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SPEAKER; THE HONOURABLE GERALD RYAN OTTENHEIMER

The House met at 2:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS:

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, first of all I have two statements here but they do overlap. So if I am permitted what I will do is give the one statement and incorporate it with notice one within the other. First of all, Sir, I am pleased today to inform this House of a number of major changes in the senior public service in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. I also wish to clarify at this time government's intentions with respect to the organization of changes in the Department of Consumer Affairs and Environment and in the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation.

Government has decided to retain as a separate department the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation. Some months ago there was an examination of whether or not the department should be disbanded, and a final decision has been made that because of the broad range of sensitive social programmes which the department administers it should be retained as a separate entity within government. The Department of R and R currently has a budget of almost \$40 million. In terms of staff it is one of the largest departments in all of government, with over 1,100 employees.

The department has been placing particular emphasis towards the needs of special categories of citizens, such as youth, handicapped persons of all ages, organized sport and the elderly. It is attempting to bring into prominence the potential of the Province's youth and senior citizens. Since the establishment of the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation more priority has been given to these groups for special needs. It is the firm belief of government that the programmes which have been developed in accomplishing this re-emphasis on these groups were made possible as a result of the clear priority given to a separate department.

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Government does not intend, Mr. Speaker, therefore to jeopardize in any way an organization which runs such vital institutions as Exon House, the Hoyles Home, and the boys and girls training homes, to name a few. The government firmly believes that those citizens served by the Department are simply too important to allow government to de-emphasize in any way its consciousness of their importance and value in Newfoundland society. Modern life has created an era of specialization. It was for the purpose of providing special attention to these special groups the department was originally conceived some three years ago. What was clearly seen as an identified need three years ago is still a need today and perhaps even more so given the every increasing complexity of society.

The danger of a loss of priority if the activities of Rehabilitation and Recreation were combined with those of other departments has convinced government to continue with its establishment. Government intends to re-emphasize the interaction between the Rehabilitation and Recreation and intends to keep the structure of the department intact with an Assistant Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation, Mr. Ross King at present, and an assistant Deputy Minister of Recreation, Mr. Ron Johnson.

I am extremely pleased to announce the appointment of a new deputy minister of Rehabilitation and Recreation. He is Mr. Gilbert Pike, presently the assistant Deputy Minister in the Department of Education.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOOPES: Mr. Pike, Mr. Speaker, brings to the job a wealth of administrative and educational experience which the government feels confident will enable him to realize the activities of the department in the short run and accomplish their ongoing objectives in the long run. Mr. Pike is a past president of the Newfoundland Teachers Association and has broad experience in the field of

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education and related social matters.

The second announcement I had, Mr. Speaker, which is incorporated in here - and I would prefer to read both at this time - is regarding the Labrador Services. One change that will be made in the department structure is that the Division of Labrador Services will be transferred to the Department of Rural Development. Mr. Mike Martin has been appointed as special advisor to the Minister of Rural Development on services to Labrador with the status of an assistant deputy minister. Mr. Martin will be in charge of integrating the Labrador Services Division -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORES: - into the Department of Rural Development and in formulating a new structure for a proposed Labrador Development Corporation or Board which in time will replace the Labrador Services Division. Mr. Martin is well known to the people of Labrador, having represented the Labrador riding in the House of Assembly.

The government believes that this move will result in major improvements in the services of Labrador. To elaborate on that, Mr. Speaker, it has been recognized by my government since the early days of our assuming office that the unique and special problems affecting the communities of Coastal Labrador required special answers. According to a royal commission on Labrador when it was established to advise government on the best course of action, one of the recommendations contained in the commission's report was that a development corporation be established to promote and direct the development of Coastal Labrador resources and to assume responsibility for those activities now conducted by the Division of Labrador Services of the Department of Rehabilitation and Recreation.

Last year we initiated action which would establish such a corporation. It was found that the structure and role of the proposed body was not entirely acceptable to all groups there in Coastal Labrador. We therefore delayed implementation of this changeover

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until such time as a more suitable structure could be agreed upon. We are now prepared to move forward again with this programme. I wish to announce effective immediately the transfer of the department, which I have just recently announced, and in conjunction with this transfer we have retained the services of Mr. Mike Martin as special advisor to the minister.

During this time it will be Mr. Martin's duty to assume directional and operational control of the division and to prepare for its phase out when the new corporation is established. It will be Mr. Martin's primary responsibility to act as liaison between the government and the communities of Labrador preparatory to the setting up of the Labrador Development Corporation and to negotiate its terms of reference, and guidelines for a corporate structure which will be acceptable to all parties concerned.

