction goes to the ultra vires or the intra vires classification of the legislation that was introduced into this House in 1951 by way of an act known as The Ferries Act and adopted by the Legislature of the Province of Newfoundland.

MR. ROBERTS: It went unchallenged for twenty-five years?

MR. HICKMAN: To my knowledge it has not been challenged, but the Doctrine of Laches does not apply to a constitutional issue.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, a supplementary.

MR. NEARY: This supplementary is to the hon. Premier. Would the hon. Premier indicate to the House if there is any move on behalf of the Government of Canada to have the Province take over all of the ferry services that are subsidized or presently come under the Government of Canada that are intra-provincial, not inter-provincial, intra-provincial?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Not to my knowledge, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir and afterwards the hon. member for Terra Nova.

MR. R. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Tourism. It is the same question I asked him on March 31, he undertook to get the information for me at that time, it now being six weeks later I thought I should repeat the question. Would the minister indicate to the House the amounts of money dispersed to

Mr. Simmons:

Cabot Group 4 in each of the fiscal years 1973-1974, 1974-1975, and 1975-1976 by his department and by the government generally?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Tourism.

HON. T. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I gave my hon. friend an answer to that question, He probably forgets. I told him in the first instance that I certainly would be most willing to look into the matter and to see what could be done to provide the information, and I certainly had no objections personally. On so doing I was advised that I do not have the right as minister to table any documents in this regard and I referred the hon. gentleman to the Department of Public Works and Services.

MR. SIMMONS: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, I recognize the hon. member.

MR. SIMMONS: Do I understand from the minister's comments that no money was paid during these years by his department? Is that what the minister is saying?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: No, Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend is excelling himself in misinterpreting what I said. I simply said that I do not have the right to provide any documents, and he asked for the tabling of some documents. And I have simply said, in fact, I acknowledged that indeed there was work done by that company for my department. And I have told him now as I have told him on an earlier occasion that upon checking I am advised that I do not have the right as Minister of Tourism to table any documents with regards to services provided by that or any other company that that is the responsibility of Public Works and Services. The funds are in my estimates or whatever the case might be, but the contracts entered into or purchase orders or whatever the case may be comes from another department.

MR. SIMMONS: A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow one further supplementary.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I thank the Minister for that clarification.

I had not asked for any documents to be tabled as such. What I am looking for is the information. If he cannot give it, could I direct

Mr. Simmons:

my supplementary to the Acting Minister of Public Works, and ask him if he would make available to the House the information I have been asking for, namely, would the minister indicate what amounts of money were dispersed by government to Cabot Group 4 in the fiscal years 1973-1974, 1974-1975, 1975-1976? Would the minister undertake to get that information for me?

MR. SPEAKER: The Acting Minister of Public Works.

MR. J. ROUSSEAU: I will have to check that out, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. T. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Education. In an earlier question I asked respecting the new regulations with respect to hiring special education teachers. I wonder if the minister is aware of a letter that was sent out to superintendents on April 15 throughout the Province setting down new guidelines for the hiring of special education teachers?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: Sir, I am aware of a letter going out stating that we try to keep it down to, I believe, about 700, if he is referring to that particular letter, keeping it at that level for the very specific reason, I might add, that in the last year or so there has been a sort of a saturation level reached in that particular phase because a lot of schools had hired special education teachers for dealing with pupils who are slow learners rather than mentally retarded, and a lot of schools have cut back. Of course, the increase over the couple of years has been going out into the outlying communities. We think that enforcing the regulations, as it was meant for the mentally retarded, we are going to keep roughly the same number.

Now the other regulation, we went out suggesting some changes in the act regarding the board's responsibility for the trainable mentally retarded. Of course, that is a thing that will be developing over the next two or three years. I do not know if that is exactly what he is referring to or not.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary, and it will also be the last question and answer.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary. The situation is that the new regulations or the guidelines state that the school is not supposed to have more - or a school board - is not supposed to have more than seven per cent of its total teaching force in special education. This of course is going to restrict many areas. Formerly it was based on student needs, now it seems to be based on teachers. So the question; I am wondering if the minister could inform the House whether or not there will be any further layoffs as a result of this new regulation.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: No, it is a suggestion. We talked about seven per cent because we put that in line with the report done by the federal government a few years ago. I think it was called **One Million Children**. This was roughly the number of people requiring that kind of attention. We are trying to keep it within that range. It is not going to necessitate layoffs, no. It is just guidelines.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

On motion that the House resolve itself into Committee of Supply, Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY:

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

Subhead 1008-01.

The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I gave a commitment to the hon. member for Pate Verte-White Bay (Mr. Fideout) that we would refer back to 1007-06-04 with regard to Medicare costs. He raised a question as to how come the difference between what we are projecting this year which is less than the payments last year. The formula which determines Ottawa's share is based on fifty per cent of the national cost of Medicare multiplied by the population, the number of people in Newfoundland. Because our standard of service is a bit less than the national average consequently we receive a far amount of money. This year we are estimating seventy-five per cent of the total cost from Ottawa. But the reason for the difference there is that - the difference to which he refers - is that in 1975-1976 the Ontario Department of Health transferred some of its Medicare cost programmes from the Medicare programme to the Hospital Insurance programme and consequently the per capita national average went down and we lost in fact \$1.2 million. There was also a deficit of \$360,000 to the commission for 1973-1974 and a further deficit of \$852,000 in 1974-1975.

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

MR. POME: Sir, I assume that this is the correct heading for this discussion. I was quite interested in the remarks made by the member for Mount Scio (Mr. P. Winsor), I believe, the other night concerning the dental needs of the Province.

Mr. Rowe.

The hon. member can correct me if I am in error in some of the figures that I am going to relate to the House. But as I understand it now there are approximately seventy-seven or eighty dentists in the Province at the present time - if I can just finish the phrase, the hon. member can correct me - and if we had 250 dentists the ratio of dentists per population would be one to 4,000. Is that correct? Is it somewhere along these figures? Anyway it demonstrates a great need for increased numbers of dentists in this Province. And, of course, we know the problem that Dalhousie has with respect to taking dental students. And the member indicated - and I found this to be quite amazing - that it would cost \$40 million to put a dental school in this Province, somewhere in the order of \$40 million. So the hon. member, who is a professional dentist, seemed to indicate to this Committee, Sir, that we are in a crisis situation with respect to dental care in this Province. And I did not know whether I particularly appreciated the member's attitude towards the acceptance of denturists. At one stage, I believe, he sort of stated that they are with us, they are a fact of life. And it kind of reminded me of the anti-Confederates after Confederation, "We got Confederation so it is a fact of life, so we will have to live with it!" But that fact of life, Sir, is still this, that the denturists are not legalized in this Province at the present time. Sort of a blind eye is being turned to them. And what I would like to ask the Minister of Health - and probably he might have answered it when I was out of the Committee, Sir, but if he has obviously a quick reminder would be in order - but, you know, what is the status with respect to legislation legalizing denturists in this Province?

While I was on the mainland some months ago I happened to meet a denturist in Toronto who was from Manitoba, and it was just through the course of conversation that I found out he was a denturist. And they do not call themselves denturists out there. They call themselves

Mr. Rowe.

dental mechanics, I believe, and they have an act in Manitoba for what they call dental mechanics. And a dental mechanic, Sir, if I can just review briefly for the Committee, may repair any prosthetic denture or dental plate, fit any prosthetic denture or dental plate, make, produce, reproduce or furnish or supply an upper prosthetic denture or lower dental plate for another person who has no live teeth in his upper jaw or a lower prosthetic denture or lower dental plate for another person who has no live teeth in his lower jaw, or complete upper and lower prosthetic dentures or dental plates, and we can go on through the act. But, Sir, they do have a reasonable responsibility which presumably would take a tremendous load off the dentists in this Province. Now it may not take a tremendous load off - I do not mean this in a critical fashion. But there are dentists practising in this Province where they have the choice of the pick, where they are sort of operating, like the hon. member opposite who is operating within the confines of this city more or less. Some other dentists are operating within, you know, Grand Falls, Gander or what have you. And there is a long waiting list. And dentists can pick and more or less choose their patients. I am not accusing that they are picking the richest and more lucrative patients, but they are in that position, whereas dentists who may be practising in more rural sections of our Province obviously would not have the same type of clientele, if you know what I mean. And I would submit, - although the member indicated that, I think, it was only one tenth of one per cent of his revenue or his income was related to denturists type of work - I would submit, Sir, that in other parts of the Province that the ratio may be far different, that that proportion may be far different for dentists practising outside the Province if he is trying to care for all of the children and all of the people that need dental care in this Province.

And, Sir, I might add that this particular act I think could be almost superimposed right into this Province,

MR. ROWE: and as I mentioned they are called dental mechanics. "But there shall be a committee to be known as the Dental Mechanics Committee, consisting of two dentists who are members of the faculty of dentistry at the University of Manitoba - we do not have a Faculty of dentistry in this Province so we would obviously have to probably find some reputable, presumably there are reputable dentists who could serve on such a committee - two dental mechanics - or in this if you want to call them denturists - two denturists and two persons employed in the Department of Health and Social Development - or I guess Social Services possibly in this Province - to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council."

I mention this because the hon. member, who is a professional, when he was speaking to this particular issue, at least left with me the impression that the denturists should be under the jurisdiction almost wholly and solely and completely of the dentists themselves. And I would like to, I am talking about the hon. member's remarks, I would like to indicate to the Committee on behalf of my colleagues here that I think that would be a little bit narrow, a little bit restrictive, and if the minister is in the process of drafting up legislation for denturists in the Province I would certainly like any such committee, or any body or bodies that denturists are responsible to would be certainly broader than two or three dentists in the Province and include such people as members of their own profession, if you want to classify it as a profession, and certainly members of the Department of Health and possibly Social Services and possibly some other departments as well. Probably the minister has an act or legislation coming in that is far superior to this particular piece of legislation here and I have only referred to a couple of sections but in reading through it, and I just got it in the mail there two or three days ago, it seems to be the type of act that is required in this Province to take the load off particularly rural dentists and to meet the dental needs of the

MR. ROWE: people in this Province. I would just like to ask the minister, number one, what is the status of legislation for the practice of denturists in this Province? When will it be brought before the House? What - I guess it is pretty difficult to ask the minister what is the nature of the legislation before it comes before us? Might I ask the minister if the denturists are out under the responsibility of any group or bodies that it certainly be more broader or broader than the suggestion as indicated by the member for Mount Scio (Dr. Winsor), if I indeed understood him correctly.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Mount Scio, (Dr. Winsor), my colleague, will certainly have something to say when I am finished. He could now if he wanted to but I would like to respond to a couple of points first, the hon. member for Bay de Verde (Mr. Rowe) made.

I have said on numerous occasions during the past two or three weeks that as a result of the Select Committee which was established by this House, as a result of that last year a committee was appointed to recommend legislation to cover the practice of the denturists in this Province, whether you call them denturists or mechanics I do not think it means too much, depending upon the interpretation one puts on that of course. But at any rate, Mr. Chairman, as I said before we do have the legislation practically ready and it is my hope that before this session concludes that we will be introducing a bill, which is a new bill, to govern the practice of denturists in the Province.

With regard to the hon. member's statements about dental care, I do not think the legalization of the denturists and the addition of a great number of denturists is going to have any significant effect on the dental health problem which we are facing. The denturists will be able to do something for the person who is denture less, that means a person who has no teeth. But in terms of dealing with the very many problems of the young people, the

MR. COLLINS: children who are in our schools in terms of preventive measures, the denturists of course cannot get involved in that and this is where the dentist is the only one who can deal with this. And as the hon. member says, right now most of the dentists in Newfoundland seem to set up practice in the more urban centres of the Province. And there are two reasons for that. Number one is, it is generally found that the people in the more urban centres are more inclined in terms of getting the children in to have fillings, etc., to have preventive measures taken than they are sometimes in the more remote sections of the Province. There is certainly a major educational job to be done there. And we find very often now that even if we can encourage a dentist to establish in a rural setting, and even with some subsidies, some guaranteed minimum incomes, etc., we have found that it is very difficult for him to generate enough business to really make the practice worthwhile, so there is an educational programme necessary.

However, the educational programme in itself will not accomplish very much either until we have reached the point whereby we have the dentists to go in the places where they are needed. So there is a twofold problem really. I would hope, I would not like to put a number of years on it, but certainly I would hope that in the next three or four years we will be able to make some great inroads into the outlying regions of the Province and that is where the real problems are.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Mount Scio.

DR. WINSOR: Mr. Chairman, while speaking the other night I made some suggestions, some of them were suggestions from experiences that I have had over my twenty years in dental practice in Newfoundland as to how we possibly could improve the ratio of dentists to our population.

Now the statistics I quoted the other evening were for the year 1974-75 which gave us a ratio of one to 7,700 and it

DR. WINSOR: seventy-five. I think I may have quoted seventy-seven but it was a misprint out of my own text. It was seventy-five dentists in the year 1974-75.

I got the statistics over the weekend from the dental register of the dentists that are registered in 1975-76 and I am very happy to say that we have made an excellent improvement. We do not have eighty-eight on the dental register, which brings us down to a reasonable ratio of one to 6,000. Now we have not arrived at Utopia, and we have got a long ways to go, but when one looks back the last ten years, 1965 we had thirty-eight dentists in Newfoundland and Labrador. In 1975 we had seventy-five, so this is an improvement really of around one hundred per cent. And in this last year we have had an added increase of thirteen new people added to our register.

Now this increase has been partly due to two reasons. One is to the Newfoundland Government Bursary Programme, and this I imagine most members here are well aware, This is a programme where the dental student for each of his four years at professional school receives \$3,000. For this money he makes a commitment to return to Newfoundland to practice for three years in an area of his choice but excluding the urban - well of his choice in conjunction with the Minister of Health. A few years ago it was sort of a student would come back and the department would say that we need a dentist in Burgeo and if he had received the assistance he would have to go to that area. This did not work out that well. The department found that people did not stay too long if they were not happy, and right now it is sort of left up to the individual as long as he goes to an area where there is a need for dentists in Newfoundland, excluding St. John's, Grand Falls, Corner Brook and Gander.

At present we have only six Newfoundlanders at dental school in all of Canada, four at McGill, and two at Dalhousie in all years.

DR. WINSOR:

Now the other reason why this improvement over the last couple of years, I think really shows how the Department of Health has tried over the past few years, and even including when the previous administration, that there was, I think, great co-operation with the dental people here in the Province and we all had the same objective in mind, and that was to sort of improve our delivery system. But this recently developed recruitment programme has an establishment grant of \$10,000 or up to \$10,000. Now to clarify this, this does not mean that every dentist going to an underdeveloped area or an area that is sort of under serviced by a dentist is going to get \$10,000 for a location grant. It is up to \$10,000. If he is putting in, say, a modern two room surgery and it is going to cost him \$20,000, \$25,000 he can get up to \$10,000.

Then there is the guaranteed minimum income which for the three years he is under service to the department they will subsidize his salary up to these amounts. I am not sure of the exact amounts at the moment. They are sort of taken from government salary scales.

MR. COLLINS: It depends on how much might be needed to establish a reasonable income in that -

DR. WINSOR: In that particular locality, right. Then if a dentist is willing to go to an under-serviced area the department will also pay the relocation expenses and this is, of course, for his family and himself, to the area. So this last programme is really geared to throw a net out around Europe and in Canada and the States to get the practitioner who has already graduated to get him to come to Newfoundland with enticements. The bursary one is for, really, our own students to subsidize them through dental school.

Now to show how this has really paid off, of the eighty-eight registered, thirty-nine have received bursary assistance of the eighty-eight on the register and a further seventeen have received some other government assistance. Many of these are located in areas in which it would be completely impractical to have a dental practice were it not for the free treatment programme of the department, of the government. Now

DR. WINSOR:

in addition to the free treatment - and I think we should make this point because very few people are aware of it - in addition to the free treatment up to age eleven, the following groups are eligible. These are children resident in orphanages, all foster children, children receiving treatment for cleft palate work, the rehabilitation center children, and all children up to eighteen on social assistance of families on social assistance. This would provide treatment for the anterior teeth and replacement of anterior teeth with partials.

Then we have the School for the Deaf, the School for the Blind, the children attending school for the mentally retarded and the cerebral palsy school. That is nine. I would like to add ten here, because I could not find it in any of the official records but while I was the chief of the dental service at the Janeway we sort of had a continuous prodding of the government and pleading, we established treatment above the cut off of eleven years for kids who because of medical conditions - this is the hemophiliac, the cerebral palsy kid in the hospital environment, kids with kidney problems and so on so that we could provide treatment for them up to their sixteenth year until they were out of the children's hospital.

Now the extent of treatment varies from group to group in some of that coverage because again my own experience in treating kids at Exon House and childrens homes - and the minister used the word 'trainables' today. These kids, the trainable kids were the ones who because of the limited manpower we had that we gave first priority to. Many of these kids that the best treatment that we could give was just relief of pain and infection. Of course it is limited largely by ability of the dental profession to cope with the demand.

These groups were not phased in by a pre-determined schedule but were covered haphazardly over the years in response to pressure from the particular groups who were dealing with the problems concerned, particularly School for the Deaf and the Blind and so on. Now in 1957, the year after I graduated the total amount budgeted by government for treatment under the dental health programme was \$35,000. In 1976-1977

DR. WINSOR:

there is a tremendous increase up to \$2,190,000. This provides treatment for approximately 40,000 children who are entitled to be seen twice a year.

Now the public apathy towards dental health - and this has fostered in Newfoundland, and I know by growing up in the outports my attitude towards dentistry until I went to university was fostered by isolation plus the unavailability of dental services. This is gradually being overcome by communications and other means. Government has assisted in bringing dental services to isolated areas by providing the free dental treatment and by providing assistance to dentists who would go and establish in these rural areas.

But the most neglected part of our dental programme - and I said this the other night and I hope that we will focus on this problem in the future - and that is the problem of education and prevention. This, I think, with the help of the dental hygienist and more available manpower all around, that we have been able to make some inroads in that particular aspect of dentistry.

Now a question was asked Tuesday evening, last Tuesday evening, re licensing of foreign dentists. Dentists arriving in Newfoundland with a B.D.S. and D.D.S or a D.M.D, which is a Doctor in Medical Dentistry, or a fellowship in dental surgery from a recognized university, in Australia, Denmark, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Union of South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States, are eligible for a temporary permit and this is renewed yearly when they are sponsored by the Department of Health. This is given by the Newfoundland Dental Board. Now if they want to establish practice after they have been here for a few years - they want to write the Newfoundland Dental Board examinations, then they are free to practice anywhere in the Island as any other private practitioner.