I would like to emphasize that we will welcome the co-operation of all groups or agencies concerned with Labrador and particularly the members of the House of Assembly who represent the Labrador districts. Further, Mr. Speaker, I would like to reiterate government's intention to proceed with their creation of a Department of Consumer Affairs and Environment which will re-emphasize the important aspects of consumer affairs in this Province. Legislation will be introduced into the House of Assembly during this session, I will be giving notice this afternoon, changing the role of the department from Provincial Affairs and Environment to that of Department of Consumer Affairs and Environment.

Within government the strengthening of the consumer affairs activities will take place with the abolition of the existing Consumer Affairs Bureau and the appointment of an assistant Deputy Minister of Consumer Affairs to run the total consumer affairs programme within the Province. In addition an Advisory Committee on Consumer Affairs reporting directly to the minister will be established which will include representatives of government, industry and

PREMIER WOOPES:

organized consumer groups. The role of this committee will be to continually monitor developments in the Consumer Affairs field to ensure that government is ready to deal speedily with all aspects of this very important area. The appointments to the board will be announced within the next few weeks.

Further, Mr. Speaker, when the bill is introduced into the House there will be far more elaboration on the function of that department. With respect to the organizational changes in the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Environment, I am happy to announce the appointment of Mr. Allister Kinsman as the new deputy minister of the department.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

Premier Moores.

Mr. Kinsman is presently Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Public Works and Services, and has been employed in the public service for twenty-five years. He has proven himself in that time to be a very capable manager and government has no doubt that under his direction the department will meet government's expectations of it. He replaces Mr. Gerry Malone, who has been appointed the Chairman of the Agricultural Products Marketing Board replacing Mr. Clarence Badcock who has retired on grounds of ill health. Government plans to expand the role of this marketing agency into one which will service Newfoundland producers in more than just the field of agriculture.

I also wish to announce the appointment of Mr. Robert Barter, who is currently the Director of the Consumer Affairs Bureau, to the position of Assistant Deputy Minister of Consumer Affairs. It is hoped that the formal change in both the name and role of the department, plus the appointment of Mr. Kinsman and Mr. Barter, the establishment of the Advisory Board and the other steps which will be coming forward in the legislation will be a well-recognized first step in government's plan to have a properly functioning Consumer Affairs group. Mr. Cyril Downey remains the Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for the Environment.

The appointment of Mr. Herb Clarke to the position of Deputy Minister of Forestry and Agriculture has already been announced, and government is presently looking for an Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture to head up this important resource area. In addition, Mr. Wynn Haynes has recently been appointed Assistant Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Technical Services Division.

Two other senior vacancies in the service will have to be filled as soon as possible as a result of the recent resignation of Mr. Robert Olivero as Chairman of the Public Service Commission, and Mr. Clarence Keeping as Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Mr. Speaker, I expect both positions to be filled shortly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Premier's statement amounts to quite a potpourri of announcements affecting, both the structure of the government and the staffing or the appointments to senior positions. And let me deal with the latter aspect first. I welcome in behalf of my colleagues the appointments. I think the men whose names the Premier has announced to the House, or whose appointments the Premier has announced to the House, are excellent men and excellent choices for these positions. Mr. Gill Pike is well-known to members of the House, a former president of the NTA, formerly - was he superintendent at Herdman? -

MR. SIMMONS: School principal.

MR. ROBERTS: - school principal at Herdman Collegiate in Corner Brook. Mr. Alister Kinsman is a long time public servant, a man whose record is of probity and of devotion to duty and of very high class public service. Mr. Haynes, I believe, is a long time public servant. Mr. Clarke, whose appointment was earlier announced, although he is a relatively young man, has served with some distinction in the Priorities and Planning Secretariat, and I know will be an able deputy minister in what is a very important department. We wish them all well, and needless to say, Sir, we look forward to working with them, both in our present capacity and in the very short fullness of time in a slightly different capacity.

Mr. Speaker, the two other matters which the Premier dealt with, as I heard them, or as I understood them, were first of all the restructuring of a department or a department or two; and secondly the decision to move the Labrador Services operation from St. John's to Labrador. To deal with that second matter first, Mr. Speaker, we very much welcome that. I think it is a terrific step forward. I will reserve judgement on whether Mr. Michael Martin is the man to head it up. I respect Mr. Martin and served with pleasure with him in the House of Assembly here. He sat where the gentleman from

Mr. Roberts.

LaPoile (Mr. Neary) now sits and sat there for, I think, two or three sessions until he gave it up and resigned. I have no knowledge of his executive ability, and so I will reserve judgement. I will say, though, that we wish him well, and I know I speak for my colleague, the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan), and I certainly speak for myself as a member whose district includes Labrador when we wish him every success.

The important thing is to bring those services closer to Labrador, and I am not sure whether the Premier spelled it out, and we will have time to debate it in any event, because the NLSD is far more than just a retail operation. That is an important part of NLSD's operations but only a part. NLSD in many ways in the government, particularly in the area from Rigolet, well now including Black Tickle to the South, but Rigolet North to Nain.

I believe it is of the utmost importance, Sir, that NLSD be moved closer to the people it serves and also be made infinitely more responsive, and I hope for a start, Sir, that Mr. Michael Martin in his new role as special assistant to the minister will be stationed in Goose Bay. It would be unconscionable and quite wrong in every way if he were to be stationed anywhere else than in the Goose Bay - Happy Valley area, and I think that that would be the sign that the steps are more than cosmetic. And I think anybody who is the least bit concerned with Labrador, as the Premier is I am sure, and as the gentleman from Naskaupi (Mr. Goudie) is and as all of us are, would feel that that is an absolute essential. The people of Labrador, Mr. Speaker, will look upon this, I am quite sure, as being an important symbolic step, and it would be a grievous error indeed if Mr. Martin were to be stationed here in St. John's. He should be living in Happy Valley - Goose Bay, living there permanently. His office should be there. He may have to come back and forth down here to do business, of course, but the airplanes go back and forth. You know,

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there is an extremely good service to Goose Bay - Happy Valley and, of course, we do have telephones and telexes as well. So communications are relatively good. The important thing is he be there, be on the spot, be seen to be there and that he listen to the people involved.

Mr. Speaker, the other aspect of the Premier's announcement is that we have had yet another restructuring of the government. I have lost track of the numbers of restructuring since this administration took office. I recall, with pleasure and sadness mingled, the announcement made by the Premier in the cabinet chamber here, one floor below us, three or four years ago when he announced, as I recall his words, that his announcement of that day was the most important made since Confederation. And when all the hullabaloo had disappeared all it was was the addition of yet another three or four ministers, three or four deputies, eight or ten assistant deputies and other odds and sods onto the public payroll, and nothing more than that came of it, absolutely nothing.

BREMIER MOORES: What was restructured today?

MR. ROBERTS: The Premier asks what they restructured today?

We have had for several months a commitment from this administration that the Recreation and Rehabilitation Department would be wiped out. Whether it was a good thing or not I will come back to, but we have had an acting minister. That department has not had a minister, Mr. Speaker, since the hon. Mr. Doyle, as he then was, Mr. Tom Doyle—whose brother, by the way, died quite tragically, and it is a matter of sadness—but when Mr. Tom Doyle lost the election in Twillingate to the present gentleman from Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood), Mr. Doyle, of course, resigned as a member of the cabinet, as a minister, and the department has since that time been without a minister. It has been presided over on an acting basis by the gentleman from Kilbride (Mr. Wells). Well, Mr. Speaker, you know, we have had all these structuring and restructurings, and I am not sure that they are very important. I think this government, Sir, has shown themselves far more concerned with

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structure than with substance. And I think that is a very bad failing indeed. And when all these bills came before the House two or three years ago we, for our part, Sir, put them through without any debate at all, because we felt then they were of no substance.

MR. CROSBIE: Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order has come up.

MR. CROSBIE: This is beyond the rules that govern replies to ministerial statements. Beauchasne makes it quite clear that a few comments are able to be made, and requests for clarification, but the hon. gentleman has now launched into a speech, a debate on this whole subject.

MR. ROBERTS: To that point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am glad that the minister has finally raised it publicly instead of whispering to the Speaker in an underhanded way as he has been for the last five minutes. And let me say, Sir, that I am very much -

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, I am speaking to a point.

MR. CROSBIE: On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker.

MR. ROBERTS: There is no point -

MR. CROSBIE: A point of privilege.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, there is no point of privilege there.

MR. CROSBIE: I rise on a point of privilege.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. SIMMONS: Sit down!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

When a point of privilege is brought up even in the course of a point of order, the Chair has no choice but to hear the point of privilege before returning to the point of order.

MR. CROSBIE: My point of privilege is this,

MR. CROSBIE: a charge or allegation has just been made that for the last five minutes I have been whispering, or attempting in some subterranean manner to influence the Speaker. Now that is a charge that is certainly a breach of the privileges of this House. It is untrue. It is not factual. I have not as much as looked at the Speaker, winked at him or whispered at him, not in the last five minutes or the last twenty minutes. Mr. Speaker,

as a member of the House I want to have the privileges of the House observed. It is a false charge and should be withdrawn immediately; and it is an insult, not only that it is a positive insult, it is an insult to the Speaker to suggest that anyone would be in some subterranean way attempting that, he might be influenced by some subterranean means.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, may I have a word --

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

MR. ROBERTS: First of all, Sir, let me deal with the second comment first, that it is somehow an insult to the Speaker. The only insult to the Speaker would be if the Speaker were to heed the subterranean and underhanded whispers of the hon. gentleman from St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie). The Speaker, as always a paragon of probity and of rectitude, ignored the hon. gentleman until the hon. gentleman did the right thing and raised a point of order. So so much for that.