The other question re Surgeon, and this I have a little personal interest in. I think it was back in 1966 when I was president of the dental association and I was doing a bit of flying on the side, and a

DR. WINSOR:

friend of mine had a charter service and we taking down the money to start the bank in Burgeo, this was 1966. I think we carried about \$200,000 in a single engine Cessna. That was the time, I think, I first met Mrs. Penny, that great lady of the South Coast. At that time we were talking and when they found out I was the president of the Dental Society they approached me re a dentist in Burgeo and we did try to sort of work with the government and I have made a few contacts of my own on the mainland, but we were not successful. Now things have not improved. That was 1966 and this is 1976. They still do not have a dentist there. And I know there have been attempts made by the mayor - it is a Dr. Calder, I think it is - but the latest I have seen on this is that in 1974 the manager of the fish plant advised that no office space or living accommodations were available. This creates problems in the sense that when government brings over, say, five or six dentists to look around to see where they want to locate practice - I think the department gives them a list of places that are under-serviced and then they, themselves, in conjunction with the department move around and see where they want to set up. This has many social reasons. If the dentist has kids of school age, he is going to lean towards an area which has good schools and so forth. Some people would want to go in an area where really there is a lot of hunting and fishing facilities. So it is really up to the individual.

What I find is that there has to be a responsibility from the community itself. If there are ten places that are vying for dental services and three or four of these areas already, or the town council and so on provides an office space, not free, the dentist is prepared to pay for it obviously and also to rent an apartment or buy a home. But if

Dr. Winsor.

we get the word that there is not space available, obviously he is going to lose interest in following up that particular community. So I think there has to be a little bit of responsibility on the part of the community to work in conjunction with the department. The department can supply the dentists. The dentist has the choice of where to go. And if the community wants to attract him they have to provide, at least, space for setting up an office, and some place for the chap to live. Now the prime areas at present that need dentists are Grand Bank, Clarenville, not necessarily in order, but Grand Bank, Clarenville, Stephenville Crossing, Bonavista, Burgeo, Harbour Breton, Labrador City and Wabush. I think there is already a dentist in Labrador City and Wabush, but one certainly cannot cope with the demand there at all.

The minister answered the question re the denturists, and I do not want to get into that other than to say that there may be some difficulty in certain communities if there is a denturist in practise. If a dentist sees this, and this will cut into his income in a rural area, he will probably tend to go to an area where he can supplement his conservative practise with denture practise. Now the new places filled this past year; Glovertown, Holyrood, St. Josephy's, Trepassey, and we have a second dentist who went into Port aux Basques, and now one for Bell Island.

So we have made excellent progress, Mr. Chairman, in the last three or four years particularly in supplying the dental needs or the manpower problems. We have a long ways to go, but if we can keep improving at the ratio that we have done in the last two or three years that it will not be too many more years before a majority of the children and people in the Island will have access to dental services. But I stress again that the community that is applying for dental services certainly has the responsibility to work with the dentists in providing some space for him. So I think, unless there are any questions somebody would like to ask, I will resume my seat.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, just a word to remind the minister of some comments I made Friday afternoon which he undertook to respond to. I am wondering what the department might have in mind in terms of making dental services, probably an itinerant, a travelling dentist or two or more who could, on a regular basis, go to some of the smaller communities. I mentioned Grey River, MacCallum, François, that size community, 200 or 300 or 400 population, those communities which are not immediately accessible by road or by regular transportation to larger communities where dentists exist. I think something needs to be done there. That is one category of community I mentioned. The other one, the member for Mount Scio (Dr. Winsor) just referred to, and that is the Burgeo type community. Burgeo has been on the list for a long time, as the member has pointed out, and if the present way of going about things continues, they are going to be on a list for a long time to come. I recognize, and I have said to the council in Burgeo that the town must accept some responsibility for taking the initiative to see that the facilities, the residence, the office space facilities are available.

But having said that, Mr. Chairman, we all know that town administrations tend to change from time to time. They are volunteer people, and they each have their turn at bat, and a new crowd comes in, and they cannot be expected to be conversant with every detail. And one of the details that they need to be conversant with here is just how you go about getting a dentist. And I think there must be some room, and there is certainly some onus on the part of the department, to send someone into those communities, the half dozen or so that the member rhymed off a moment ago, send somebody in and sit down with council and say, "Okay, we may be able to get a dentist, or we are going to have a number of dentists coming over from elsewhere; but when they come you should know that they have the final choice as to where they go. And in that connection you should be ready for them." Somebody from the department should be helping the town to take the initiative here.

Mr. Simmons.

They do not know exactly what they ought to be doing and just a visit from some senior person in the department might well help.

One other comment before I sit down, Mr. Chairman:

There is a danger - we are all open to this possibility - there is a danger sometimes that we can pat ourselves on the back so hard we are going to break our arms doing so. I do not subscribe - and I speak for rural Newfoundland - I do not subscribe to the notion that has been expressed in the Committee recently that we have come a long way in terms of dental care. For MacCallum, for Grey River, for Francois, for a number of communities that my friend from Placentia could mention, we have not come one inch. St. John's Corner Brook, Grand Falls are just as far away as it used to be, and that is where the dentist is. It even costs more to get there than it used to. So do not tell those people that we have come a long way in dental care in terms of education and prevention and dental care and dentist population ratio, because they are just as far away from the service as they ever were, just as far away. They still got to get their youngster on a coastal boat and get him into Bay d'Espoir, and then try to connect with a bus or a taxi to get them into Grand Falls to have a tooth pulled, an extraction that for the parent in Grand Falls cost \$3 or \$5 or \$6 or whatever it costs these days, and for the parent in MacCallum it would cost \$150. That is what we are talking about. Do not tell those people that we are improving in terms of our dental health in this Province, because for those people we are not improving at all. We are just where we were twenty, thirty years ago. The dentist is just as inaccessible to them. I am not asking the minister to consider stationing dentists in Grey River, but I am asking him to look into the possibilities of some kind of a programme. I know dentists are scarce. But perhaps, as I suggested Friday, perhaps the minister's department could approach

Mr. Simmons.

one or two or three dentists and say, "Look, would you leave your lucrative or your adequate practise in St. John's one month a year, give us a month a year for the next two or three years; give us the month of August or the month of September or the month of May, approach each of perhaps a half dozen dentists like for say one month, would you do the Southwest Coast? Would you do the Labrador Coast? Would you do the Great Northern Peninsula?" Perhaps that is the approach we have got to take. Perhaps we do not need a dentist living in those smaller places all the year around or perhaps we do not need them being intinerant twelve months of the year. Perhaps it could be done twice a year in May or November so that these people can at least see a dentist every six months, that kind of suggestion, a kind of an ad hoc approach, but one that might serve the need for the immediate future.

If I were a senior official in the minister's department or if I were the minister I could take some consolation from the statistics. I could take some shelter from the argument that dentists are hard to find, that they do not want to live in Grey River. That does not extract the tooth for the youngster in Grey River. If the present statistics or if the present trends are not offering any reprieve for the problem let us try some ad hoc solutions. Perhaps the one I have suggested is one that needs to be taken into account. Perhaps we can approach some people to do it on a part-time basis. I am aware now, and I am thinking of the venture that the father of the Leader of the Opposition got involved in some years ago - I believe there is a parallel there where the doctor goes abroad for a period of time and gives a certain amount of his service. Perhaps we need to appeal to the missionary side of the dentist. Perhaps we cannot put it in dollar terms. You would be surprised. These fellows are already having tax problems, I am told. Perhaps you could appeal to the other side of them. Would you do it for one month? I do not know. I am not asking

Mr. Simmons.

for donations but I am prepared to do so if that helps to solve the problem. Let us pay them or let us have them do it as their form of a holiday for one year , for one month of the year. I do not know. I am just thinking out loud. But I do get a bit uptight, Mr. Chairman, when I hear people talk about how dental health has improved. I supposed if you lived in St. John's all your life it certainly has improved, the availability of dental care has improved.

But talking about the improvements as they affect Grey River or MacCallum - and I mention these as being symbolic in representative of other communities of the Province - it is the equivalent of some poor fellow sitting at home, unemployed, ten or twelve children to feed, no regular source of income, and while he finds himself in that situation, probably inadequate housing and all the rest of it, he sits and fantasizes with the wife about whether they should buy a power Blue or a white cadillac.

Mr. Simmons:

That is what we are talking about here today, we are talking about how great things are in the field of dental care. I tell you it is a fantasy, it is a fantasy for that albeit small percentage of the population, but a very real percentage. And we should be doing more about it than just sitting here fantasizing.

Mr. Chairman, there is another thought that relates, it is not the most popular one that I could express in this Committee, but dentists are human beings too, and they obviously have a vested interest in these matters. For that reason without inditing any of their motives it would seem to me apart from that element of missionary zeal which one can expect to find in any group, it would seem to me that dentists would have no particular reason, I am thinking in terms of the profit motive now, would have no particular reason to get out and hussel to improve the ratio of dentist to population.

Does the one general dealer in a community go out and look for three or four other general dealers to come in, and thereby split his business several ways? I wonder if that is a factor in this situation? I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if we are not looking to the wrong people for leadership in this particular area? And I am not at all being wanting to be unkind towards the dentists, I am not saying that. But he has a pretty blatant vested interest here. Now in government we have all kinds of openness these days about conflict of interest. Perhaps we have the same kind of problem here. Perhaps we have been looking to the wrong group. Perhaps it is not the Dental Association at all we should be looking to, perhaps it is not the practicing dentists at all we should be looking to, to help us solve this particular problem. Because in the context of what I said a moment ago, in the context of the profit motive, the narrow profit motive which I recognize is I hope not all that motivates dentists or anybody else, but in the context of the narrow profit motive, perhaps the dentists themselves have no particular reason to improve the dentists, the ratio of dentists of the total population.

Mr. Simmons:

Perhaps the government ought to be looking elsewhere than to the dentists themselves for advice on this particular matter.

When I was involved actively with the NTA we always wanted more participation in defining who should be a member of the teaching profession in the Province. But I was always scared of the ultimate, the possibility that the professional himself would define completely who could participate in the teaching profession. There is a parallel here, I believe, Perhaps we have been doing the taxpayers and the people of this Province an injustice by looking to the professional group, in this case the dentists, looking to the professional group for solutions to the problem, the very nature of the problem being one that the dentist has a very vested interest in.

Now, Mr. Chairman, in clueing up I do not say that to be unkind to dentists. I could make the same kinds of comments about teachers or about general practitioners or about any professional group. They have a vested interest which is real enough, but they may not be able to see the forest for the trees, or indeed to put it another way, they not want to see the forest for the trees.

MR. CHAIRMAN (MR. YOUNG): Shall 1008-01 carry?

On motion 1008-01 carried.

On motion 1008-04-01 through 1008-04-06 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN (MR. YOUNG): Shall 1008-04-07? The hon. member for Fogo.

CAPT. E. WINSOR: Mr. Chairman, can the minister tell the House what arrangements the department has with the mobile dental clinic in visiting such areas as Fogo Island and other islands? You know, is there a mobile unit which goes through the Island or is there a dentist stationed there for any given time of the year, Maybe the minister can inform us?

MR. CHAIRMAN (MR. YOUNG): The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. H. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the mobile dental clinic, we have not been having the luck with that which we thought we might have, and that again derives from the fact that it is very

MR. H. COLLINS:

difficult to find a dentist who is willing to take the clinic over the remote areas of the Province. We did have it in use in Bonavista Bay, in Glovertown last Fall. We are working with the Janeway Children's Hospital now because of their interest in dealing with the Province as opposed to the urban centre of St. John's only. We are hoping that we might be able to get some guidance and some assistance from those people in terms of where that machine will be deployed this Summer. The real problem again is getting the dentists to man the equipment.

CAPT. E. WINSOR: Does the minister know or can he tell the House how often a dentist visits Fogo Island?

MR. H. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, off hand I cannot, but my officials are in hearing distance and probably they might be able to give me some information which I will pass along to the hon. member.

MR. CHAIRMAN (MR. YOUNG): Shall 1008-07 carry?

On motion 1008-07 carried.

On motion 1008-08 through 1009-01 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall 1009-04-01 carry?

MR. H. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, some of my colleagues will be making an amendment here. I cannot make it. I am asking the Committee for an additional \$500,000 which we are going to need for the a swine flu vaccine which will be coming on this Fall.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Mr. Young): The hon. member for Twillingate.

MR. J. R. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Chairman, of course I will vote for that insofar as my vote can do it, the minister will get his additional half million dollars, because I am sure we do not want a terrible epidemic of swine influenza in Newfoundland or any other kind of influenza. Incidentally the swine growers, the swine raisers in Newfoundland are furious, not only in Newfoundland but all across Canada -

MR. DOODY: At the name.

MR. SMALLWOOD: - at the name, swine influenza. It has got nothing to do with swine any more than with sheep or goats or pigs or horses

Mr. Smallwood:

or anything else. We do not want that kind of influenza or any other kind, and if a half million dollars will help to prevent it, to head it off that is just fine.

But I cannot help, I just cannot help reminding the Committee that the total vote of this Department of Health, this very important Department of Health, this one or the two or three most important departments in the whole public service of this Province asking us for \$194 millions, I think it is, \$194 millions this year?

MR. S. NEARY: Yes, Sir.

MR. SMALLWOOD: It is asking us to give them for this one year alone an amount just about equal to all the money that the Department of Health received in the first sixteen years combined. In the first year of Confederation it was \$4,900,000, it was the same the next year and then it rose \$5.8 million, \$6.4 million, \$7.8 million, \$8.3 million, \$8.8 million, \$9.8 million, \$11.6 million, \$13.6 million, it was \$15.5 million fifteen years ago, then \$17 million, then \$18.5 million, the \$19.5 million, then \$22.75 millions and then \$25.5 millions. In the sixteenth

MR. SMALLWOOD: year, that is what? - that is twelve years ago. In the sixteenth year the grand total was \$25.5 million. And in those sixteen years, Mr. Chairman, the Government of Newfoundland spent a grand total of \$200 millions. In sixteen years! Now this one year, this present year now, it is \$194 million, and in fact, a bit more because the minister wants another \$.5 million to fight the Swine Influenza.

As we vote these necessary sums of money is it not just a little bit sensible, as we add them up, one department after the other, Education \$264 million, Health \$194 million, \$194.5 million now with the new \$.5 million added -

MR. DOODY: There may be some cost recovery on that one.

MR. SMALLWOOD: That may well be, but there will still be a grand total net amount that the government will want to carry on the public service and extend it some in the present year. I do not know if the hon. members' blood is curdled at all, or chilled, if their minds are disturbed, but it is just beautiful to be here voting a half million for this, a quarter million for that, and \$194 million for Health, and \$274 million for Education, and \$150 million for something else. But, Mr. Chairman, there are going to be some long faces and tears shed in this House and in this Province before too long.

MR. DOODY: Mr. Chairman, this subhead, as indeed many of the subheads that the hon. the member for Twillingate has commented on, is a very reasonable and accurate summation of the facts that we are spending a tremendous amount of money. There is nobody here in this hon. House who is not aware of the fact that we are spending a great deal of money, far more money than we want to spend. The problem that we have, Sir, or the problem that this House and this Province has, is where to make the appropriate cuts. If hon. members want to cut out any programme, whether it be the dental care programme for the children or the rather unfortunately named Swine Vaccine Programme, then hon. members have that option.

MR. DOODY: But unfortunately, Sir, it is not as simple as that. There are certain services and programmes that the people of Newfoundland feel that they are entitled to as Canadian citizens and which we are doing our best to provide.

Now the cost is horrendous. There might very well be long faces. I can assure the hon. member and hon. members opposite, and indeed all hon. members of the hon. House that there have been many long faces for a great many months in Finance and Treasury Board over this budget and over these programmes and over these policies. The problem is not in seeing the problem; the problem is in finding a solution, and that is what I would appreciate hearing from time to time as we go through the estimates.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Chairman, the \$194.5 millions that the government are asking for for Public Health is not enough. Instead of \$194 million, I am sure the minister would like to have another \$50 millions added to that. And I doubt if another \$50 million were added to it that it would be enough.

MR. DOODY: It is not.

MR. SMALLWOOD: It would not be enough.

MR. DOODY: It is not enough.

MR. SMALLWOOD: It would not build the additional hospitals we must have. Now we are not going to have them, but we must have them.

MR. DOODY: It would not maintain them.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The additional hospitals are needed at Clarenville, and an extension at Grand Falls, and the big new one on the Burin Peninsula, and then the operation of them. What is the ratio?

MR. DOODY: In about three years, or two and-a-half years, the capital cost is spent again in operating them.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Exactly. And then that goes on indefinitely year after year and thereafter.

MR. DOODY: And it gets shorter.

MR. NEARY: It depends on the inflationary costs?

MR. DOODY: Yes. That is right! Time gets shorter.

MR. SMALLWOOD: I agree with the minister. The Minister of Health cannot ask for less than \$194.5 million. He cannot ask for less if he is going to make any kind of a crack at, any kind of a stab at meeting the needs. Now it is not going to meet the needs, it will take a lot more than that. The Minister of Education asked us for \$274 millions. You were over a quarter of a billion for education in one year. And as I said when we debated it, it is not enough, it is not going to meet the needs. And there is not, I do not suppose, in all these estimates, the government in any department, unless it is the Premier's office and one or two bits of luxury around, you know, this Chamber, this House, what the parties get, what the members get, except for a few things like that, I do not think that the government have asked for one dollar more than is needed. In fact, they have not asked for all the money that is needed but they have asked for a lot of money they have not got. They have asked for money. They have asked in this Committee and later on they will be asking the House to vote the money to spend the money that they have not got and are not going to have.

MR. DOODY: We will have it.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The government have not got the money.

MR. DOODY: We will have it.

MR. SMALLWOOD: No, the government will not have it. They are going to add \$270 millions to the debt this year. Now they are going to add more than that. Over a quarter of a billion in one year added to the indebtedness of the Province. They are going to ask more than that. Well now, if they cannot borrow more are they going to tax more? How can the Minister of Finance say, "Oh we will have it. We will get it." The minister will not get it. The government have not got it and they are not going to have it, but we are going to vote the money to them. They will ask us for it and we will agree. We will vote for it. We may even have suggestions. I have heard a few suggestions already on this side of the House here

MR. SMALLWOOD: . . . where it should be more, and asking the government to made it more. There is no suggestion from any quarter in this House from anyone I know of, or reducing. Now, of course, we have not come to some of the districts where hon. members might have some fun suggesting reduction, but that will be largely a bit of politics.

MR. DOODY: The Minister of Health's salary was in trouble.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes, but that was not done, that was not suggested as a means of saving money, that was taking a little swipe at the minister. I did not take it very seriously and I am not sure that any one else did. But when we come to some other - no, we will not, will we? It will be all over with.

MR. NEARY: That is right!

MR. SMALLWOOD: When we get Fisheries -

MR. NEARY: We will have four hours and nineteen minutes as at six o'clock this evening.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Well then, we will get to Fisheries, I hope, because the minister's heart will be broken if he does not have a chance to explain and champion his estimates for Fisheries. But that is about all. Four hours in a province where Fisheries have been the heart of the Province for nearly five hundred years, in that province we are going to have four hours to debate Fisheries.