Secondly, Sir, I made no allegation the hon. gentleman had influenced Your Honour. I made an allegation which I stand by because it is factually correct, for the last several minutes, and my colleagues here witnessed this, the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) was whispering over at Your Honour saying point of order, is this in order and such words-- perfectly audible to all of this on this side and I have no doubt to his colleagues. And, Mr. Speaker, that is true so there in itself disposes of any point of privilege and Mr. Speaker, it is also most improper conduct on the part of the gentleman from St. John's West. The gentleman from St. John's West, Sir, if he has a point of

MR. CROSBIE: order to raise should raise it in the normal and appropriate way.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege; you know, we have got to end this nonsense of hon. gentlemen thinking they can gain the floor by using the magic rubric, "point of privilege." Beauchesne is quite clear that where a point of privilege is raised, the member raises a point of privilege, asks Your Honour if there is a prima facie case, and if Your Honour so ruled then the hon. gentleman must be prepared to move the appropriate motion, which is debatable, Sir, and the debate then begins until the matter is disposed of in the normal and appropriate way. There is no point of privilege in my submission, Sir; the hon. gentleman did in fact attempt to influence Your Honour. Your Honour properly and rigorously rejected him and then the hon. gentleman did what he should have done at the outset, namely raised a point of order which could be discussed, Your Honour would decide, and that would dispose of the matter.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MR. SPEAKER: On the point of privilege; it is not infrequent that members on a Speaker's left or a Speaker's right will say in a soft voice, "Order, order!" or, "Is this in order?", or "The hon. gentleman should be in order," or this or that. And while it is not a custom which is necessarily helpful to the Chair it certainly is not unusual nor is it in my opinion a breach of privilege. So I would not consider that there has been any breach of privilege. There certainly was no attempt, to my knowledge, of any attempt to influence the Chair and this calling by a member of "Order, order!" or asking rhetorically, "Is this in order?" is not in my opinion a breach of privilege. We are now back on the point of order and the hon. Leader of the Opposition was speaking.

MR. ROBERTS: I had disposed of the hon. gentleman's point about attempting to influence the Speaker and all that nonsense, now let me deal with the other point he made on his point of order, Sir, when

MR. ROBERTS: he felt I am going over the line from comment into debate. That line, Sir, is like the line between genius and insanity; it is thin and it wavers, but Mr. Speaker, I submit -

MR. DOODY: That makes it very clear cut.

MR. ROBERTS: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, hon. gentlemen opposite are aware of that line because they have some first-hand knowledge of one side of it, not the other.

Mr. Speaker, the point which I make is that what I am saying is in comment upon the Premier who really made, as he himself said, more than one statement. If my remarks were to be classed as debate, Sir, if I were debating this statement, I would be infinitely more vehement, I would give more reasons. I am merely making a few comments, and I submit that I should be allowed to conclude my few comments. The result of this interruption by the gentleman from St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) has been to consume another ten minutes of the House's time, all to no point. I submit there is no point of order, Sir, and I should be allowed to continue and to conclude my remarks.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MR. SPEAKER: On the point of order brought up by the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy, there is no disputing on either side the rule which allows comments and a request for explanation which does not allow debate.

It would appear, and I am not asking for verification or not of this, it would appear that the couple of sentences, whatever it was, the hon. Leader of the Opposition where he gave his opinion on restructuring in general while speaking on giving his views on the government's announcement with respect to the Department of Recreation and Rehabilitation, it would seem that his comments on restructuring in general may well have been the expressions which gave rise to the point of order.

Certainly when speaking on this part of the ministerial statement an hon. member commenting should keep his remarks with respect to that particular subject the continuation of the Department of Recreation

MR. SPEAKER: and Rehabilitation and comments on what might have been said on it. A debate on it, or indeed debate on the entire restructuring which took place several years ago would be out of order. A sentence or two in passing reference would be very difficult to rule out of order, a sentence or two in passing reference. But certainly developed discourse which went beyond that would be.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Well thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I was doing exactly what Your Honour said I was doing, which was making a sentence or two by way of illustrative effect and certainly had no intention of getting into the area which Your Honour would have considered to be debate and which indeed I would have considered to be debate although I would love to have the chance to do it.