MR. NEARY: We may not. We are still on Health.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Well, we will be though with Health shortly. If we keep on with Health it will become a very unhealthy condition in this House. It is all very sad.

On motion amendment to increase 1009-04-01 by \$500,000, carried.

On motion 1009-02 through to 1015-06, carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the member for St. John's South.

DR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I think under this Heading comes the cut in hospital beds. Would that be correct? The proposal

DR. COLLINS: is that 200 acute hospital beds should be closed this year. Now we have heard the suggestion in the House, and we have heard it here again today, that perhaps the government is not taking the costs of services seriously, and that costs are going up without really much due attention put to them. I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that cutting 200 acute hospitals beds, after all the struggle this Province has put into getting our present number of acute hospital beds together, to cut that by 200 this year is certainly taking the matter very seriously,

Dr. Collins.

and I certainly agree that this had to be done because some sort of dramatic gesture had to be made because of the critical financial state of the Province. But nevertheless I am sure all hon. members will understand that this is going to cause tremendous difficulties, and tremendous hardships for the health care system in this Province. Probably it will be particularly hard on certain institutions, one that I am personally associated with will find it extremely difficult to carry on its activities with a diminished number of beds. But despite that, as I say, this had to be done. The administration would have been neglectful if it had not taken some gesture along these lines.

Now the minister when he spoke the other evening made a plea for flexibility in the system, and this has much to do, of course, with the federal attitude towards our health insurance and hospital insurance schemes. And unless the federal people do change, do become more flexible, we are going to be in increasing difficulties. There is flexibility, or at least there could be flexibility in the scheme as it is, and the closing of beds whilst as I say is a stopgap, dramatic measure, it is not one that leads to much flexibility in terms of the hospitals that have to deal with the cuts. Flexibility could be brought into the system by schemes and plans and activities to take care of uncontrollable expenditures in the present system, because I think there are uncontrollable expenditures in the system. I say that rather than waste, because waste is an unfortunate term if we apply it to our health care system. It implies that money is thrown away for no good purpose. That is not the case. I would think that one would be hard put to say that any dollar spent on health services is a wasteful dollar. But nevertheless one certainly can say that many of these expenditures are uncontrollable, or uncontrolled. There are uncontrolled expenditures in all aspects of it, MCP included. We are only dealing here with hospital services. I would like to just use an analogy. For instance if one went into a supermarket, and you could just pick things

Dr. Collins.

off the shelf and put them in your basket and go home, this is not necessarily wasteful. You certainly could use them all and probably use them to good benefit. But nevertheless it would be a very uncontrolled way of filling your money and similar needs.

In hospitals the uncontrolled expenditures includes services such as laboratory and X-ray expenditures. And to give an example perhaps I could just quote very briefly a few figures, and these could be duplicated in many places, a few figures that came out of the United States in 1970, I think it was, and a study was done on 855 patients over a three month period who had an average hospital stay of fourteen days. In that fourteen days there was an average of sixty-nine tests carried out with a cost per patient of \$469. That is almost a quarter of the total hospital bill. And in this study the people carrying out the study felt that these costs were too high. They felt that they were not sufficiently controlled, and they did something about it and subsequently showed that such costs could be diminished. Similarly in certain procedures going on in the hospital care system, there are uncontrolled expenditures there. I might mention one that is a very favourite one these days, and perhaps unfortunately, for instance, in tubal ligations in the female in the childbearing period of her life, tubal ligations have gone up very dramatically in the last numbers of years, so much so that they are occupying - patients having tubal ligations - are occupying a very high proportion of gynecologic beds now. Now none of these procedures - and there are similar ones like that - none of these procedures can be said to be unethical or wasteful, but they are certainly not controlled in terms of putting them in the context of the total health delivery package. Similarly - as I believe it was mentioned by one of the hon. members - in medications, the expenditure on medications, on drugs and so on are essentially or very largely uncontrolled. By uncontrolled I mean that no one really knows how much a particular course of medication costs. No one really

Dr. Collins;

knows how much money is being spent for medications on a particular patient or on a particular group of patients.

And finally on admissions: There are certain uncontrolled expenditures in terms of admissions. I will not labour the subject. Now it is all very well just to point out these matters but what do we do about it? I would like to offer to the minister some suggestions, and I am sure the minister will be receptive to these because I am sure the minister does not think that closing - I have it on good authority from him - that he does not think that closing acute hospital beds is the end-all and be-all of the cost accounting of the health system. This is, as I say, is just an interim dramatic measure. There are other things that have to come in. We cannot keep these beds closed. If we were to keep these beds closed it would mean that we are now putting a stop to the development of hospital services in this Province, which, of course, no one has in mind at any stage. But suggestions as to control our expenditures would include cumulative patient accounting. Now all that means that everything done to a patient is known at the time, is written down somewhere, and people can see what that cost is. This is nothing new, nothing dramatic. It used to be done before hospital insurance came in. Every patient who went into a hospital, anything that was done on him, anything that was ordered on him was immediately put on his bill, and at the end he had to pay that bill, and he could see exactly what was done and what it cost him. Now this has not been the practice since hospital insurance came in. It was not required to be done. It was not required of the hospital, and it was certainly not required of the physician. At no time was it required of the physician. And, of course, it was not demanded by the patient. The patient had no particular interest in this, because now all his expenditures were out of someone else's pocket apparently, certainly not immediately out of his own.

Dr. Collins.

A second suggestion would be that we need guidelines now for the treatment of many conditions. In former days the treatment and the management of every condition was very closely scrutinized by the patient and by his doctor and by his family. And decisions were made as to how this treatment should go ahead, how this management should go ahead. That scrutiny went out the window when the hospital insurance and similar schemes were brought in. We now need to bring something back to replace it and one of the suggestions is that we should have guidelines for management of conditions. In that study I mentioned a little earlier this was one of the moves that were made as a result of that. They brought in guidelines which did hold things in check.

And a third suggestion would be that our health services now are composed of three components. There is a service component, there is a teaching component, and there is a research component. These all have their legitimate aims, and certainly their costs. But at the present time very often they are all poured into the one pot. For instance, you could have a patient in hospital - we are dealing with hospital services here - you could have a patient in hospital, part of his management will be the condition that he has and the hope of curing it or improving it, but also some of his stay in hospital is related to teaching practices, and some of the costs of his hospital stay are related to the teaching process. And in the same way the research aspects of health care in this Province have to do with that patient's stay in hospital. But these costs are not allotted at the present time very clearly in one direction or the other. They tend to overlap and accordingly the cost tends to be uncontrolled. So I hope, and I certainly know that the minister hopes this also, that in the future we will be going along the line of

Dr. Collins.

getting some measure of control back in to hospital costs rather than just blanket closing down of services which, although it has to be done this year, is a stopgap measure and certainly not one to cure the total situation.

MR. MURPHY: Would the hon. member permit a question before he takes his seat? I am wondering, Mr. Chairman - and in view of this and in view of Medicare, and we hear so many talks about rip-offs by doctors under Medicare, and we just heard a doctor now give us a few words on his thoughts on great costs that have been built into Medicare - I am wondering would the doctor give the House some idea of how possibly we as laymen or this House as a group of laymen, could possibly look into this thing? Does he feel that there should be an investigation in the area of supplies or this type of thing? I was very much interested in his remarks, and I am just wondering what the thoughts would be on that?

DR. COLLINS: Well, I was not talking specifically of Medicare here, because we are not considering medical services under this particular heading. We are talking of hospital services, but the same thing would apply. I would say that information is the first thing that one has to get so as to know what the right move to make is. And I would suggest that, as I mentioned, accumulative patient accounts is the first bit of information we do need. We have to see how much individual or particular illnesses, particular types of patients are now costing, which we do not know. They are all in a large pot, and it is very difficult to separate one from the other. We have to know almost on an individual basis, or certainly on a classification basis what our present costs are. And on the basis of that information, I think one could make suggestions and moves so as to bring the costs more in line with what we are capable of spending.

MR. MURPHY: Thank you, doctor.

On motion 1015-06-01 through to 1015-07-04 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Carbonear.

MR. R. MOORES: I would like just to pass, Mr. Chairman, a few comments on the Carbonear Hospital. First of all I would like to thank the Minister of Health. Of the eleven ministers that I have submitted written questions to, the Minister of Health is one of three who has answered all the questions that I have asked, and it is upon the answers to these questions that I have based most of my information today. Mr. Chairman, it has taken twelve years for two governments to construct the Carbonear Hospital - twelve years, seven of the former administration, and five and one-quarter or five and one-half of this administration. Today the Carbonear Hospital stands as a monument to the former Minister of Health (Dr. Gus Rowe), and he should receive today from me, as the present member for Carbonear, every iota of credit that he deserves. The man, I understand, worked his heart out for this situation, and today 40,000 people which the Carbonear General Hospital will service should give that man every accolade that is humanly possible. But as well as a monument to Dr. Gus Rowe, Mr. Chairman, it also stands as a monument to government procrastination. The original and preliminary studies on the Carbonear Hospital were done in 1964 or 1963. I attended - I think at that time I was fifteen or sixteen years old - the first public meeting on the Carbonear Hospital at the town hall in Carbonear. Shortly after that the former Minister of Health at that time, now the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy and the former Premier, who is now the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) arrived in Carbonear and turned a sod.

MR. NEARY: What about the Leader of the Opposition?

MR. R. MOORES: Roughly fourteen years later, after the preliminary studies, the Carbonear Hospital was now approximately three weeks from its official opening. I understand it is now completely ready.

MR. COLLINS: You are talking about an official opening?

MR. R. MOORES: Yes, right.

MR. R. MOORES.

I understand everything is ready. The furniture is in. Not only do I understand it, but I have witnessed it. I have been on every floor and every room and every corridor. I have been escorted around most cordially by the project supervisor. And it is one of the most beautiful hospitals in all the nation. No doubt about it. It is one of the most beautiful hospitals in all the nation.

But let us just remark for a few minutes on the length of time. Fourteen years ago a preliminary study suggested that a 135 bed hospital be constructed in Carbonear. Today a 135 bed hospital is to be opened. My advice to the Minister of Health and to the government is that they should start thinking immediately now about an extension to it, right now. Because if the people of this Province and the people of Canada continue to conceive of health services of hospitalization in terms of tradition and custom the Carbonear General Hospital is now obsolete, and has been for five or six or seven years before the first nail was ever driven into it. My interest in this is twofold, not only for the health reasons involved, but also because it is the largest employer, the largest industry in the whole district. It will employ, I understand, permanently on a twelve month basis, 265 people. If one excludes the four or five month's tenure of the local fish plants, then that makes it the largest industry. I am happy for Dr. Gus Rowe. I am happy for the present Minister of Health. I am happy for the people of Carbonear district, and the people whom the hospital will serve.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. R. MOORES: Mr. Chairman, with every good comment comes a bad one, and I am sure the Minister of Health does not want to hear this one. You can put up a building five times better than the one you have in Carbonear now. You can equip it five times better. But unless you have the doctors, the skilled professionals, the knowledgeable people to perform the operations, the services, then

MR. R. MOORES.

your hospital, the structure, the physical structure and the equipment is not worth a damn. In answer to a question on Tuesday, March 9, No. 641 on the Order Paper, the Minister of Health gave me information which indicates that the post-operative mortality rate, that is the number of people who die after operations in Carbonear is fourteen times as high as the provincial lowest. And it is five times as high as the provincial average. In Nazi Germany they would probably be referred to, at least in historical terms, as butchers. Now I asked the question to the hon. Minister of Health not facetiously. I asked it because a number of people in the Carbonear area were requesting that I find the information. Just how do the doctors at that hospital rate with other hospitals in the Province? And there are the figures. Fourteen times as high as the lowest in the Province, and five times the provincial average. Those figures speak for themselves. Now the present Minister of Health is no more responsible for this high post-operative mortality rate than I am. So let us not talk politics. Let us wash our hands of it. My suggestion to the present Minister of Health is that there be a public enquiry into the causes of this high post-operative mortality rate. Why should people in Carbonear die on the operating table or after an operation when they can come to St. John's and have chances fourteen times higher that they will survive?

Now there are two reason why I want a public enquiry: One, to find out that, and I would like the public enquiry undertaken by the medical sector of the RCMP, because there are three professions in the world that are known notoriously for their internal protection, the medical profession, the legal profession and the Mafia, notwithstanding, of course, the political profession is made up of all three.

MR. D. MOORES:

Mr. Chairman, I hope the press will give this statement as much coverage as it deserves. For years now I have personally told my parents that if travelling through the district I get hit with a car or something, if I can make it to St. John's to send me, not to let the butchers in Carbonear get at me. With a post-operative mortality rate of fourteen times the provincial lowest - and I am not ashamed to say this - if any members on the opposite side are shaking their head, you do not have to go to Carbonear, I do. I have parents there who have to go to that hospital. I have friends who have to go to it. If those doctors are no good, if they are below what professionals should be, then they should not be there. Now these figures do not lie. These figures are determined by the same variables and the same invariables in a statistical sense as they would apply to all the other hospitals in the Province.

So do not give me any bunkum about this variable is not the same in St. John's as it would be in St. Anthony or Baie Verte somewhere. They are all determined by the same mathematical formulae. And Carbonear just happens to be the highest in the Province. If something soon is not done about it - and I understand there is at least something being done, I understand now that the medical school of the university finds it most promptitude to now access the operations before they are performed in Carbonear.

So you put up your buildings, put them up another seven stories higher and put heart machines and lung machines and everything else in them, but you leave those doctors there and you are doing the people at that hospital services a disservice and an infamous, ignominious, nefarious service. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. COLLINS: I certainly cannot confirm those figures. I presume the figures the hon. member refers to is in response to a question. I think that is what he said. I will certainly have to look that up because I cannot make a statement on it at this present time. I would have to see the figures again. There good be a lot of reasons, a

MR. COLLINS:

lot of variables as the hon. member says and he also says that is not an excuse. But certainly it is something that I will have to look at.

On motion subheads 1015-07-05 to 1015-07-09 carried.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Burin-Placentia.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Chairman, on 1015-07-10 before I can comment on it I would like to know just what it is. Is that money voted for some existing hospital on the peninsula, one of the three existing hospitals there, or is it in connection with a hospital that we hope to build, the government hopes to build, that is not built up there?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. COLLINS: The hon. member refers to 1015-07-10.

MR. CANNING: Page 63, yes.

MR. COLLINS: That is funds for the planning of the Burin Peninsula hospital, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Chairman, I am grateful to the minister for telling me what the vote was. I was not sure. Mr. Chairman, I cannot stand up and talk to this hospital that has been looked for, been sought for a long time and come to the happy conclusion that the hon. member who just sat down did in reference to the Carbonear hospital. Mr. Chairman, about ten years ago, I think it was, when a committee was formed on the Burin Peninsula, about the center of the Burin Peninsula, in the Bay L'Argent-Tushoon area, to approach the government seeking, or to have erected there another hospital equivalent or like the ones referred to as the cottage hospitals. The committee was comprised of people from Tushoon to Paradise, I think, on the West side of Placentia Bay and from Bay L'Argent area to Terranceville on the South side of Fortune Bay on up West to some point well out in Fortune Bay, almost to Hermitage Bay, I think. At that time there were people in Fortune Bay who were, I think, 100 miles from a hospital and two-thirds of that had to be by boat. And the Burin Peninsula, of course, there just was not room at the cottage hospitals to look after that area.

That committee, which was headed or chaired by Reverend Father Penney, now His Excellency Bishop Penney, made a thorough survey

Mr. CANNING:

a thorough research of the area, presented a good report, giving the number of patients, what it costs per annum. It was really a thorough, well made out, a lot of work spent on it, report. That committee stayed intact. It changed the chairman, changed some of the personnel. But later on when the idea of regional hospitals came to the floor, that committee carried on, and I think brought their report up to date. They have approached the government here two or three times.

Last year, Mr. Chairman, in August of last year, their hopes were pretty high on the Burin Peninsula for getting a hospital. They got a promise from the government sometime before the election, a promise that we are going to build two regional hospitals up in that area, one in Clarenville and another at Salt Pond, in the district of Burin-Placentia West. I do not know how far they went in Clarenville, what they have done down there, but about a week or so before the election there was a beautiful platform built, a substantial platform, the big notices up on it, "The Site Of The Burin Peninsula District Hospital", I think it was called, very large letters, well done, a beautiful platform ready for the raising of the sod. But somehow or another they did not get around to it. When the elections came they did not turn up to raise the sod.

But anyway there is a big notice there and it is still there intact. Even the vandals have not touched it. It looks good when you are passing along. The only thing is that to the people of the Burin Peninsula who live 200 miles from a hospital and who witness time and time again deaths up there because there is not an adequate facility, to them it does not look so good. It was another promise, another Tory promise - there have been hundreds of them made - to fool the people.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I can assure this House this much in my twenty-three years up there I did not allow anybody or did not have anybody put up any promise about anything. For the whole twenty-three years - Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could have a little silence. I am one of those who when anybody is talking out loud, somehow or another I can stray from my thought of conversation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!

I am sure the hon. members will take heed of the hon. member for Burin-Placentia West's (Mr. Canning) request.

MR. CANNING: Mr. Chairman, I was saying that in twenty-three years in this House, twenty-three years representing the district of Placentia West first, and recently Burin-Placentia West, I have never once in any election, before or after elections or between elections, ever came out and made a promise to the people of Placentia West. I never used in an election, never once directly promised that we shall get this, I am going to get this if you put me in. So to the people up there, Mr. Chairman, when they went so far as to put up the platform and the big notice just before, then it was followed just a few weeks before, perhaps a month before with a piece of machinery, a little bit of machinery turning up there and a few trucks -

Mr. P. Canning:

they went in and they spoiled a very scenic site, a beautiful site for a hospital or for any building, any public building or any building, a beautiful site. They went in and took the mud off it, they dirtied up the roads, an awful state there, around Salt Pond, around the Trade School while it was on, and immediately after the election the machinery disappeared, disappeared from the site.

Mr. Chairman, it is not a habit of mine to accuse the government directly of trying to fool the people, for I am now accusing them of misleading the people there. They knew at that time that they were not going to go ahead with the hospital. They knew or they should know that this government could not afford to go ahead with the hospital. But, Mr. Chairman, I got great satisfaction out of it, personal satisfaction, that I had been involved in this House of Assembly for twenty-three years, and I had seen the people of Placentia West, the people of the Burin Peninsula being informed, being knowledgeable and understanding enough to know that placard that went up there was a fake. It was trying to fool them. I was some glad that our people - because how often they were fooled, how often they believed, they wanted things so badly and the need was so great that they would not let themselves do anything but believe, they were going to be helped and they were told they were going to be helped. But, Mr. Chairman, I was glad we had come to the point where it was no good for politicians going out in this Province any more and making promises. That day is over, because despite the fact it was extremely, a very large sign, and the platform was for the purpose of talking to the people when the sod would be turned, did not fool the people. Election day, Mr. Chairman, showed that I can tell you, not even the people in the immediate area did not believe it. They did not vote for a false promise.