The point I was making, Sir, is that this administration seem infinitely more concerned with structure than with substance, and that I believe, Sir, is a very grave failing indeed. I think there is a need for a Recreation and Rehabilitation Department and I think there is a need for a Consumer Department. Both of those are positions, Sir, which we have long advocated in this House and outside and we shall support the legislation that will achieve those ends.

But, Mr. Speaker, the point I am making in comment is that the government have **vacillated back and forth, have gone from pillar to post and back again, and here we are now in effect having lost six or eight months in the important field of Recreation and Rehabilitation.**

I will conclude my remarks, Mr. Speaker, on this aspect of it by saying quite simply that we have too many Cabinet Ministers in this Province. We have too large a Cabinet and I would hope that when the Premier appoints somebody to be the minister, or asks His Honour to appoint somebody—**it is the Premier's right to have whom he wishes in his Cabinet**—that he does not invite somebody to join his Cabinet unless one of the present members of the Cabinet retires or resigns. I think the Cabinet if anything, Sir, is too large now.

MR. ROBERTS: Certainly, Sir, there are many ministers who in my opinion could take on these extra duties, discharge them adequately and admirably without in any way adding to the cumbersomeness and needless to say to the expense of the present Cabinet.

"Mr. Speaker, the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and the announcements made today by the Premier are either good eating or window dressing. We hope, Sir, that they are of substance. We hope that the fields of public activity which are affected by the announcements today will show those benefits. I am particularly anxious that the people in Labrador and that the activities in Labrador show those good effects because I believe that is a very real problem facing this Province today.

Sir, we welcome the announcements insofar as they go, but we do so with the note of caution that we have had too many restructurings and not enough substance in this administration in the last four and a half or five years.

Thank you, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Trillingate.

MR. SMALLWOOD:

Mr. Speaker, I find myself being rather singularly uninspired by the statement of the hon. the Premier. I cannot seem to be able to work up very much enthusiasm for this restructuring or this degree or amount of restructuring. I hope it works. I hope it will be useful. I hope it will be of some value to Newfoundland. I am not against it but I must say I cannot get to be very enthusiastic about it.

There are, I believe, some very good men whose promotion or appointment the Premier has announced. I wish them well. I hope they will do all right. It is always an experiment. I have had a little experience at selecting men and recommending them to my colleagues in cabinet for appointment, and watching them then over a period of years, and some of them turned out to be very good and some of them were not all that good. I hope that the hon. gentleman's experience will average up about equal to my own in the percentage of success there will be in the performance by these gentlemen whose names he has given us here today.

I have a certain substantial amount of skepticism on the amount of control, the amount of influence the government of a Province - well, a Province such as Newfoundland, I am not thinking of a province such as, for example, Ontario - but a Province such as Newfoundland can have over consumer affairs, if by that term is meant control over prices of consumer goods. Now I know there are consumer affairs quite other than just the price of goods, the retail prices or even wholesale prices of goods, especially food. There are other consumer affairs with which a Department of Consumer Affairs can concern itself and about which it can take some action. I realize that. But I am highly skeptical about how much authority, how much influence the government of a small province, especially if that be an island in the main, an island province and if the part of the Province that is not an island happens to be the Northeast Corner of this continent, how much influence that government of that province can have in shaping and determining the price of goods.

MR. SMALLWOOD:

I think those determinations are made in Ontario even for Newfoundland and Labrador. They are made in Quebec. They are made in the Western provinces, and precious little control is exercised or exercisable by the government of this province. However a government can only try. In wishing luck to and success to the gentlemen whose names the Premier has announced, may I say a word about two men who are going out, Clarence Badcock and Clarence Keeping.

I do not think that Newfoundland has been every served in its public service by men more conscientious, more able in their respective fields and more devoted to Newfoundland's interests than those two men, Clarence Badcock, a dynamo of energy and enthusiasm. He would even expend more energy just talking than a lot of men expend in the work they do. He was a man of great energy and considerable knowledge and considerable ability. His retirement - I regret to hear from the Premier that it is due to ill health - is a distinct loss to the public service of Newfoundland. I am sure the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture who has been in that portfolio long enough and the former minister who was there will agree.

Clarence Keeping was promoted, I think, by the present Premier. I think he goes out with a higher office than he had before the present Premier came in. But I can assure the House that under my administration of Her Majesty's government in this Province -

MR. SMALLWOOD: I will not add the words that spring to my mind every time I hear the Premier refer to the second government of this Province. I always thought there was only one government of Newfoundland, the Queen's government. But evidently there are two, the Queen's government and the Premier's government. I do wish the Premier would drop that phrase, "My government, my government." It is not the Premier's government. It is the Queen's government. And it is the Premier's distinguished and remarkable administration

MR. SMALLWOOD:

of the Queen's government.