Mr. Chairman, I know that now it is no good for me asking the government to go ahead with this hospital this year, because they have not got the money. They have cut down on beds, they have already cut down on 200 beds. And, Mr. Chairman, I am going to repeat what I

Mr. Canning:

repeated here before, that people are continually dying in that part of Newfoundland because they are not near St. John's. Every year - I made that statement here before, I was on the government side and I had the courage to get up - and I am glad that the member for St. John's East (Mr. Marshall) sort of follows my trend, he has the courage to get up over there - I got up on that side of the House and made that statement, I got outside of the House and went on the air and made the statement. Mr. Chairman, the next morning when the radio went on you never heard such a slating as I got from the doctors at the hospitals on the Burin Peninsula, and the mayors of the Burin Peninsula, all of them expect one. I was making politics. I did not know what I was talking about. The medical profession came out. I did not know what I was talking about, and they were going to have a meeting, a private meeting, the medical profession of Newfoundland, and they were to come out the next day and they were going to do - what they were going to do, I suppose they were going to make a liar of me, or say or prove that I was wrong. Mr. Chairman, I gave specific examples of people who had died in specific areas.

The medical profession had their meeting, Mr. Chairman, but the next day we heard nothing about it or nothing about it since, because when they went into the meeting, being doctors of the Burin Peninsula if they were represented, I guess they were, they knew darn well that what I had said was the truth, and they could not prove otherwise. And, Mr. Chairman, I was not glad, I was saddened I suppose of the fact that a few weeks ago on television one night when one very prominent doctor was asked did he believe that the people who had lost their lives on the Burin Peninsula for the lack of proper medical facilities, he said, yes. I was glad my point was proven, but I was sorry to even then find out it was true.

Now, Mr. Chairman, what I would like to know -

AN HON. MEMBER: That hospital is not going to be started this year.

MR. CANNING: Yes, I know. I know that hospital is not going to start this year. But I would like to know where that \$680,000 is going to go, and I would like to know where the \$66,000 went last year.

MR. CANNING:

There is no hospital up there. \$66,000 spent last year to take off turf, a contract, I do not imagine there were tenders called for it, because I noticed that when the election was on that people who had the contract were out going around with Tory placards and making phone calls, and they were asking the people were they going to vote for this great lawyer, the man with all those degrees he had, or were they just going to vote for Pat Canning, that ordinary fellow from Merasheen who only got through teacher's training at the University, three years, got his Grade XI out on the Island of Merasheen.

Anyway, Mr. Chairman, they voted for Pat Canning -

MR. DOODY: That was the best part of your education.

MR. CANNING: That I got out there.

MR. ROBERTS: Sure.

MR. CANNING: You are telling me.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. CANNING: Anyway, Mr. Chairman, like I say, I will repeat again and I know that it is just hopeless for me to say that the minister will get up and tell us if he is going to start that this year? because he is not. But I would like to ask him how many planners and analysts, and what else? what is the other one?

AN HON. MEMBER: Consultants.

MR. CANNING: Consultants.

AN HON. MEMBER: Architects.

MR. CANNING: Architects. I wonder how much of that \$680,000 is going to go to those here in St. John's?

AN HON. MEMBER: All of it.

MR. CANNING: All of it. I would not doubt it. I would not doubt it, Mr. Chairman, and I on another day will have something to say about the contractors, and about consultants, analysts and all the rest of them.

But I would like for the Minister of Health now to just explain to me exactly where this \$680,000 is going, who is going to

Mr. Canning:

get it or are there going to be any tenders, how many plans are going to be drawn, how many consultants are going to be paid, are there any lawyers going to be paid, are there any instruments or anything to be brought down on Water Street? Where is it going to go? Because it is not going to the Burin Peninsula.

MR. F. ROWE: Preliminary plans.

MR. CANNING: Well, yes, preliminary plans. Look, I have looked through the wages, the salaries I mean, and the budget, looked through them very thoroughly since they came out, and Mr. Chairman, the number of civil servants and the headings, the assistants, the Premier's private assistants and other assistants and other advisers and assistants to the assistants and the analysts, and I do not know whatnot, and the number who are there.

MR. ROWE: But he needs them, you know.

MR. CANNING: I am wondering if we need them. I wonder can we pay off a lot of them and build a hospital. Because when I was defeated, and I was defeated by that little margin they got me out on, I do not think I was defeated anyway. I do not think that the people ever voted against me. I do not think they did. But when I was defeated, what was it, five years ago? I did not know what the population of Newfoundland was, but I can assure you this, it has not grown in comparison to the growth in the civil service. We had most of the civil servants in this building, a few outside, not too many, three or four perhaps boards, all the departments were here, and now, Mr. Chairman, the Confederation Building is filled up, every Crosbie Building in St. John's is filled up, and dozens of other buildings. There is something like sixteen, eighteen, or twenty, I do not know but more, I do not know yet, I cannot find them myself, I do not know what my constituents do when they come in how they find the departments. They find the Department of Fisheries in the Viking Building, and

MR. CANNING: Then we find Motor Registration in another Crosbie building. The town is full of civil servants.

Here I am standing up today after twelve years begging, having committees formed, delegations come in to two governments and about five or six ministers, from one part of this Island that is paying for itself, I can assure you of that, it is the part that is producing. The people in here are pretty fortunate, the people who are not producing. But St. John's has all the medical services. Do you know that we have people up on the Burin Peninsula waiting for over a year to get into a hospital? If anyone wants to call me a liar they can. I will prove that I am not. But they are not allowed to call me a liar, Mr. Chairman. I have seen patients down in the General and over at St. Clare's and over at the Grace getting corns off their feet. I have seen people sick down on the Burin Peninsula, dying with cancer, too far away from a doctor to get a daily needle and they could not get in. I have seen that, and it is still going on.

I had a call about a month after I was elected from a man thirty miles from, thirty or more, thirty-four miles - one thing I can tell you is all the miles on the Peninsula if anybody wants to know about it - thirty-four miles from the hospital, who was dying with cancer, in the very last throes of it, the last stages of it, suffering. They were poor, they could not afford to get him up to the Burin Hospital and he asked me if there was anything that could be done to get somebody to give him a needle, in his sick bed, at home.

Mr. Chairman, I could go on for my forty-five minutes telling of the sufferings, the hardships of the people out there because they are not near St. Clare's, the Grace or the General. I could talk of people who have crippled limbs, apart from those who have died, people who have been ill from their twenties on or their thirties on, because they had to go to a hospital where we did not have the facilities. We have good doctors, we have good nurses, as far as that is concerned, but we just do not have the facilities.

MR. CANNING: So, Mr. Chairman, I would ask the minister, because I am just going to try to find out where this \$680,000 is going to go, I would ask him where the \$66,000 went last year, where the \$680,000 is going to go this year, and I can assure him of one thing, if I do not do anything else this year I am going to be pretty busy trying to find out where that is being spent. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Chairman, if I may have a few brief words on this particular Heading. I do not particularly like finding myself in disagreement with the hon. gentleman from Burin-Placentia West (Mr. Canning), but I am compelled to take issue with his statement that people are dying on the Burin Peninsula because of lack of medical facilities.

AN HON. MEMBER: Who are you balming for it?

MR. HICKMAN: I said I have to take issue with it, Mr. Chairman. On the Burin Peninsula we have three Cottage Hospitals, Grand Bank, St. Lawrence and Burin. All the hospitals at this time are staffed with highly competent doctors. I do not know how many are in Burin now, but I suspect four. There are four in Grand Bank and three in St. Lawrence and there are at least two private practitioners in Marystown. There may be one in Bay L'Argent, I am not certain, but there used to be.

The health facilities on the Burin Peninsula are in need of improvement, of that there is no doubt, and the Regional Hospital, when it is built at Salt Pond, will undoubtedly replace the hospital in Burin. It is within the same municipality -

MR. NEARY: Is that the right site, by the way? Because Dr. Paul said it was not the right one.

MR. HICKMAN: There is no question in my mind, Mr. Chairman, that Salt Pond is the desirable site for that hospital. The Salt Pond area has been accepted by the Burin Peninsula as the site for the major institutions for the Peninsula.

MR. CANNING: The way they were building a stadium down there!

MR. HICKMAN: The hon. gentleman from Burin-Placentia West (Mr. Canning), has some views on the stadium in Marystown that I would not find it appropriate to comment on. But I believe that institutions that require the support of several municipalities on the East side of the Burin Peninsula should be more properly, and certainly can be more effectively and efficiently established at Salt Pond.

There is not much point in going over all the water that has gone under the bridge, why there has been so many delays in building the hospital in Salt Pond. I am sure the hon. gentleman opposite is as aware of it as I am. I can recall when the hon. Doctor McGrath, the late Doctor McGrath, was Minister of Health I went to him and I asked what the possibilities were to build a hospital on the Burin Peninsula, a Regional Hospital. He was inclined toward it and said, "If they could only make up their minds where they wanted it built." I said, "Well, we will resolve that for you." Many months later when I found myself up in the same Portfolio, we sent a team down and they finally located a spot not too far from where the present site has been chosen, Salt Pond, but a few miles further out in Burin Bay Arm because at that time the prospects of water and sewerage for the Burin Bay Arm area was not that good and they were very concerned about the water supply. So the site was tentatively chosen then.

Then there were some studies done and in 1969 or 1970 at a meeting in Marystown there was an indication given, as the hon. gentleman will recall, that the Regional Hospital in Clarenville would serve the Bonavista and Burin Peninsulas. That was an announcement that was not met with overwhelming enthusiasm from the people on the Burin Peninsula. And the thinking then continued that way until Doctor Rowe became Minister of Health, and he did not subscribe to that view of centralization in the large, large hospitals. He commissioned a further study to be done and the study showed very clearly that both Clarenville and the Burin Peninsula could sustain a bed capacity of about 138.

MR. HICKMAN: Then last there was this - it is there, it was not created by government, but the same sort of controversy arose again as to where the hospital is going to be. There was a committee, a Hospital Committee formed.

MR. CANNING: You are ahead of your story now. You are saying that the people on the Burin Peninsula were somewhat inclined to agree.

MR. HICKMAN: No, no! I said they were not inclined to. They showed something less than enthusiasm. Then there was a Hospital Committee formed. I thought it had died and it suddenly came to life again last year, and they came in and they were advocating Marystown as the site for the hospital. Then there was another study done - this is where I suspect the \$60,000 went - by a group of engineers. I thought it was resolved. It looked to me very clear that Salt Pond was the place, but no sir! this Committee wanted more than one site. And this time last year the hon. the Premier was down and he was not in a position to indicate where the site was going to be because they had three, one near Wiscombe's Garage, another out somewhere where the stadium is, and the third one in Salt Pond. All the technical advice indicated very clearly, in my opinion, that Salt Pond was the site. And there was no doubt in my mind that the place for the hospital, if you wanted to get the support of the entire Peninsula, was Salt Pond.

That must have been in July or August.
They then did some work on the site clearing, but remember,

Mr. Hickman.

Mr. Chairman, that up to this day, to my knowledge, there has not been work done on the kind of hospital you need. They have identified the needs as 138.

MR. NEARY: Has there been a breakdown of the beds on the Peninsula?

MR. HICKMAN: My understanding is that they may have a breakdown of the beds, but the \$680,000 that is now being asked for in this Committee, I presume will enable the professional staff on the Peninsula and off the Peninsula and in the Department of Health to sit down with your architects and say now draw your plans and specifications which will enable the government to go to tender on the hospital that we need.

MR. NEARY: Why the sod turning?

MR. HICKMAN: Oh, the sod turning. I am fully aware of the sod turning, a great big sign down there that this is going to be the site of the Burin Peninsula hospital. So it is. There is no question about it. That is where it is going to be, in Salt Pond. But you have to -

MR. NEARY: It is a con job.

MR. HICKMAN: Oh, con job! Listen to the hon. gentleman, you know!

MR. NEARY: Mr. Trudeau let you off the hook.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Trudeau did not let this administration off the hook any more than when there were sod turnings. I can recall having to go over and break the bad news in Bay Roberts that the site that was up in Bay Roberts, at the crossroads there, this would be the site of the new Bay Roberts hospital, that unfortunately there would be no hospital, not a very pleasant luncheon. I have had more pleasant luncheons. And I can recall when the Mr. Speaker... of the day represented Carbonear being beaten black and blue as to why - when the hon. gentleman next to me had gone over and turned a sod in 1967 - was that when you did the dreadful thing? or thereabouts for the Carbonear hospital - why had that not started? Well, there are all sorts of reasons. But no one should ever subscribe the lack of intention

Mr. Hickman.

of the lack of desire to do that. I am delighted that the hon. gentleman who now occupies and holds the portfolio of Health has seen fit to come before this Committee and ask for \$680,000 for the Burin Peninsula regional hospital. That is by far the largest amount of money that this Committee has been asked to date to vote for that hospital. The hon. gentleman says, "Where is it going to go?" I know where I hope it goes, and the Minister of Health can certainly tell us maybe in detail where it is going. I hope that the \$680,000 goes into the pockets of consultants who will have done the work and completed the plans so that next year when the hon. gentleman -

MR. CANNING: Is that not costly?

MR. HICKMAN: No, it is not that costly. From bitter experience it is not that costly.

- that next year the hon. Minister of Health will then have nothing left to do but try and find what is now and estimated \$16 million for the construction of a 138 bed hospital.

I have been asked questions as to what is going to happen to the other hospitals on the Peninsula. That is going to take a fair amount of study, because let me assure this Committee that there is no way that the people in Grand Bank will countenance the closing down of their hospital, or the people in St. Lawrence. The first hospital in Grand Bank was a total community effort. It was a Seamen's Institute built out of local funds and that continued. It was the ugliest looking building you could imagine, because every time they could raise another few thousand dollars they used to build a wing on there. And it operated and functioned that way until 1940 when Sir John Puddissee came down and laid the cornerstone for the hospital that is presently there. But it was a tremendous community effort carried out by the people of that town and Fortune and Garnish, and they operated under Dr. John Burke who operated under very trying circumstances but performed tremendous service to the people of that area.

Mr. Hickman.

I would envisage that the Grand Bank hospital will have a very strong role to play, because today it has one of the busiest outpatient departments of any hospital in the Province, and there has been a twenty-five per cent increase during the first quarter of this year over last year in the outpatients activity in the hospital at Grand Bank - twenty-five per cent.

MR. ROBERTS: Why?

MR. HICKMAN: Well, for two reasons: One, I think, we now have four doctors there on a pretty much permanent basis. We have been down to two, three, not that kind of permanency, hard to retain them. The second is that these doctors are working under the leadership of one of the ablest young doctors in this Province, Dr. Rod Stevenson who is a native Newfoundlander from Carbonear and who went away and did postgraduate work and decided he wanted to go back in the cottage hospital system and go back to Grand Bank, and he has done a tremendous job of, I think, not only convincing the people in the area served by that hospital of the necessity of good health care, but also that they should take full advantage of outpatient facilities.

MR. NEARY: Twenty-five per cent?

MR. HICKMAN: Twenty-five per cent is what he told me when I was there about two weeks ago.

And it is fantastic to see the numbers, the hundreds -

MR. ROBERTS: Any decrease in the number of beds?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, very much so, very much so. There has been a decrease.

MR. ROBERTS: Within the last few months?

MR. HICKMAN: Yes. I would think within the last few months, certainly in the last couple of years and the same applies, I suggest, to the three hospitals on the Peninsula that you will find empty beds there. I do not know if the hon. gentleman has them there, but I am sure that they are available. And that hospital as the Senior Citizens Home

Mr. Hickman.

continues to grow I can see it having a different emphasis, more for the chronic care type of hospital and maternity and that sort of thing whereas the other ailments will go to the hospital in Burin. In St. Lawrence - there is no way, let me assure this Committee, there is no way that the people of St. Lawrence are going to accept that Memorial hospital being any less active than it is now. Again there may be a change in the emphasis of the treatment being given there and maybe a greater emphasis on the outpatient operation. But the point that I make is that, you know, I share the concern and the enthusiasm of the hon. gentleman for Burin - Placentia West (Mr. Canning) that there is indeed a need for a regional hospital. Some of the specialties will not be there.

MR. CANNING: Did you not promise it?

MR. HICKMAN: I promised it. I most assuredly did, and I will continue to promise it. And that is why I take such delight for the first time a Committee of this House is being asked to vote \$680,000 for planning.

MR. ROBERTS: How much did they ask to vote last year?

MR. HICKMAN: Well they spent \$60,000.

MR. ROBERTS: How much did they ask to vote?

MR. HICKMAN: Sixty-six thousand dollars. I do not know what the request was, but I have the assurance of the hon. Minister of Health that this year \$680,000 will be spent on planning, and I am sure this is the detailed planning.

MR. ROBERTS: They voted \$500,000 last year.

MR. HICKMAN: Well we are going to spend \$680,000 this year.

Am I right, my colleague?

MR. ROBERTS: Will the minister resign if it is not spent?

MR. HICKMAN: Well, you will have to put that to the hon. Minister of Health.

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

MR. HICKMAN: Yes, sir.

MR. SMALLWOOD: If this new hospital is to cost \$16 million to build and to operate, I suppose, a few millions a year, and the other three hospitals that are presently operating are to continue to operate, where is the money coming from? Will there be more hospital beds than the average in the Province? Does the minister know what these three hospitals presently operating are costing? Is the one at St. Lawrence that was put there by the Government of the United States, is that operated by the Government of Newfoundland -

MR. HICKMAN: Yes.

MR. SMALLWOOD:- at Newfoundland expense with federal help, of course? What is the total operating cost now of those three hospitals? What will be the total operating costs of the new hospital when it is built? And what will be the grand total of the four hospitals to operate?

MR. HICKMAN: My hon. colleague, the Minister of Health may be able to answer that. Under the rule of thumb the estimated cost of the new hospital is \$16 million. And I think the rule is now two and one-half times the capital cost-or the capital cost is spent in two and one-half years in operating costs, so I presume that would be about \$6 million a year that it is going to cost at present day prices to operate the new hospital. The new hospital by virtue of the fact that it is going into Salt Pond will be going in the municipality of Burin. So I assume that the present hospital in the municipality of Burin will be replaced by the new one in that municipality.

MR. SMALLWOOD: What district is Burin in?

MR. HICKMAN: Burin is in the district of Placentia West.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Oh, not Grand Bank.

MR. HICKMAN: But there has never been any suggestion -

MR. SMALLWOOD: But the St. Lawrence hospital and the Grand Bank hospital, of course, will continue.

MR. HICKMAN: Yes.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The one in the other district will not.

MR. HICKMAN: Well, Mr. Chairman, when all three

Mr. Hickman;

hospitals were in my district, I had never heard a suggestion nor have I ever made a suggestion that you would have two hospitals within the municipality of Burin, This is within the same municipality, within the boundaries of Burin.

MR. SMALLWOOD: What is the area of that municipality? Fifty miles?

MR. HICKMAN: Pardon?

MR. SMALLWOOD: What is the area of the Burin municipality?