MR. ROBERTS: The Queen's ministers and the Premier's caucus.

Jim Morgan says, "I paved the roads." Sorry.

MR. NEARY: He signs the tenders now too I notice.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Speaker, the Premier as head of the administration, as head of the Queen's government, is losing two valuable men. I am sure he regrets their going as much as I do. But I do wish luck to the others. I hope they will turn out all right.

NOTICES OF MOTION:

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Style The Department of Provincial Affairs And Environment As The Department of Consumer Affairs and Environment." (Bill No. 65)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Finance.

MR. DOODY: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave of the hon. House to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Liquor Control Act, 1973". (Bill No. 73)

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

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave of the House to move a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Agreement Ratified, Confirmed and Adopted By And Set Forth In The Schedule To The Commodore Mining Company Limited (Agreement) Act, 1968, And To Make Certain Statutory Provisions Relating To That Agreement." (Bill No. 74)

AN HON. MEMBER: That is the short title.

MR. CROSBIE: That is the long title. That is - what is his name?

MR. HICKMAN: Lou Murphy.

MR. CROSBIE: That is the Lou Murphy Act. That is the amendment to Lou Murphy.

MR. CROSSIE:

Also, Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Stephenville Linerboard Mill (Agreement) Act, 1972." (Bill No. 69)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Education.

MR. HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will not tomorrow introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Local School Tax Act." (Bill No. 71).

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Manpower and Industrial Relations.

MR. MAYNARD: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act Respecting Labour Relations In The Province." (Bill No. 75). I further give notice that I will ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Control The Relationship Between Employers And Employees Within The Province And To Provide Uniform Minimum Standards Of Conditions Of Employment." (Bill No. 76). That literal translation of that is the Labour Standards Act.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. POUSSEAU: I give notice that I will, Mr. Speaker, on tomorrow introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Forest Fires Act." (Bill No. 68). I would like to be able to abolish them but I can only amend them.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleague, the hon. Minister of Provincial Affairs and Environment I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a bill, "An Act To Amend The Waste Material Disposal Act." (Bill No. 70)

ORAL QUESTIONS:

MR. SPEAKER The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Your Honour is very perceptive, very perceptive.

Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Fisheries, although I was on my way up, Sir, but my colleague nearly trampled me in his urgency.

MR. DOODY: That has happened several times.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. ROBERTS: Never mind, Your Honour, I can say that the next House Leader on the Opposition side will not be doing that. You can join 'Ank', 'Fred'.

Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Fisheries. Could the minister tell us, please, what representations he has made to the Minister of State for the Fisheries at Ottawa, Mr. LeBlanc, with reference to the redfish-caplin agreement entered into in Moscow - was it two or three days past?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I wired the minister requesting a meeting with them, an urgent meeting, referring to the fact that we asked for a meeting on March 29. He did not see fit at that time, because of the Atlantic Provinces Ministers of Fisheries. But in my telegram I pointed out the seriousness of the situation, the need for some explanations with respect to the bilateral agreements that are being signed between Russia and Canada; Poland, Norway, Portugal and this country. I requested an urgent meeting with them certainly before the convening of the ICNAF meeting in Montreal on June 3.

MR. ROBERTS: A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: The minister did not answer my question, and I cannot rephrase it. But could the minister tell me whether he has made any representations to the Minister at Ottawa with respect to this agreement other than asking for a meeting to discuss it?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, in my telegram I expressed some concern with respect to the agreements, and, again I repeat, I asked for a meeting with them to discuss it more fully.

MR. ROBERTS: One further supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, would the minister undertake either to make the telegram public or table a copy in which is another way of making it public?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. W. CARTER: Yes, I will.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. the Premier, Sir, if the hon. Premier has some sort of a deal made with the National Tory Leader, Joe Clarke, in connection with the holding of the by-elections in Newfoundland, that the deal is that they will not be held until after the federal by-election in St. John's West? Is there any foundation to this report, Mr. Speaker?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the answer is that there is no foundation to that report whatsoever, but it may happen that way, Sir, or it may not.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Could the Premier indicate to the House when the three by-elections will be held? Give us a time limit.

PREMIER MOORES: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I already have. The by-elections will be held for the three provincial seats a shorter period than the federal by-election.

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

MR. ROWE: A question to the hon. Premier. I was going to ask the same question as the member for LaPoile, but I will go to another one. Sir, is the Premier ready to inform the House what the nature of the

MR. ROWE:

correspondence between himself and Premier Bourassa at this point in the game is, or would it be endangering negotiations which are ongoing?