MR. HICKMAN: It is nine miles from the present hospital in Ship Cove, Burin to the site that has been chosen in Salt Pond.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes. Well from the General Hospital here to the Grace or St. Clare's is not nine miles.

MR. HICKMAN: I realize that. But I am sure that, I know because of the strong support the Burin Town Council gave to this proposal when there was a threat of it going to Marystown, that there will be no problem in getting unanimous,enthusastic,full support for Burin, that their present hospital,which is a very, very old structure, and I mean old, I think it was the first of the cottage hospitals, built by the first; an'aside,built out of funds raised,I am told,by the first legitimate or otherwise sweepstake that was held in the Province. I have seen the tickets. It is exactly like the Irish Sweepstake. They raised money for the hospital and a cold storage and there were a few dollars left over.

MR. SMALLWOOD: That was the gang that came down from Montreal.

MR. HICKMAN: I have no idea, but if it is -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes, I know the full story.

MR. HICKMAN: But it was many, many years ago. But be that as it may,there will be the cost of operating that hospital, there will be the cost of operating the one in Grand Bank and the one in Fortune, and in St. Lawrence,and I feel that these two hospitals can complement rather than take away from the regional hospital.

But both the hor. gentleman from Burin-Placentia West (Mr. Canning) and myself would be wrong if we indicated to the people of the Peninsula that the building of that hospital will cure all their

Mr. Hickman:

ills. There will be certain specialities that will be in the Health Science Centre. The Janeway Hospital will continue to be the, you know, hospital for, the centre for children. The cancer treatment, I suggest, will be in here. But I think we can look forward to some surgeons practicing on the Burin Peninsula, some of the other specialities practicing on the Burin Peninsula as well. And I rose primarily because I have heard the hon. gentleman make the statement before that people are dying on the Burin Peninsula because of lack of medical facilities. And I can recall how upset the doctors were, I did not realize throughout the Province, but on the Peninsula at the time the statement was made before. When today we are three hours, what? three hours from St. John's in an ambulance. And I had not seen evidence of that kind of tragedy arising as a direct result of the lack of facility on the Burin Peninsula. I am sure there are cases where people have gotten caught in snow storms and that sort of thing, but by and large, the medical staff are there to handle the problem, but the facilities unfortunately are not. And my hope is that, and please do not stand in this Committee next year and say the hon. member for Burin said that construction is going to start on this hospital this year. I am not saying any such thing. I am saying that -

SOME HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: - for Grand Bank the hon. Minister of Health has assured me, and I am sure he will assure the Committee that this money this year will be spent on doing the final plans. And we must have these final plans. There is nothing unreasonable about that, but none of us can predict as to the amount of money, Mr. Chairman, that will be available to build hospitals next year. I sincerely hope that if we can ever get the Health Science out of the way, and the Waterford Hospital out of the way, and the Corner Brook Hospital and Twillingate and Carbonear, all done almost, there is still money in there this year for them, am bold enough to suggest that the Burin Peninsula Hospital and the Clarenville Hospital should rank next on the list of

Mr. Hickman:

priorities. And I realize -

MR. NEARY: And Channel-Port aux Basques.

MR. HICKMAN: Well, there you go. The hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) thinks that Channel-Port aux Basques should rate ahead of the Burin Peninsula Hospital. But I do not- I would be pardoned if I sort of expressed the view that the Burin Peninsula Hospital should be number one on the -

MR. NEARY: List of priorities.

MR. HICKMAN: - list of priorities.

But please take some comfort out of the fact that we now own the land, -

MR. NEARY: Own the land?

MR. HICKMAN: Well it took us ten years, ten! I have been in politics for ten years, -

AN HON. MEMBER: That is crown land.

MR. HICKMAN: Not all. - and the land had not been acquired ten years ago.

AN HON. MEMBER: Tell us about the site itself.

MR. HICKMAN: And the site was established the first time in 19 - what year was I Minister of Health?

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: Oh that was established about last June.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

SOME HON. MEMBER: 1969.

MR. HICKMAN: And in 19 - no, in 1969 the site that was established in 1969 was a site up behind Burin Bay Arm.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN:ardon? What?

MR. NEARY: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: I do not know. I do not care -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: That is right. And that is the year we chose the site across from Holland's farm.

MR. ROBERTS: Did they allow for the land to be acquired then?

MR. HICKMAN: No, but the site was chosen. And then the hon. gentleman succeeded me as Minister of Health, and he had a different view.

MR. ROBERTS: And I had the courage to tell them.

MR. HICKMAN: That is right. And the hon. gentleman went down to Clarendville, went down to Marystown and said that Clarendville should be able to - and the studies did indicate -

MR. ROBERTS: But I never promised they would build a hospital at Clarendville.

MR. HICKMAN: And that it should go into Clarendville, and that Clarendville would serve both Bonavista and the Burin Peninsula. This was not acceptable to the people on the Burin Peninsula, and they had the temerity to suggest that hon. gentleman, the hon. Leader of the Opposition was wrong.

MR. ROBERTS: Right. And they -

MR. HICKMAN: And it turned out that he was wrong. And then when his successor came into office he decided to embark upon a new course of studies and he finally had the studies done - this was not the exact site, whether it is going to be Salt Pond, Marystown, but the studies indicated that both the Burin Peninsula and Clarendville could indeed sustain hospitals of a size approximately 138 beds. Now we are into 1975, and this is announced, and then suddenly this Committee resurrects itself, that I thought was dead, gone, buried, but it was silent, we had not heard about it, suddenly it sprung to life again and said, "No, no, no! Marystown, it has got to be Marystown!"

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: And that brought on all kinds of controversy -

MR. CANNING:

MR. HICKMAN: I was at a meeting in this building attended by this Committee, I noticed a lack of representatives from around the Burin Peninsula, but there was a strong representation from Marystown at that meeting, and they suggested that Marystown was the site.

MR. CANNING: Representatives from the Marystown area.

MR. HICKMAN: And I said, in my opinion, we should accept the well established principle that Salt Pond was the site. Well then there was a protracted argument that the land in Salt Pond was not as good as the land in front of Wiscombe's garage in Creston, Marystown, and that was not as good as the land over by the town hall, near where the stadium is. So all right, another study. So down they came again, did their studies, dug their, whatever they call it, test holds, came back in - it was later than this, it was after the Joints Councils had met, they came back with a report which, in my opinion, substantiated the position that we have been advocating right along that Salt Pond was quite satisfactory. And finally the agonizing decision had to be made, and there was one gentleman who is not a member of the House now, who was then, who was very upset over this decision -

MR. ROBERTS: An unfortunate accident!

MR. HICKMAN: And he could get upset when he had to, was very upset with the final decision that was made. And if I recall a committee of three Cabinet ministers had to go down and go over the three sites and take a look at them, and finally they came back and the decision was made. Now we got that, that is done, that is out of the way. That is water under the bridge, Salt Pond it is.

The next problem now, the next challenge to the Minister of Health which he seems to be accepting with a great deal of enthusiasm, I can tell that, is to get the detailed plans. So let us not knock it. You know, sure you can get up and say to me, you should not have promised, and you should not have told the electorate of the Burin Peninsula last year that there was going to be a hospital in Salt Pond. You should not have told them that. But -

MR. CANNING: Well why did you tell them? Why did you tell them?

MR. HICKMAN: Because I said there was going to be, and there is going to be. No question about it. There is going to be a hospital in Salt Pond.

MR. CANNING: You knew you were in trouble.

MR. HICKMAN: Pardon?

MR. CANNING: You knew you were in trouble before you went up there and you just promised it.

MR. HICKMAN: I promised it again. I promised -

MR. ROBERTS: That is your trouble.

MR. HICKMAN: I promise right now, Mr. Chairman, I promise that there is going to be a hospital in Salt Pond on the Burin Peninsula.

MR. ROWE: Your promise is going to be another ice age.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: In this present decade.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister hopes.

MR. HICKMAN: If at the end of this decade - how long is a decade?

MR. ROBERTS: You are getting rash now.

MR. HICKMAN: How long is a decade?

AN HON. MEMBER: Ten years.

MR. HICKMAN: If at the end of this decade.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: What?

SOME HON. MEMBER: Ten years.

MR. HICKMAN: Ten years. If at the end of this decade I make an irrevocable promise, if at the end of this decade the hospital on the Burin Peninsula is not under construction I will with all humility go to the hon. Frank Duff Moores, Premier of this Province, and say,

AN HON. MEMBER: Ten years from today?

MR. HICKMAN: Ten years from today here is my resignation. I can take it -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Your resignation should go to the Governor.

MR. HICKMAN: And he will send me off to the Governor. And I will

MR. HICKMAN: say," I cannot take it any longer. Twenty years is just too long to wait for a new hospital on the Burin Peninsula! There is my firm commitment. The hon. gentleman will be here, I will be here, and he will get up and remind me, but I hope, and I see no reason why my hopes should be at all tempered by the time that the Minister of Health will see to it that this \$688,000 goes for consultants fees and costs and disbursements to design -

MR. H. COLLINS: To do all the work that is necessary up to the tendering of it.

MR. HICKMAN: That is right! To do all the work that is necessary up to the call for tenders. If he does not do that I am going to have a hard -

MR. SMALLWOOD: The hon. the minister will not proffer his resignation to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor or to the hon. the Premier if in the month of December 1979, they have started construction.

MR. MURPHY: In 1986, ten years from now.

MR. SMALLWOOD: No. No, this decade.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SMALLWOOD: The month of December, 1979.

MR. HICKMAN: Anyway, it is ten years from today.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Two days before 1980.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: I have been misled! I have been misled!

MR. ROBERTS: So have your constituents.

MR. HICKMAN: I was told by the hon. gentleman behind me I had ten years.

MR. CROSBIE: You have had ten years.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. HICKMAN: I have had ten years.

MR. SMALLWOOD: I would stick to that ten years. I would stick to that.

MR. HICKMAN: Okay, I am going to.

MR. SMALLWOOD: And do not be budged.

MR. HICKMAN: No, I am not going to be budged.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Ten years.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Four years.

MR. HICKMAN: May 17, 1986, in the year of our Lord,
Mr. Chairman.

MR. SMALLWOOD: That is a safe bet.

MR. SIMMONS: You are all heart, Alex.

MR. ROBERTS: What date?

MR. HICKMAN: May 17.

MR. CROSBIE: Resign now, boy, and save us the suspense.

MR. HICKMAN: The hon. gentleman to my left wants me
to resign now so we can save the \$16 million.

MR. CROSBIE: And save the suspense.

MR. HICKMAN: No, no! What about saving -

MR. CROSBIE: You are keeping us in suspense.

MR. ROBERTS: We are going to get him out with dynamite,
anyway.

MR. HICKMAN: That is right! If -

MR. CROSBIE: The electorate insists on returning those
gentlemen?

MR. HICKMAN: That is right! But sometimes their
enthusiasm -

MR. DAWE: Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please!
The hon. the member for Port de Grave.

MR. DAWE: Mr. Chairman, on this discussion on
hospitals the previous speaker just mentioned the hospital at Bay
Roberts, and I would like to bring the Committee up to date on some
of the history behind it.

MR. ROBERTS: The hospital where?

MR. DAWE: At Bay Roberts. The present Leader of
the Opposition as Minister of Health in the previous administration
made a statement in this House, at the same time they made the
announcement to construct the hospital at Carbonear, that a hospital

MR. DAWE: would be built at Bay Roberts. The foundation is over there at the present time -

MR. ROBERTS: It is buried now, is it?

MR. DAWE: No, the foundation is still there, the land is still available, and the hospital -

MR. NEARY: And some funds have been collected.

MR. DAWE: I will tell you about the funds. The funds are still available. The foundation is there laid at the present time, it is still there to accommodate -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Who did that? Who? Who?

MR. DAWE: The previous administration.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Oh!

MR. DAWE: The previous administration laid this foundation. The foundation is there now. It is similar to the hospital at Churchill Falls. I am not familiar with what size that is, but the foundation is still there to accommodate a hospital that is similar to that at Churchill Falls.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Who stopped it?

MR. DAWE: In the previous election we had, the new administration took over and this was immediately stopped. The work stopped. But at the present time we still have this Committee, the Conception Bay North Hospital Association. This Committee is still active and I happen to still be the Chairman. At the present time we have just about \$60,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS: Getting interest on it, or what?

MR. DAWE: No, this has been the build up of interest. We collected about \$42,000 at that time and we have about \$30,000 in deposits in the two banks at Bay Roberts. About \$30,000 at each in the Bank of Montreal and the Bank of Nova Scotia. I have been questioned from time to time about what we should do with this money. Probably the Minister of Health can enlighten me on behalf of our Committee. This fund has actually been building up over these years and it was collected primarily and solely for a hospital,

MR. DAWE: so we have no right as a Committee to use these funds for any other purpose.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Is the foundation in good condition?

MR. DAWE: The foundation is in good condition.

I would like the minister to enlighten us; can any other health service be provide with this fund? This fund has been built up, as I say, from year to year. We were discussing this the other day with the secretary of our Committee, Mr. Issac Sheppard. Should we get together and have a meeting to decide what we should do with this money or should we pass it back to the donors with the interest it has earned or just let it continue and hopefully there will be a change of heart by the government or the new administration and someone will fulfill this obligation made to the people of Bay Roberts.

MR. NEARY: It will be there until the NDP take over.

MR. DAWE: No, I mean this seriously, Mr. Chairman. These funds are there and we decided as a group that we would let it stay there and hopefully, probably sometime in the future it will be utilized for the purpose for which it was collected. This is a serious thing with us, and we just do not know what to do. But we have taken the position that we are going to let the money stay there. We have been approached by other interested groups who suggest that we use the money for other purposes. One of the things being suggested, is to try to get an ice skating rink or some other sports facility over there, or some other worthwhile project. But we have taken the position that this money was collected for a hospital. We hope that sometime in the future it will be used preferably for this hospital that we had been promised by the government or the previous administration.

But I would like the Minister of Health when he rises again to make some reference to this and to guide us as to what we should in this regard.

MR. NEARY: We would all like to hear the answer on that one.

MR. DAWE: But I say this sincerely. The people of the district will hear the minister's reply. We have these funds, as I say, in the bank making interest, and I understand when it is written up this present year it will total a little in excess of \$60,000.

Actually it is going to serve the needs of three districts; part of Harbour Grace district, the whole of Port de Grave and a part, up as far as Marysvale, in the district of Harbour Main-Bell Island.

MR. NEARY: They are all on their own over there.

MR. DAWE: We had, actually 2,000 donors. We had 2,000 donations, in various sums, to this fund. So the public interest was there. We could have actually raised more money if we had been assured by the government that this would be completed.

I would like the Minister of Health to refer to this. As I say, we have these funds available, and we are going to let, as far as I am concerned as chairman of the Committee, these funds stay there until sometime in the future and see what will develop.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am in a difficult position. I did not exactly see who rose to their feet first. Would either of the hon. members wish to give way to the other?

MR. ROBERTS: If the minister could let me say a few words, Sir, and then he would respond to what I am going to say as well.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: If that is agreeable. Actually, for once, I do not want to say very much that directly relates to the minister, I only want to say a few words about the speech given by the Minister of Justice, which was one of his typical productions, and we are quite accustomed to them. I was most interested in his commitment that he would resign within the decade if this hospital were not built. I was also more amused at his squirming of the definition of the term 'decade'. Anybody else would have thought that 'decade'

MR. ROBERTS: meant, as it always does, the ten year intervals counting off from the start of a century, in which case the end of the decade, and I am sure that is what the gentleman from Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) meant when he used the phrase -

MR. SMALLWOOD: I said, "This decade".

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. the gentleman from Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) has confirmed that that in fact is what he intended and, of course, that is only three and one-half years away. So I can understand why the Minister of Justice did not want to put his ministerial office on the line. In any event, we are quite accustomed to the minister's firm statements of principle. I recall vividly, Sir, his firm declaration about the Redistribution Bill. It was the end of gerrymandering. Then when the Bill came in the minister back-tracked so much you could see the tracks from here to Gooles and back again.

MR. NEARY: Rabbit tracks.

MR. ROBERTS: Rabbit tracks, where he had walked backwards. So I do not put too much faith in the minister's firm statements of principle, only because I know them so well.

But I do want, Sir, to raise the point. The minister made a great to-do about the fact that \$680,000 is voted or asked for by the Minister of Health this year for the hospital, the Burin Peninsula Hospital. And in fact he went on at great length that this somehow was an earnest of the fact that the hospital would be going ahead, and he left the impression, though he very cleverly did not say so, whether intentionally or not I know not, but he did not say that the construction would begin within the next year or even within the next year or so. Indeed, as I have just explained, he refused to be pinned down even to a three and-a-half or four year period. He did however, commit himself to a ten year period and that, I may add, is not much of a commitment. Because if the results of the last contest in the district of Grand Bank are of any significance at all, and I suggest they are, the hon. gentleman

MR. ROBERTS: will not be around in ten years anyway, in any capacity, to resign. Because he went over a wide-ranging field, if I may say so, and that is the only reason, Sir, that there was a wide field of candidates, that is the only reason that the hon. gentleman is back with us here in the House and in the Committee. I think it was a little under forty per cent was it not?

MR. HICKMAN: Whatever it was, I am still here.

Mr. Roberts.

Well the hon. gentleman, he is still here, I agree.

MR. ROWE: He told me the same thing in 1970.

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman was not told that by me in 1970 or 1971 or any other time. All I am saying now is that judging from the results, Sir, he has not worn particularly well. It is only because of the large field of candidates that was offered to the electorate in Grand Bank district that he is with us again today. But I am pleased he is with us, Sir. I mean I am obviously happy to have him with us, because we can hear the sort of foolish statement he makes. He gets up and he says "\$680,000 is requested." And so it is. And the Minister of Health comes before the Committee, and I for one will gladly vote, and I am sure all my colleagues will, to give the minister authority to spend \$680,000 for the purposes of - it is marked as construction, but we all have accepted the fact that it is just a planning. The minister confirms it. It is architectural plans. One cannot quarrel with that. I think it is essential that we have the plans obviously before we build, and there may well have been instances in the past when hospitals were begun without all the plans being completed, and that may not have been the happiest of experiences.

But I just want to say two things, Sir. First of all I want to point out that this same Minister of Justice, who makes these pious statements now in the Committee, took part in a ceremony at Salt Pond in Burin, the site of this hospital -

MR. HICKMAN: No, you are absolutely wrong.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister did not take part? Well then he attempted to get the benefit. He did not have the face to take part. I will give him credit then for that, because the minister and his colleagues -

MR. HICKMAN: I did not even know they were holding it.

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry?

MR. HICKMAN: I did not even know they were holding it.