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, as I stated in my original letter, if Premier Bourassa had given a definitive reply one way or the other or had intended to make public any of the correspondence that we have exchanged, we would do the same thing. I think it is fair, Sir, until Monday, May 31st., until such time as the date we specified as being the ultimate for him to answer to our conditions. I think it would be very wrong to bring it into public debate or public scrutiny until such time as the Quebec Government have had an opportunity to respond.

MR. ROWE: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker, and I ask this question, Sir, with no political motives whatsoever.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. ROWE: No, I am sincere and serious about this. Would the Premier entertain the idea of bringing in the motion that his House Leader had planned to bring in endorsing the government's letter in order to get the full and unanimous support of this House; bring it in to this House, without debate, and get 100 per cent support of that motion, and wire it off to Quebec to show that we are united in our stand -

MR. ROBERTS: Have an election.

MR. ROWE: - 100 per cent united.

MR. ROBERTS: Have an election.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: We do not need an election.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, I am sure every Newfoundlander and Labradorian, or virtually every Newfoundlander and Labradorian, supports the stand taken in this specific instance.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

PREMIER MOORES: I think, Sir, that at this time, as I said, if there is going to be unanimity of that sort it should be done after Monday. I do not think, Sir, as it was not done the other night, I do not think

Premier Moores.

it would be wise to do it now. I do not think it is wise or non-wise.

You know, answering it also non-politically -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Why Monday? Monday is the date?

PREMIER MOORES: Monday is the deadline for Quebec to reply.

MR. SPEAKER: I recognize the hon. member for Baie Verte - White Bay.

MR. RIDEOUT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a question to the Minister of Health. In view of the fact that the Child Welfare Association is about to give up the necessary work that they used to carry on in regards to child immunization and so on and pass it over to the Department of Health, can the minister tell the House whether or not his department is now prepared to handle that job adequately? And whether or not it will mean hiring more public health nurses and so on to carry out the programme?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. COLLINS: Mr. Speaker, the fact that the Child Welfare Association are not doing the work which they were doing in the past is because of some difficulties which that organization ran into, and we have agreed to take over the function of immunization or whatever which they did perform in the past.

MR. RIDEOUT: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. RIDEOUT: The latter part of the question: Will this in effect mean that the minister's department will have to hire more public health nurses or can it be adequately handled by his present staff?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Health.

MR. H. COLLINS: I understand, Mr. Speaker, that a number, I cannot say all of them, but certainly a number of the nurses and others who have worked with the Child Welfare Association have been taken over by my department.

AN HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: I intimated that the hon. member for Twillingate will be recognized next.

MR. J. R. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Speaker, might I ask the hon. Premier, in the absence of the Minister of Social Services, whether the statement made by the Minister of Social Services which, of course, obviously was made in behalf of the government, because on public matters ministers are not allowed to make statements except of government policy: In his statement to the people of Newfoundland a day or so ago on the new rule providing for a minimum of twelve weeks work before a person insured under the National Employment Act is entitled to unemployment insurance, in his statement that this would switch 40,000 persons, I think he said 40,000, some large number of persons from unemployment insurance payments over to social assistance - in the one case the Government of Canada paying the full shot and in the other paying half the cost leaving the Province to pay half - in making that statement, did the minister speak for the government if he conveyed the thought that this is why it was done by the Government of Canada. It could have that unfortunate result, but surely the minister did not say for the government that this was why the Government of Canada did what would otherwise be a terrible shabby thing.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not think there was any, certainly no intention on behalf of the Federal Government just that for this reason that it was changed. The obvious reason that it was

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changed, Sir, I think is the fact that they want to tighten up on the benefits on some of the social programmes which some people think have gone too far. I think what the Minister of Social Services was really saying was that the result, in this Province particularly where there is a lot of seasonal work and people who can just qualify for the eight weeks now will not be able to qualify for the twelve, but the likelihood is that they may have to request social assistance. I think what he said, Sir, is that the Federal Government instead of paying 100 per cent of an unemployment insurance programme will now only be paying 50 per cent of a social assistance programme.