MR. ROBERTS: I mean I realize the present ministry are not in the habit of telling the minister much of what happens, but the point I am making is that the minister is part of a ministry, and I give him credit. If he was not there on the day in question more power to him, and I was at least going to say he had the good grace to stay away. But he now claims that his absence was because he did not know. Therefore, he could not make a choice whether he was there or not. But he was part of a ministry and he tried in the election to take advantage quite properly of the fact that a hospital was about to begin. The sign was up, the bulldozer had been in to scrape off the plot of ground, and now it turns out, Sir, that plans have not been drawn, that specifications are not ready. There is no way that that hospital could have begun last Fall whether or not there had been any restraint programme adopted, and I think that is a fact worth stressing. That hospital could not have begun last Fall. It could not have begun last Fall. The spokesman for the government made it quite clear that the hospital was going full speed ahead. Why else was a big sign put up and why else was a big platform built even though the sod was not turned? But the clear impression was given. I do not know what the minister said in all his campaign speeches. I have no doubt he said many things. I do not know what he said. I did not listen to what he said, and I did not hear what he said. But I do know the administration made that, and all I want to do is to underline a fact which emerges from the minister's entry into the debate here in the Committee that the government could not have built that hospital last Fall even if they had intended to, and now the minister seems to be saying, Mr. Chairman, that the government did not intend to. That makes it all the worse. That makes it all the worse. They turned the sod knowing they could not build it and not even intending to try to build it. So he now admits it is a con job on top of a con job on top of another con job. And the Minister of Justice has an awesome habit, Mr. Chairman, of getting himself in deeper in these matters with every time he gives an answer.

Mr. Roberts.

I still recall with pleasure and amusement the day he was piloting the estimates of the office of the Premier through the Committee, and there came some question of the terms on which a certain member then on the staff of the Premier's office had been hired and what started as an innocuous question turned into a three or four hour knock-down, drag-out fight with the minister putting his foot in each time he opened his mouth and a succession of feet he put in his mouth over the period of that debate. Well he has done it again. What turns out, he was not there because he was not told about it, and so he could not be there. That is the only reason we assume he was not there. And then he says, oh, well it could not have been built anyway. So the administration intended not to build it. So it is just worth recording. I do not need to go on and on. I had hoped at three o'clock today we would get on the fisheries because the time is fast - the Minister of Fisheries assures me he is anxious to have his estimates brought before the Committee, and he nods acquiescence. So am I, and so are all of us. And we are fast running out of time under this innocuous guillotine, the closure, the gag rule.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, let me make another point. The Minister of Justice has, with great wringing of hands metaphorically, told us we are asking for \$680,000 this year. Everything is well. Well, Sir, they are asking for \$680,000; with that I agree. But, Sir, that means absolutely nothing. Last year, Sir, the Government asked for the sum of \$500,000 for this heading, and they only spent \$66,000. The year before they only spent \$50,000. So the total expenditure to date in the last two years under the heading of the Burin Peninsula hospital has been \$116,000. Despite the fact that I have not gone back and checked what was asked for in the 1974-1975 fiscal year, but I will bet we will find then it was several hundred thousand dollars; despite the fact that last year whatever they asked for in 1974-1975 in 1975-1976 they asked for and were given authority

Mr. Roberts.

to spend a half million dollars, and they spent one-eighth of that, twelve per cent. Well this year they are asking for authority to spend \$680,000, and we do not know how much they will spend, but I do want to point out, Sir, that the minister's protestations should be taken for what they are worth. And I suggest that that is not worth very much. The minister did not respond when I said, "Then would the minister be willing to put his office in the Cabinet on the line?" The Minister of Justice, not the Minister of Health. He is not the member for that district. The Minister of Health represents another district, the district of Gander. The Minister of Justice represents the Grand Bank district, the district which would be served by this hospital. The Minister of Justice has not got sufficient faith either in the cabinet or in his ability to sway the cabinet to say that he will resign from the cabinet if, by the 31st March next, the end of this current fiscal year, some ten months from now the cabinet have not authorized and the Minister of Health has not in fact spent validly \$680,000. Well, Sir, all I can say is that the minister obviously has no faith at all. I can admit without any prevarication that hospitals over the years in Newfoundland have tended to become political footballs. I think I was as guiltless as any health minister, but I certainly am not altogether proud of every aspect of the two or three years I was there, although I will match them gladly against any other period, including the gentleman from St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) who was a health minister or the gentleman from Grand Bank (Mr. Hickman) as it now is who was health minister.

But the fact remains that the present government, Sir, have taken this tactic to new heights. And they are not even having the good grace to admit it or to try to hide it or to try to put it away. The Minister of Health is now up trying to say, oh, we are going to spend \$680,000 this year. I do not want anybody on the Burin Peninsula, Sir, to think for one minute that anything the Minister of Justice says means

Mr. Roberts.

that that amount of money is going to be spent this year. The record, Sir, shows that the Minister of Justice's protestations are piffle and wind signifying nothing. If it is spent, well and good. We will know that within the year. But the record to date, Sir, on the Burin Peninsula hospital has been one of deception piled on deception. The Minister of Justice, Sir, is part of the cabinet that has done that. And I say to him again, will the Minister of Justice tell this Committee, on his honour as a man and as a minister, that if that money is not spent this year he will resign from the cabinet? No, he will not. He has not got either sufficient courage of his convictions or sufficient faith in his ability to sway his colleagues in the cabinet. They admit it needs to be done. They have asked the Committee for the money. So even in this year of restraint they are prepared to find \$680,000 in the Health estimates. Yet the Minister of Justice will not put it to the test. Well, Sir, I think, Sir, that that speaks for itself with more eloquence than I could muster, certainly more eloquence than the hon. gentleman opposite could muster in his own defense. I think, Sir, the results will be what will tell. And the results on this particular hospital are nothing that the Minister of Justice could be anything but ashamed of. He should hang his head, Sir, for the way in which -

MR. HICKMAN: Ah! If the hon. gentleman had not been Minister of Health, and gone and let us down on this Clarenville caper! We lost on that two times ago!

MR. SMALLWOOD: Or three or four.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Justice now feels I am responsible.

Mr. HECKMAN: Yes.

MR. ROBERTS: And that is a petard that he put around . . . All I will say we never heard his voice raised. He was Minister of Health

Mr. Roberts.

for a year, Sir, and took no positive steps towards getting -
we will just look at the record - took no positive steps towards
getting the hospital on the Burin Peninsula built, took no positive
steps towards resolving the health capital construction programme
in the Province, and I will go further,

Mr. Roberts:

and say that nothing was done while I was Health Minister in anyway to put Clarendville ahead of the Burin Peninsula. I read the paper again the other day, the Cabinet paper, I did, The priorities were listed as Come By Chance-Clarendville area, and the Burin area, and the three or four other areas, Once we finish the construction programme which got underway while I was minister in the Smallwood Administration, with the exception of the Waterford Hospital, and the Bonavista Clinic, I do not think there has been a new hospital project started by this Administration since they were in office, in four years.

MR. PATTERSON: The Mental Hospital?

MR. ROBERTS: I mentioned the Waterford Hospital, that is called the Mental, it is the new sophisticated name.

AN HON. MEMBER: The Carbonear Hospital.

MR. ROBERTS: No, the Carbonear Hospital was begun during the Smallwood Administration and so was the Health Sciences Complex, and so was the Twillingate Hospital, and so was the Western Memorial Hospital.

MR. DOODY: We got to pay for it.

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman was in office as Finance Minister and has to pay for them, that is true. That is true. Just as whoever is Finance Minister in the next Liberal Cabinet will have to pay for some of the projects the hon. gentleman and his colleagues are getting underway, including, I would fear, the Lower Churchill.

MR. COLLINS: Money had to be diverted simply because -

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry?

MR. COLLINS: - the fact that those were on, you know.

MR. ROBERTS: I am not disputing the Minister of Health's statement, that the fact that so much money has been put into these four projects has naturally resulted in less money being put elsewhere. One cannot dispute that. I will come back to it if the minister wishes.

In dealing with the Minister of Justice's feeble attempt to try to defend his record of ignominy on this when he says, that somehow something was done during my tenure of the office as Minister of Health (delayed the Burin Peninsula Hospital at the expense of the Clarendville

Mr. Roberts:

Hospital. The truth is, Sir, and the record is quite clear on this, that the priorities were set down as the four now being built, and this Administration in four years in office have not done anything to change that schedule of priorities. So one must assume they agree with them. And while the Minister of Justice was Minister of Health from May 1968 to June or July of 1969 he did nothing to establish any priorities. Nothing at all, indeed even less than nothing. So if the Minister of Justice wishes to go into this type of matter I will be gloriously happy to, but I do not think it would help the Committee very much.

The only way to help the Committee, and we are anxious to get on with Fisheries, but the Minister of Justice spoke for forty -

MR. CROSBIE: Oh, oh!

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman may not be anxious to get on with them. The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy surfaces from his somnolence -

MR. CROSBIE: Bluff and bluff out.

MR. ROBERTS: - surfaces from his somnolence. We did not have Fisheries all last week because he was off on some sort of a frolic in Ottawa, lackadaisying around the - boy, I hope Hansard tries to spell that, I could not - but lapalösing around Ottawa on some sort of a frolic, having good times, a day at a Federal/Provincial Conference, and he was away for three or four days at it. That is a fine way to get from here to Ottawa. But the fact remains he did nothing to restrain his colleague, the Minister of Justice from making an irrelevant, immaterial and, I would suggest, unbelievable speech occupying the better part of forty-five minutes.

I only wanted to make those two points, Sir. My colleague I think from Burin-Placentia West (Mr. Canning) had a question he wanted to ask of me or a point. Do you want to make a -

MR. CANNING: I want to make a point.

MR. ROBERTS: The hon. gentleman from Burin-Placentia West wishes to make a point; well he might, because he quite properly raised the whole thing. But I just want to point out that the Minister of

Mr. Roberts:

Justice's speech, Sir, cannot be believed because on the record, Sir, it is literally incredible.

MR. HICKMAN: You do not bother me.

MR. ROBERTS: I am sorry?

MR. HICKMAN: It does not bother me.

MR. ROBERTS: Well it does not bother me nor does it any of the hon. gentleman's constituents. That is fine. And I do not want anybody in the Committee, who is not as familiar with the hon. gentleman as some of us are, I do not want anybody mistakenly believing it. I say if the results speak I would be the very first to say so, but on the record, Sir, we are not entitled, we are not entitled to put too much credence in it. And the minister's refusal, first of all, ever to hazard his office in four years on the completion of that hospital, and secondly, to hazard his office, to put it to the test, on ten months even to spend \$600,000 or \$700,000 of that, Sir, speaks with eloquence beyond words of the minister's belief in this.

But we will see what the Minister of Health does, Sir. We will know when the year is over - and I have infinitely more faith in the Minister of Health, and it is well known I do not have unlimited faith in the Minister of Health, nor he in me I suspect - but I have infinitely more faith in the Minister of Health in this matter or many others than I do the Minister of Justice, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS: And I think on the record that that speaks for itself, Sir, the reasons why.

Now I have said what I want to say. My friend from Burlington Placentia West wants to say a word or two, if it is in order, Sir, when the time comes. I am sure the Minister of Health would like to say a few words, we have been hacking over his estimates for the year, and then maybe we can carry this item, at least try to get on to Fisheries before the day ends, because the Minister of Mines and Energy is so anxious to defend his conduct as minister, and I think he should be given the chance, Sir, the chance to try and defend what many of us consider an indefensible line of conduct, but we will see what he

Mr. Roberts;

says, and then we will judge based on what he says.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Chairman, before the minister replies, could I put a question to the hon. Attorney General, the Minister of Justice. He gave the Committee that assurance that in some decade or other, which is not too clear, he will resign, he will tender his resignation if the construction of the new hospital on the Burin Peninsula has not by then been commenced. I would like to ask him a much more pertinent question on that matter, if he does not mind. If in the current financial year, not this decade, but this year, this financial year, he learns from the Minister of Finance some time before this current financial year is over that the government are going to be short \$100 million, or a couple of hundred or two or three hundred millions revenue compared with the amount they are budgeting for, they are just not going to have it, he learns that in Cabinet one day, and all faces are very long, and there is great solemnity in Cabinet, a great worry. Will he then--will he promise the Committee now that he will volunteer promptly to stop the expenditure of that \$680,000, let that form part of the desperate attempt to keep the expenditure \$100 million, \$200 million, \$300 million dollars less than authorized by this Committee on the grounds that the Minister of Finance gives the sad news to the Cabinet they just have not got it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If in the event of that horrendous occurrence my colleague the Minister of Finance comes to Cabinet and says that we are \$200 million short -

MR. DOODY: You will be first to know.

MR. HICKMAN: - not only would I volunteer to make that sacrifice, but I will do it with the approbation of every sensible Newfoundlander -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Right.

MR. HICKMAN: - including every constituent on the Burin Peninsula.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Right.

MR. HICKMAN: But I hope that will never happen. And so that no one goes out of this Committee with the idea that Newfoundland's

Mr. Hickman:

credit rating is not good at this time, there has been no indication at all that the Province does not have the capacity to meet our planned borrowing programme for this year. But if circumstances over which this Committee has no control on a world wide basis plunges us into that, you know, -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Would the minister before he sits down would he say whether he remembers that one year the government went on the market and without any delay at all floated its bonds at the best rate in its history up to then, not the Province, Newfoundland. And that the following year, one year later, it could not sell a bond for love or money anywhere on earth, and we went broke, the very next year after an easy sale at excellent rates. Does he not know that?

MR. HICKMAN: When I say - I do know it.

MR. SMALLWOOD: So.

MR. HICKMAN: Of course I do, I know it, Mr. Chairman; at least I have read about it, I have been told about it, and I know about it and any hon. member of this Committee should be very conscious of the possibility that almost any government, again I say because of circumstances over which they have no control -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes.

MR. HICKMAN: - may find themselves in this horrendous situation. But so far the indicators for this fiscal year do not suggest that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for Burin-Placentia West.

MR. P. CANNING: I only have a few short remarks, Sir. Number one is, I am not a bit impressed with my nextdoor neighbour, the hon. member for Grand Bank (Mr. Hickman) when he was trying to weasel and wrangle out of no hospital as yet, and throwing the blame at the committee they made. Their disagreement over the site, and they had to go to so many different places. I want to tell this hon. House now, Mr. Chairman, that committee comprised of some of the outstanding, responsible, finest people on the Burin Peninsula.

MR. HICKMAN: Right.

MR. CANNING: And when I say

MR. CANNING:

they are the best on the Burin Peninsula, then I have no qualms about saying, "The best in Newfoundland." They are a fine group who have worked hard and they did not deserve what they got.

MR. ROBERTS: That is Albert Dover, is it not?

MR. CANNING: Yes, and several others, outstanding personnel up there.

MR. ROBERTS: Good people.

MR. CANNING: There was no question of their changing their mind, because by the additional industries we got on the Burin Peninsula and the influx of outside people, the Marystown area in a matter of a few years doubled the population. Then they realized that the smaller hospital was not the thing and a regional hospital was the requirement for that area.

Mr. Chairman, I am not going to make any promise of resigning if they do not get it in a certain length of time, if it is not built in ten years or twenty years. I have no notion of it. But at the rate of spending, of \$500,000 voted last year, I think, of \$50,000 or \$60,000 spent and this year \$680,000 I believe it will be something like somewhere around \$60,000 possibly spent this year. So at that rate of spending, if my figures are correct, it would take the Tories if they stay in power 250 years to build a hospital in Burin. Mr. Chairman, I do not expect to be here in ten years time. If it is going to take 250 years to build it, I do not think I will make any bets on it.

Mr. Chairman, the minister says he is glad to have this vote of \$680,000. Oh he was delighted with it. He is happy with it now. There is not hospital up there but he is happy there is a vote of \$680,000 which I say is going to go to the consultants and others.

MR. ROBERTS: George McLean.

MR. CANNING: Is that so? Mr. Chairman, I do not know what the people of the Burin Peninsula would think of him for being so delighted with \$680,000, and how little they are doing. But I can assure you this, in this House I hope during the next few years that I am here we will have a good investigation into the rates of the consultants and the analysts

MR. CAMPBELL:

and whatnot because I am not quite satisfied to see \$680,000 spent in St. John's and still nothing spent on the Burin Peninsula. That is where most of the revenue of this Island is spent, inside the overpass. Like I said earlier when I was making my remarks, it is a non-producing area. I am standing up asking for something for people who are producing, the taxpayers; the people who are paying their taxes and paying their way on the Burin Peninsula.

We have industries up there creating new dollars, bringing in new dollars. The only industry I know here in St. John's that is bringing in new dollars is the fish plant on the Southside which is manned by Placentia Bay and Fortune Bay men, skippered and manned. Now, Mr. Chairman, I hope that something will happen that they will not have to wait ten years or the 250 years. I hope they do not have to wait five years before they see more progress than has been made in the last five years, not only in this direction but in every direction we go in.

MR. DORRIS: Hear, hear! Well said!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for Fogo (Capt. Winsor)

is not in his seat, but he asked a question about dentist services on Fogo Island. I am told that Dr. Hewitt, who is a native of Fogo Island, incidentally, from Joe Batt's Arm, I believe, does visit the Island frequently and is providing - I cannot say if it is an adequate service - but certainly providing some service out there. He is practising in Cander, really.

MR. H. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, before dealing with anything else I would like to respond to the allegations made a little while ago by the hon. the member for Carbonear, when he made reference to an answer which I gave him some time ago with regard to post-operative mortality rates at Carbonear Hospital. The question was No. 641, "To ask the Minister of Health the post-operative mortality rate at the Carbonear Hospital as compared to all other hospitals in the Province."

The answer, Mr. Chairman, which we gave was that the post-operative mortality rate at the Carbonear Hospital in 1974, was forty-four one-hundredths of one per cent. Forty-four one hundredths of one per cent. The rates at other hospitals for which figures are available, range from three one-hundredths of one per cent to thirty-one one-hundredths of one per cent. Now that is a figure which could very easily be misinterpreted, and I suspect, or I hope, that the hon. member - you know, it is a case of misinterpretation.

For instance, Mr. Chairman, that is less than one fatality for two hundred cases, and one can readily imagine that in a larger hospital or in a smaller hospital, for that matter, when we are dealing with a figure like this, in hundredths of one percentage point, one death could change this right completely around which, unless one took into account that we are talking in terms of numbers of hundredths of one per cent ratios, then as I said, the whole thing can be misinterpreted. There is no indication, Mr. Chairman, that the doctors in Carbonear are not doing an equally good job with all the doctors across the Province. I am sure that the hon. member must have misinterpreted what we said. I have every confidence in the doctors in that particular region of the country, and I am sure that when the hon. member looks at the figures he will realize possibly the error or his mistake.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Perhaps the minister will agree that if he were the hon. member he would not go near any hospital in Carbonear now as a patient?

MR. COLLINS: Well, I do not like going near hospitals anywhere because I think you are better off - with all due respect to the doctors - you are better off not going in. But I am sure it was a mistake on the hon. member's part. I would also say that this new institution, when it comes on stream in Carbonear, which will be in a few days now, will certainly be the means whereby those ratios can be improved. Because with better facilities certainly a better job can be done.

I do not intend to get into a political discussion on the Burin Peninsula particularly. The only thing I can tell the hon. member for Burin-Placentia West (Mr. Canning) is that I have asked for \$680,000 to continue planning up to the stage whereby tenders can be called. When this Committee gets through with my estimates we will be engaging the architects during the next few weeks and get on with the job.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. COLLINS: With regard to the question raised by my friend, the hon. member for Port De Grave (Mr. Dawe) it is very seldom that I get a request where a gentleman wants to come in and talk with me telling me he has got \$60,000 in his pocket and wondering the best way to spend it.

MR. E. DAWE: In the bank! In the bank!

MR. COLLINS: Well, I was in the bank. But he is the chairman of the bank account. Certainly I would be interested in sitting down and talking with him. I think it can be said that while a foundation was put in Ray Roberts and a sod was turned in Carbonear that we have gone a little bit further than that and we have erected quite an admirable structure in Carbonear, a great addition to the community, to the Bay. It is going to be a great service to all of the people. Certainly if the hon. member wants to come down to my office and talk about the \$60,000, certainly I will cancel other appointments for him to come in and talk with me on it.

On motion subhead 1015-07-10 to 1018-04-02 carried.

Committee reverted to 1007-06-04, Medicare.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I have already given the information. I asked on Friday evening, I think it was, that we would be able to revert, and I did revert to that and gave the explanation today as to why the difference in the medicare costs.

On motion Head X - Health carried with amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order!

Head XIV - Fisheries.

The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Chairman I am very happy, I am very proud to present the estimates to the Committee for their approval, and maybe in so doing take a few minutes of the Committee's time to explain a few of the items contained therein. I do not intend to take too long because I realize that time is passing, and I am sure that hon. member's opposite will want to, and indeed members on this side, will probably want to question me on certain aspects of the operation of the department, in certain aspects of the estimates.

First of all I want to tell the Committee that I deem it a great honour and a great pleasure to be Minister of Fisheries in this Province.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W. CARTER: I think that if I were given a choice of portfolios the one I would accept, the one that I would want is that of the Department of Fisheries.

MR. DOODY: You would not want Finance, would you?

MR. W. CARTER: I think it is the most exciting and most challenging department in government. I think it is a department that represents an industry that has great promise. Indeed as we look around us I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that maybe it is in the fishing industry to a large extent that the future, social and economic success of our future lies. And for that reason I am extremely honoured and proud and pleased to be minister of that department. Having come from a fishing area, having come from a family

Mr. W. Carter.

of fishermen that, I suppose, makes it all the more important to me and adds to my great pride. Mr. Chairman, I predict that within a few years, within a very short time, that some very exciting and challenging things are about to happen in the fishing industry. I am encouraged by reports coming from Ottawa and from other places that the declaration of a 200 mile limit is probably just around the corner. And I think that once that declaration is announced that Newfoundlanders, all Newfoundlanders of all political persuasions, outport Newfoundlanders, St. John's Newfoundlanders, irregardless of what part of the Province they come from, I think we can all take a bow because it will be because of pressure that was applied by Newfoundlanders, to a great extent, that the government in Ottawa has finally or at least I think are about to recognize the importance of the industry and the importance of the declaration of a jurisdiction, a coastal state jurisdiction, and I believe that with the declaration of a 200 mile limit that new concepts, new ideas, a whole new ball game, as it were, will emerge and that the fishing industry after many hundreds of years struggle, proverbial blood sweat and tears on the part of those engaged in it, especially Newfoundlanders, I believe that the industry will then finally be given a chance to come into its own.

I visualize with the declaration of a 200 mile limit and its enforcement, I visualize great activity in the industry by way of joint ventures, foreign landings and, of course, increased stocks that will have the affect of increasing our own productivity and hopefully resulting in a much greater return to our fishermen and to those of us who are engaged in the catching and processing of our fish.

MR. SMALLWOOD: I think Mr. Cashin today denounced the idea of - what is the word?

MR. W. CARTER: Joint ventures.

MR. SMALLWOOD: - joint ventures.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of ramifications to the joint venture concept, but I believe that any Newfoundlander who has got any worth-while knowledge of the fishing industry will agree after studying the proposition that the joint venture proposal does have merits, and will indeed add to the employment picture in our Province and certainly add to the uplifting of the fishing industry. And maybe I could spend a moment -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Might I ask the minister a question? I simply want to ask - and I do not want to shorten his time speaking on the subject - assuming from a date the 200 mile limit comes into effect, assuming that, from that date, how long after? How many years after would it be prudent and probably safe to go in for that - what is that again? -

MR. W. CARTER: Joint ventures.

MR. SMALLWOOD: -joint venture idea?

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I do not think it would be fair on my part or on this Committee's part to give the impression that once Ottawa declares its intention to impose unilaterally or otherwise a 200 mile limit that, you know, hours or days or weeks or months afterwards that the ills of the fishing industry that have been created over the past 450 odd or 460 or 470 years -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Especially the last half dozen years.

MR. W. CARTER: - will be resolved overnight.

MR. SMALLWOOD: No.

MR. W. CARTER: But there are certain areas of interest that can take or at least fall in place probably, not too long after the declaration of a 200 mile limit. And I am thinking of one area. It concerns the by-catch of foreign nations, the incidental catch of foreign nations fishing in our waters. Of course, when a nation has a directed fishery - by a directed fishery I mean in the case, for example, of Spain or Portugal. They have a directed cod fishery.

MR. SMALLWOOD: And the Soviet Union.

MR. W. CARTER: And the Soviet Union and other countries.

It is impossible to fish for cod exclusively without ending up with an incidental catch. There are no nets designed I suppose that would be as selective as to restrict their ultimate catch to a particular species. In throwing your nets over in the water you drag them in and you will end up with maybe a large percentage of the catch that will be that for which you are fishing - in the case of cod - but certainly there will be a large percentage of that catch that will be of other species.

MR. SMALLWOOD: And they do not throw them away.

MR. W. CARTER: Some of them do.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Well not much now.

MR. W. CARTER: In certain cases we are told that these countries do indeed discard a large portion of the incidental catches, and that I think is a crime. I think it is a crime against humanity when you realize, Mr. Chairman, that today people are starving. There are ten millions of people, I suppose, a year dying of starvation and food being a highly sought after, a high protein food and to think that any nation would dump or discard large quantities of good food well then I do not think we can condone that.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Including seal carcasses.

MR. W. CARTER: Including seal carcasses or flippers, but I do not think we can condone that kind of behaviour.

But, Mr. Chairman, I had the pleasure to visit parts of Europe early in the year with some of my colleagues and our Premier at which time we talked to heads of the various countries involved, people who are involved, highly placed officials of the firms who are directly concerned with fisheries. We visited Norway, Germany, Portugal, Spain, England, and some of my colleagues visited other countries as well, including Finland and Sweden. The thing that impressed me over there -

MR. COLLINS: Iceland.

MR. W. CARTER: And Iceland, yes.

- the thing that impressed me was the amount of interest

MR. W. CARTER.

shown by these people. It was encouraging as a Newfoundlander because suddenly it dawned on me, but I suppose it did not suddenly dawn on me but certainly it brought home a very important point to me, more vividly than it would have had I not gone to Europe, that we are sitting on a pretty important resource in this Province, in this country, that we are sitting on a pretty important piece of real estate.

MR. W. CARTER:

We found in our trip to Europe that the people with whom we talked over there did not appear to offer any resistance whatever to the impending declaration of the 200 mile limit. We did not see any resistance or indeed any sign of resistance on the part -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Or bad feeling.

MR. W. CARTER: Or bad feeling. The only thing that we witnessed, we experienced - and this was very encouraging - it was quite obvious that the people who are directly concerned with the fisheries, people who have great investments - we talked to, for example, the principals of Nord Sea which is a subsidiary of Uni Lever, I think, about the fourth largest corporate body in the world, I suppose, or certainly one of the top ten. We talked to Birdseye in Grimsby, England. We talked to very important interests in Spain and Portugal and in Norway. It was quite obvious that their main concern was not in trying to resist the application or the declaration of the 200 mile limit but their main concern was, how can we get a piece of the action? How can we ensure our people that we are going to get, at least to some extent, a continuity of supply? Because in these countries unlike Newfoundlanders and unlike Canadians and I suppose most North Americans they do not fish as a means or solely as a means or even partially as a means to provide employment. They fish because fish is a very important consumer item. Indeed if you go to a restaurant in Portugal, as I am sure some of my hon. colleagues will know, that on the menu you will find that fish plays a very prominent part.

I had the pleasure of being invited to lunch by the Minister of Fisheries for Portugal during my trip and we went to a very exclusive restaurant and I should tell the House that the meal that was recommended by the chef and indeed the meal that we had was salt fish and I must say it was a delicious, well prepared delicacy.

MR. NEARY: They know how to cook their fish.

MR. W. CARTER: They know how to cook it. And I maybe let myself down to a point that I had about three helpings because I just could not stop eating this very delicate -

MR. SMALLWOOD: That was the Greenspond coming out.

MR. W. CARTER: That was the Greenspond coming out. But I must say my mother could always do a pretty good job on cooking salt fish but I have never in my life tasted fish cooked as we had that day in that restaurant in Portugal.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Nobody in the world can compare with the Portuguese in cooking fish.

MR. W. CARTER: That is right.

MR. NEAPY: A cup of wine, boy and baked fish in Portugal, you cannot beat it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Did you have any scrunchions with it?

MR. W. CARTER: No, we did not have any scrunchions.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Was the minister ever on the Gil Eanes down here for a meal in the harbour?

MR. W. CARTER: Yes. It was a very, very enjoyable -

MR. SMALLWOOD: The Portuguese mother ship.

MR. W. CARTER: A very enjoyable meal.

So, Mr. Chairman, I believe that despite the misgivings that have been expressed by some of our people - and I respect them for their opinions - I still say that the joint venture concept will play a very, very important role in the future of our fishing industry, in the future economic and social progress of our Province. It is interesting to note, Mr. Chairman, that the Canadian fishing effort in the ICNAF areas - by that I mean the ICNAF of course is the International Commission of The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries and their areas cover the Hamilton Banks off Labrador, the Grand Banks, the Flemish Cap, the Burgeo Bank, the St. Pierre Bank, and I believe part of the Nova Scotian Shelf.

But in that area the Canadian fishing effort, I believe, is about seven per cent of the total fishing efforts by foreign nations and by our own nation, seven per cent of the fishing effort in the ICNAF areas is under Canadian jurisdiction. Less than twenty per cent of the fish caught is by Canadian vessels. So I think, Mr. Chairman, that one does not -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Seven per cent of the personnel produce twenty per cent of the catch.

MR. W. CARTEP: Yes. We have a much greater and more efficient fleet. Our catch capability is by far more efficient than that of other countries. I suppose the geography of the situation would dictate -

MR. SMALLWOOD: A quicker turnaround.

MR. W. CARTEP: It is a quicker turnaround. It is a shorter distance. As a matter of fact while we were in Norway we were quite surprised to be informed by the commercial secretary of the Consulate office there that three Norwegian longliners were that day - that was about January 25 - were leaving to commence fishing on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, three boats of probably 100 feet in length, steel boats left that day in January on a four month trip to come to the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, off Newfoundland, and fish for cod and other species.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Without once coming ashore?

MR. W. CARTEP: Without once - well they might have come ashore. Probably they went to Harbour Grace, was it not?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: They were in Harbour Grace two weeks ago.

MR. W. CARTEP: They were in Harbour Grace, my colleagues tells me, two weeks ago. But I think that it shows the determination and the interest of people living in that part of the world when they would leave in a boat that is not much larger than a large longliner -

MR. NEARY: The Kipawo.

MR. W. CARTEP: The Kipawo or one of the Farnon boats - when they would leave in that type of a boat and steam all the way across the Atlantic, a nine day trip in the hardest kind of weather, severe winter conditions, and spend four months fishing on the Grand Banks salting their fish and returning back. I think the crew members were guaranteed something like - was it \$2,000 a month or something?

MR. LUNDRIGAN: I think that was it.

MR. W. CARTEP: I believe it was around \$2,000 a month was the projected earnings of the people on those boats.

MR. NEARY: A year you mean or a month?

MR. W. CARTER: It was \$8,000 for the four months work.

MR. NEARY: For a month.

MR. W. CARTER: \$2,000 for a month.

MR. NEARY: They used to earn about \$400 or \$500 a year at one time.

MR. LUNDPIGAN: Not in Norway.

MR. NEARY: Oh, Norway. I thought it was Portugal.

MR. W. CARTER: Well, Mr. Chairman, I relate that story because just again to emphasize the importance of the fisheries to people in the other countries, especially in Europe.

In our trip to Germany we were met with a great deal of enthusiasm and excitement on the part of people who were, I say highly placed officials of large multi-national fishing conglomerates, people who were keenly interested in what we have over here and trying to ensure that when the 200 mile limit falls in place as indeed they have reconciled themselves to the fact that it will, that they will then have some kind of an assurance that they will have a certain continuity of supply.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I think that I am getting back to the question from the hon. member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood). How long will it take? How many years down the road are we looking before we can consummate a joint venture agreement?

MR. SMALLWOOD: How long after the 200 mile limit is not declared but in effect with median control.

MR. W. CARTER: I think, Mr. Chairman, you are probably talking a couple of years, maybe longer.

MR. NEARY: Longer.

MR. W. CARTER: But certainly I think that as Newfoundlanders and as a government we now have a very serious responsibility to lay the groundwork and maybe to condition ourselves to the concept which is what we are doing because once the 200 mile limit is declared and once some form of regime can be put in place, well then I believe that there

MR. W. CARTER:

will be fish on our Continental Shelf that will be surplus to our needs. Not maybe to our needs but certainly to our ability to catch, our catch capability.

MR. SMALLWOOD: It will take more than two years.

MR. W. CARTER: Now even today, Mr. Chairman, we can look at the figures. For example, we are now, this year, in 1975 of all the fish caught on our banks the Canadian catch was less than what actually nineteen point five per cent? - which means that other countries are taking eighty per cent of what is now being declared by ICNAP as being the total allowable catch.

Now, we must assume of course that with the declaration of a 200 mile limit and with the abolition, I suppose, of ICNAP certainly as a quota setting body, that the total allowable catch will have to be reduced. If we are going to allow for the stocks to replenish well then I think it is incumbent upon Canada to reduce what is now treated as the total allowable catch. But certainly, Mr. Chairman, I think it stands to reason that even if that total allowable catch is cut in half, if it is cut by sixty per cent even, there will still be certain stocks, certain quantities of fish that will be surplus to our own catch capability.

Mr. W. Carter:

Now I do not think Canada as a responsible nation, as a responsible member of our global society, call it what you want, I do not think Canada could possibly adopt the position that we are not going to allow other nations to fish in our waters or to catch what has been declared by biologists and scientists as being a quota surplus to our needs. So I think we are going to have to allow other countries to fish for the resource that has been declared surplus to our needs. And assuming that fact, and I think we have to, well then is it not incumbent upon us, as a government and as a country and as a Province to ensure that if we are going to allow the Germans or the Portuguese or the Russians or the Polish Government, the ship companies or the Russians, if we are going to allow them to, or at least if we are going to give them a permit or a licence to fish that part of the fish resource that is surplus to our needs, well then does it not make sense that we extract the best possible deal that we can from those countries for the benefit of our people and our Province and for our country? That I think is our responsibility.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W. CARTER: But if we are going to allow the other countries to pick up the slack, as it were, to fish for surplus stocks when then we must, we will be very derelict in our responsibility if we did not like I say try to extract the best possible deal from these countries in return for which we will allow them to catch a portion of the fish surplus to our needs. And that is when the joint venture -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Canada's needs.

MR. W. CARTER: I beg your pardon?

MR. SMALLWOOD: Canada's needs.

MR. W. CARTER: Canada's needs, yes. Or not Canada's needs as much as Canada's ability to catch. We have a limited catch capability. Indeed at the present time as I said before 7 per cent.

MR. SMALLWOOD: That can be substantially increased.

MR. W. CARTER: Pardon?

MR. SMALLWOOD: That can be very substantially increased.

MR. W. CARTER: It can be, but not **overnight**. You cannot build ships **overnight**.

MR. SMALLWOOD: You can build them over three or four years.

MR. W. CARTER: Yes. But as I said earlier 7 per cent of the bottoms or the tonnage that now fish in our waters is under Canadian registry.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes, well -

MR. W. CARTER: Ninety-three per cent -

MR. SMALLWOOD: - and they produce 20 per cent, so 14 per cent would produce 40 per cent.

MR. W. CARTER: Possibly so. But even though we could not possibly, even if we had the money, double our fishing fleet **overnight**.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Canada has the money.

MR. W. CARTER: I know it has the money, Mr. Chairman, and it has had the money. Canada has had the money. You know, we can give Cuba I think it was \$50 million, was it not to -

MR. SMALLWOOD: But it is a new ball game once -

MR. W. CARTER: - build a fish plant.

MR. SMALLWOOD: - the 200 mile limit is in effect.

MR. W. CARTER: Yes. I will be the first to agree, Mr. Chairman.

But the fact remains that - and as we increase our stock by the way it goes **reason, it stands to reason that as we increase our number of ships** and as time passes so will the stocks replenish, and consequently there will be a greater resource from which to draw.

MR. SMALLWOOD: But we ought not to be talking two years.

MR. W. CARTER: Maybe we are not talking two years.

MR. SMALLWOOD: We are cutting it too short.

MR. W. CARTER: I am saying, Mr. Chairman, that it is down the road a ways.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Five or six years.

MR. W. CARTER: Sure it is. But certainly we must start today to lay groundwork because -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes.

MR. W. CARTER: - the infrastructure, and I am using that new word - wharves, harbour facilities, processing facilities, ice making facilities, landing facilities, all kinds of shore facilities, for example, will have to be provided.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Training men.

MR. W. CARTER: Training men. All descriptions, machine shops. If you go to Hamburg, Germany and see what we saw over there, a landing facility, for example, a wharf that measures one and a half miles long. They have a machine shop there for servicing ships that would make the Newfoundland dockyard look like a mechano set.

MR. SMALLWOOD: And ten miles from Hamburg go to Harburg which is almost as great a fishing area.

MR. W. CARTER: We went to Bremerhaven, is it?

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes.

MR. W. CARTER: and Cuxhaven, and these places.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes.

MR. W. CARTER: And what we saw there was equally as startling.

MR. SMALLWOOD: It is fantastic.

MR. W. CARTER: It is a fantastic experience despite the criticism that has been levelled at us.

MR. NEARY: I hope the Minister of Energy is not leaving he got an awful lot to answer for under this heading.

MR. W. CARTER: I make no apology for the few dollars we spent, Mr. Chairman, on that trip because I think -

MR. NEARY: He got an awful lot to answer for.

MR. W. CARTER: - it is going to pay very handsome dividends for our Province and for our people.

MR. CROSBIE: That is what you think!

MR. NEARY: Do not leave, you have got an awful lot to answer for under this.

MR. W. CARTER:

We in our Province, in this Province, Mr. Chairman, and not unlike other parts of Canada, we have a processing capability that is vastly under employed, under used, not used. I am told that 70 per cent.

Mr. W. Carter:

of our processing capability is lying dormant.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Physical facility.

MR. W. CARTER: Physical facility. I am told, and in this report by the way which was presented in the House of Commons just a few days ago by the Federal Minister of Fisheries, he cites a figure here in commenting on the Atlantic Provinces situation that at least 50 per cent of the processing capability in Atlantic Canada is under utilized.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Could the minister while he is on his feet, and I know that he is only started his speech, could the minister tell us with regard to the frozen fish industry of Newfoundland, what is the average per man production in the processing, or woman, compared with Britain? And secondly, what is the average yield per ton of fish or pound of fish compared with Europe, and with Britain, and perhaps with the United States, these two -

MR. W. CARTER: Yes.

MR. SMALLWOOD: - which have such a staggering bearing on the volume produced, and the percentage of the total.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Chairman, I intended to get to that, but maybe I can get -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Well leave it until tomorrow.

MR. W. CARTER: No. I will deal with it at length but I can tell you now, Mr. Chairman, that in Newfoundland the yield from fish is averaged at 34 per cent, for every hundred pounds of fish landed by our fishermen 66 per cent is dumped, not necessarily dumped -

MR. SMALLWOOD: It is used for fishmeal.

MR. W. CARTER: - it is used for fishmeal or other purposes other than human consumption.

MR. NEARY: That is terrible! That is terrible!

MR. SMALLWOOD: Thirty-four pounds for human consumption out of a hundred.

MR. NEARY: A terrible thing.

MR. W. CARTER: Yes. I visited plants with some of my colleagues in Birdseye in Grimsby, a huge plant, operated by that large company.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The former Premier should remember that.

MR. W. CARTER: Birdseye.

MR. SMALLWOOD: I am too subconscious of it.

MR. NEARY: And the present Premier should remember it too.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Grimsby.

MR. W. CARTER: We visited that plant, and that was one of the questions I asked. We were given a tour of the plant. And it was a very, very exciting tour and we saw thousands of people there with their white uniforms on, it could be a hospital room, an operating room, sanitation there was enforced to such an extent that it could very well be an operating room of a hospital. For example, every time you moved, at least every twenty-five feet you had to put your hands under some solution and wash them. You had to wear a cap, rubbers on your feet, you were not allowed to go in with your boots on, a long white coat, for example.

MR. NEARY: How did they manage to get to the men's room and the ladies room?

MR. W. CARTER: Well then that was not easy, I tell you. You had to be well sterilized after.

Getting back, Mr. Chairman, to the -

MR. SMALLWOOD: The yield in Grimsby.

MR. W. CARTER: The yield in Grimsby averages between 56 per cent and 60 per cent.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Compared with 34 per cent.

MR. W. CARTER: Compared with 34 per cent.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The same fish, cod, haddock, and so on and so on, ground fish?

MR. W. CARTER: The same fish, yes.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Flat fish? All fish? Averaged?

MR. W. CARTER: All fish. Well mostly cod, averaged out 56 per cent and 60 per cent.

MR. NEARY: That is food as compared to fishmeal.

MR. W. CARTER: Fish sticks mostly, thousands upon thousands of fish sticks going through a machine, being cooked and eventually frozen, taken off to market.

MR. SMALLWOOD: That was done in the Uni Lever plant, the one that was at Harbour Grace.

MR. W. CARTER: Yes.

Anyway that morning we had another eye opener -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Now production, the figures of comparison of production, per man.

MR. W. CARTER: I am sorry.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Not yield but production.

MR. W. CARTER: I am not sure. I have that figure here. I have that figure here and I will provide it before I sit.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Tomorrow?

MR. W. CARTER: Yes.

Another very important thing that we saw, which was a real eye opener, that morning at six o'clock in Grimsby, and I am sure maybe the hon. member has done likewise, we were invited to inspect a fish auctioning operation.

AN HON. MEMBER: A fish market?

MR. W. CARTER: It is not a fish market, this is a place where the trawlers brought the fish in three o'clock that morning, they tie up, it is unloaded into a fish auctioning, a huge warehouse, call it what you want, it is all arranged in groups, it is

Mr. W. Carter.

stacked up neatly in fibreglass containers and then the auctioneers move in at six o'clock and commence to auction off this fish.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Is it properly graded?

MR. W. CARTER: It is properly graded, and it is the best example I have seen in my life of organized confusion. It is utter confusion.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Like the stock markets.

MR. W. CARTER: Like the stock markets but only worse.

MR. NEARY: But they manage to sell the fish that is the main thing -

MR. W. CARTER: But they sell the fish, and what is more important -

MR. NEARY: - to big hotels, and restaurants.

MR. W. CARTER: - the morning we were there fish that was caught off Iceland nineteen days before - and I saw some of it and I must say that it did not look too good to me, it was on ice for nine days - that morning fishermen were paid twenty-six cents a pound for that fish. The same fish in Newfoundland would probably fetch - what? - eleven cents or nine cents or ten or eleven cents. This was a startling revelation to me. Of course, one of the reasons why they can afford to pay that kind of a price for fish is obvious too in that the yield they are getting is almost twice as much, and consequently they can afford to pay that much for the raw material and the production.

MR. SMALLWOOD: And the production in the processing plant is faster.

MR. W. CARTER: Right. It is much faster.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The buyers would be large wholesale firms who sell it to the fish shops and the institutions and so on?

MR. W. CARTER: Yes. And what they do as you probably notice, people who have been there, two minutes after the fish is sold from out of nowhere you will see a small portable filleting operation set up right in the plant, and then they will clean the fish fillet it and then truck it away to their markets in Southern England or wherever it goes.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Fillet it mechanically?

MR. W. CARTER: No, by hand, but they have the filleting tables as we do here.

MR. LINDRIGAN: Individuals.

MR. W. CARTER: Yes, individual people who buy it. It is a fascinating operation.

MR. SMALLWOOD: I have not seen that, no.

MR. W. CARTER: And it is something that I would, you know, were it be that we had the money, I would like for every Newfoundlander, every Newfoundland fisherman to get to Grimsby and to see for himself what happens over there, and to visit the large plants and just get some idea as to the extent to which they have progressed as compared to how we are operating over here.

That is one aspect of it, the joint ventures, foreign landings, interest in Europe. Undoubtedly there is a great deal of interest in Europe and that is what makes it so encouraging. That is what makes my job so exciting and so challenging and rewarding.

MR. SMALLWOOD: And the opportunities look good.

MR. W. CARTER: And the opportunities are just unlimited. The opportunities are unlimited, and I get sort of sick when I hear people, newspaper columnists and others, who try to downgrade the fisheries and to reflect or cast reflections on our ability to rejuvenate the fisheries. I get a little sick and tired of hearing people downgrading the shore fishery, and prophesying its doom. I disagree completely. I contend that with the proper encouragement, the proper leadership that we can - I repeat - we can develop a good inshore fishery. Indeed I think we have to .

MR. SMALLWOOD: Would the minister not agree that when he sits down to figure how long after the 200 mile limit comes into practical effect how long it will take to be safe to allow foreign draggers to share in this - what is it again? -

MR. W. CARTER: Joint venture.

MR. SMALLWOOD: - joint venture thing that the fate of the inshore fishermen is really the yardstick; how long will it take for the fish-

Mr. Smallwood.

to come in to replenish the inshore fishery, the secondary fishery, that is how long it will take before it becomes safe to go into a co-partnership, a joint venture system, and that is going to take, you know, a fair length of time.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Chairman, it is all relative, I suppose. We cannot for example, you know, we talk about the huge resource on the Hamilton Banks -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Well that is the source of the whole Northeast Coast inshore fishery.

MR. W. CARTER: That is the mother lode as it were.

MR. SMALLWOOD: If you do not control that for a long time you are going to be an awful long time waiting for the inshore fishery on the Northeast Coast to be restored.

MR. W. CARTER: The Hamilton Bank resource we are told is the mother lode of the Labrador and the fisheries on the Northeast Coast.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes.

MR. W. CARTER: And that is why we have to be very careful as to just what extent -

MR. SMALLWOOD: That is within the 200 mile limit.

MR. W. CARTER: Within the 200 mile limit. We have to be very, very careful as to what extent we allow that resource -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Right.

MR. W. CARTER: We allow the Hamilton Bank resource to be exploited by Canadians, by ourselves -

MR. SMALLWOOD: By anyone.

MR. W. CARTER: - or indeed by foreigners. But certainly we have to protect that. But, Mr. Chairman, you know, it has been said facetiously maybe by certain newspaper people that we are endeavouring to transform Newfoundland into a society of fish cutters, fish filleters. I read that somewhere following our trip to Europe. But that is entirely incorrect.

MR. SMALLWOOD: That is a good thing if there are fishermen to produce the raw materials.

MR. W. CARTER: Exactly. There is nothing wrong with filleting fish. What is wrong with it? The money is good. It is something that we are used to. It is completely consistent with our past and our tradition and so on. But, you know, we are not talking about entering into a joint venture with another European country in perpetuity. We are saying that until Canada can increase its own catch capability and bring it up to what will then be determined as being the total allowable catch, whatever that might be at that point well then ideally we should be catching all of the fish that is allowable to be caught in our waters.

MR. SMALLWOOD: We should be.

MR. W. CARTER: Yes, Canada should be, yes. Hopefully Newfoundland will play a very dominant and a very major role in that future, but certainly until that time arrives - and that is down the road quite a ways I would suggest - that it is certainly in our interest to, like I said, to extract the best possible deal from countries who will fish in our waters by leave and by licence of this country if it is going to help increase the productivity in our fish plants and thereby provide some badly needed employment. I have a very major fish plant in my district, Trepassey. Trepassey is a community now that has about 1,100 people I believe. That fish plant has the processing capability of sustaining a town of 10,000 people I would suggest to you. If we could, for example, by foreign landings -

MR. SMALLWOOD: The production in the plant then would be what?

MR. W. CARTER: I beg your pardon?

MR. SMALLWOOD: What would the production of the plant have to be?

MR. W. CARTER: I am not sure of the total production but I know they have at times as many as -

MR. SMALLWOOD: One hundred million pounds?

MR. W. CARTER: How many millions?

MR. SMALLWOOD: One hundred million pounds?

MR. W. CARTER: No, no, I do not think so.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Sixty million, seventy million?

MR. W. CARTER: I am not sure. It is here. I can get it.

And I am not deliberately stalling -

MR. SMALLWOOD: No, no.

MR. W. CARTER: - but in this blue book we have a lot of statistics, and I can quite easily - Trepassey has a frozen storage capacity of 1,875,000 pounds.

MR. SMALLWOOD: At a given moment?

MR. W. CARTER: Yes.

Twenty-one million pounds is the production per year.

Seventy thousand pounds, two eight hour shifts per day. That is what it is capable of doing.

MR. SMALLWOOD: How much is that?

MR. W. CARTER: An eight hour shift[?] in blocks that plant is capable of producing 35,000 pounds in cod blocks, one eight hour shift.

MR. ROBERTS: Twenty-one millions a year, is it?

MR. CARTER: I beg your pardon?

MR. ROBERTS: Twenty-one millions a year.

MR. W. CARTER: Yes, twenty-one million pounds a year.

The point I am making, Mr. Chairman, is that -

MR. ROBERTS: Do you think we should call it six o'clock and resume tomorrow?

MR. W. CARTER: All right.

MR. ROWE: Will we be here tonight?

MR. SMALLWOOD: Resume tomorrow?

MR. W. CARTER: I move the adjournment of the debate.

I move that the Committee rise and report progress and ask leave to sit again on tomorrow.

On motion that the Committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again, Mr. Speaker returned to the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Speaker, the Committee of Supply have considered the matters to them referred, and have directed me to report having passed estimates of expenditure under the Heading, X Health, all items with one amendment and to report having made further progress and ask leave to sit again.

MR. SPEAKER: The Chairman of the Committee reports that they have met and considered the matters to them referred, and have passed all items under Heading X with one amendment, and made further progress and ask leave to sit again.

On motion report received and adopted.

On motion Committee ordered to sit again on tomorrow.

MR. WELLS: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House adjourn until tomorrow Tuesday at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and that this House do now adjourn.

MR. SPEAKER: It is moved and seconded that this House do now adjourn until tomorrow Tuesday at 2:00 P.M. Those in favour "aye." Contrary "nay." Carried.

This House do now adjourn until tomorrow Tuesday, May 11, 1974 at 2:00 P.M.

CONTENTS

May 12, 1976

Page 1

Oral Questions

| | |
|---|------|
| Tabling of studies concerning raising of the Rushy Pond Dam. Mr. Roberts, Mr. Murphy. | 7164 |
| Query as to whether that information will be made available for the Magisterial Inquiry but not in the House. Mr. Roberts, Mr. Murphy. | 7164 |
| Query as to whether Eastcan will drill off Labrador for gas and oil this year; and for comment on a newspaper report that Eastcan could not find sufficient drilling gear to carry on the operation this year. Mr. Neary, Premier Moores. | 7164 |
| Elaboration sought on Premier Moores' answer. Mr. Neary, Mr. Crosbie. | 7165 |
| Query as to what other companies might drill off the coast of Labrador. Mr. White, Mr. Crosbie. | 7166 |
| Query as to whether British Petroleum will be drilling. Mr. White, Mr. Crosbie. | 7166 |
| Query as to whether drilling this year will be confined to areas off the Labrador coast only. Mr. Neary, Mr. Crosbie. | 7167 |
| Laying off of specialist teachers. Mr. Lush, Mr. House. | 7167 |
| New regulation concerning the hiring of special education teachers. Mr. Lush, Mr. House. | 7168 |
| Failure of Youth Conferences. Mr. White, Premier Moores | 7169 |
| Query as to whether interested groups will have an opportunity to make a contribution towards selection of a new flag before the matter is debated in the House. Mr. Neary, Mr. Wells. | 7169 |
| Amendments sought to the Hospitals Act to make available to the Ombudsman material relating to patients if it is within the ambit of his duties since the Trial Division of the Supreme Court have ruled that the Ombudsman has no access to material relating to patients at the Waterford Hospital. Mr. Roberts, Mr. Hickman. | 7169 |
| Query as to whether the Minister of Justice would consider requesting the Ombudsman not to proceed with an appeal, but instead bring the matter before the House. Mr. Roberts, Mr. Hickman. | 7170 |
| Query as to the Minister of Justice's willingness to outline Government policy on the matter. Mr. Roberts, Mr. Hickman. | 7171 |
| Availability of copies of the Wild Life Act in isolated areas. Mr. Strachan, Mr. Hickey. | 7172 |
| Query as to whether strict enforcement of the Wild Life Act has been ordered. Mr. Strachan, Mr. Hickey. | 7172 |
| Mr. Strachan expressed dissatisfaction with the answer and gave notice he wished to debate it on the adjournment. | 7173 |
| Query as to what steps have been taken to tighten up accounting procedures at vocational schools as recommended by the Auditor General. Mr. Neary, Mr. House. | 7173 |

| | |
|--|--------|
| Oral Questions (continued) | Page 2 |
| The Hawkes Bay mill. Mr. Neary, Mr. Rousseau. | 7175 |
| Query as to when committees will be appointed. Mr. Rowe, Mr. Peckford. | 7175 |
| Mr. Rowe expressed dissatisfaction with the answer and gave notice that he wished to debate the issue on the adjournment. | 7176 |
| Jurisdiction over regulation of ferry rates on the Tickle. Mr. Neary, Mr. Hickman. | 7176 |
| Query as to ministerial awareness that the Province intervened on the grounds that the Newfoundland Transportation Company had an exclusive franchise granted by the Public Utilities Board and barred the federal government from calling public tenders for the operation of the service. Mr. Neary, Mr. Hickman. | 7177 |
| Province to take over all ferry services that are subsidized or presently come under the Government of Canada. Mr. Neary, Premier Moores. | 7178 |
| Amounts of money disbursed to Cabot Group 4. Mr. Simmons, Mr. Hickey. | 7178 |
| Query as to whether the answer means that no money was paid by his department during those years. Mr. Simmons, Mr. Hickey. | 7179 |
| Query as to whether the request for information on disbursements to Cabot Group 4 could be made available by the Minister of Public Works (Acting). Mr. Simmons, Mr. Rousseau. | 7179 |
| New guidelines for the hiring of special education teachers. Mr. Lush, Mr. House. | 7180 |
| Query as to whether the new regulation will result in teachers being laid off. Mr. Lush, Mr. House. | 7181 |
| Orders of the Day | |
| On motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply. | |
| Head <u>X</u> - Health Estimates. | |
| Subhead 1008-01 | |
| Mr. Collins by leave reverted to 1007-06-04 to provide information sought by Mr. Rideout. | 7182 |
| Subhead 1008-01 | |
| Mr. Rowe | 7182 |
| Mr. Collins | 7186 |
| Dr. Winsor | 7187 |
| Mr. Simmons | 7194 |
| On motion, 1008-01 carried. | 7199 |
| On motion, 1008-04-01 through to 1008-04-06 carried. | 7199 |

| | |
|--|--------|
| Orders of the Day (continued) | Page 3 |
| Head <u>X</u> - Health Estimates | |
| Subhead 1008-04-07 | |
| Capt. Winsor | 7199 |
| Mr. Collins | 7199 |
| On motion, 1008-04-07 carried. | 7200 |
| On motion, 1008-08 through 1009-01 carried. | 7200 |
| Subhead 1009-04-01 | |
| Mr. Smallwood | 7200 |
| Mr. Doody | 7202 |
| Mr. Smallwood | 7204 |
| On motion, amendment to 1009-04-01 carried. | 7205 |
| On motion, 1009-02 to 1015-06 carried | 7205 |
| Subhead 1015-06-01 | |
| Dr. Collins | 7205 |
| On motion, 1015-06-01 through to 1015-07-04 carried. | 7212 |
| Subhead 1015-07-05 | |
| Mr. R. Moores. | 7213 |
| Mr. Collins | 7216 |
| On motion, Subheads 1015-07-05 through 1015-07-09 carried. | 7217 |
| Subhead 1015-07-10 | |
| Mr. Canning | 7217 |
| Mr. Hickman | 7225 |
| Mr. Dawe | 7241 |
| Mr. Roberts | 7244 |
| Mr. Smallwood | 7256 |
| Mr. Hickman | 7256 |
| Mr. Canning | 7257 |
| Mr. Collins | 7259 |
| On motion, 1015-07-10 to 1018-04-02 carried. | 7261 |
| On motion, Head <u>X</u> carried with amendments. | 7262 |
| -0- | |
| Head <u>XIV</u> - Fishery Estimates | |
| Mr. W. Carter | 7262 |
| The Committee rose, reported progress, asked leave to sit again, and was ordered to sit again on tomorrow. | 7283 |
| Adjournment. | 7283 |