MR. SMALLWOOD: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. SMALLWOOD: May I ask the Premier whether he has any knowledge more than all of the people of Canada have by listening to reports of the budget speech—we did not hear the budget speech, we heard only or read some accounts of it—has the Premier any knowledge that something could be done or something will be done in that matter by the Government of Canada for such a province, and Newfoundland is probably not the only one, but such a Province as Newfoundland where the amount of seasonal work there is, and the large number of persons who are engaged in seasonal work in such a province. The result is very unfortunate.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, we will be meeting at a First Ministers' Conference on the 14th. and 15th. of June, I think it is, or either that or 15th. and 16th. At that time I certainly, and I know the other Premiers in the country who are affected this way will be bringing representation as forcefully as we can to the Prime Minister and to the Federal Government regarding the affect in a regional disparity area so that possibly there can be some formula adapted that will allow the have-not areas to have a better break than on the umbrella policy that was announced.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, a further supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A further supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, again to the Premier arising out of the same subject matter, this change or intent to change whatever it is in the Unemployment Insurance Regulations, has the Premier any figures which would show how many recipients of unemployment insurance there are in Newfoundland and Labrador who have eight weeks but do not have twelve weeks worth of stamps? In other words, how many people are going to be affected - and obviously it can only be for last year, we do not know about this year - but has the Premier any such figures?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: I have not got a definite figure, Mr. Speaker, I have asked for it. I think the Minister of Social Services what he mentioned was 14 per cent, I think, of the people on unemployment had just eight weeks benefit, between eight and twelve. Now that will affect 14 per cent of the people on unemployment, not 14 per cent of the people. But I will certainly take notice of that and as a matter of fact I have requested the information myself, I will gladly pass it on to the house when I get it.

AN HON. MEMBER: I asked for it two days ago, If I get it I will give it to you.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. S.A. NEARY: I would like to ask the hon. Premier, Sir, if the gentleman is in a position yet to tell the House how much of the \$200 million that the Government of Canada is allocating for make-work projects, how much of this does the Premier know will be coming to Newfoundland this year to create work for people who are unemployed?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, that particular amount and other job opportunities that the budget alluded to as opposed to specified, we have not been told anything other than in general terms of probably community employment opportunities, this sort of a programme being developed, but we have none of the detail on it. It is one of

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the things about the budget that makes it very difficult to react to specifically because the budget itself is not very specific. It was more of a white paper to get reaction before the regulations in the various areas and the various programmes are specifically announced. It is very difficult in that way. And I hope that means that we will have some opportunity to put in an input that can benefit the Province.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Do I interpret then the Premier as meaning that this will be a number one priority on the list of priorities for this Province at the First Ministers' Conference to try to get the lion's share of the money to come into the Atlantic Provinces, especially Newfoundland, to look at this thing positively and create work instead of having people on welfare and unemployment insurance?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: One of the major subjects at the First Ministers' Conference, Mr. Speaker, is the cost-sharing programmes, the fiscal arrangements between the Province and Ottawa and obviously from where we sit this would certainly be of major importance to us.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice, Sir, if I could catch the minister's eye there. Maybe while the minister is having his conversation I will ask the Minister of Mines and Energy if the minister has received a complaint from Bell Island about a fall of ground in the number five area leaving a deep hole in the ground of about fifty feet deep and about fifteen feet wide. Has the minister had a complaint from Bell Island in connection with this matter? If so, what has the minister done about it?

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

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, I have not received any complaint from Bell Island on that subject. There may have been some communication with the department but if I receive a complaint from Bell Island it will certainly be checked out and anything we can do to remedy the situation will be done. As I say I have been at a cabinet meeting this morning and other meetings and I have not personally had a complaint. It may be that some functionary in my department has had a complaint. But if so it will be treated with the utmost dispatch because, of course, the Minister of Finance represents that district. Anything that happens

MR. CROSBIE:

there gets immediate and instant attention.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary, Sir. I do not know if you can call this a supplementary or not. Is the minister aware that this is creating quite a safety hazard, especially for children, at the moment? If so would the minister undertake to take remedial action as quickly as possible?

MR. CROSBIE: Mr. Speaker, when I have all the facts and know what the matter is all about then certainly we will take whatever action the facts dictate. I cannot accept the hon. gentleman's statement as being factual. But, you know, if the facts show that remedial action must be taken and if there is any danger to health and safety, then action will be taken.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Burgeo-Bay D'Espoir.

MR. SIMMONS: A question for the Premier relating to his statement about appointments earlier today. The position of assistant deputy minister, vocational, now being vacated by Mr. Pike, is it the government's intention -

MR. DOODY: An application!

MR. SIMMONS: I thank you for your vote of confidence. Is it the government's intention now to appoint a successor or to phase out this appointment?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: The answer, Mr. Speaker, is yes. We are looking at that possibility, the Minister of Education and myself and other people. That will be announced in due time.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPocle.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, a question for the hon. Minister of Justice. Could the minister tell the House if the government has yet reached a decision on whether or not they are going to assist the St. John's city council in paying half the cost of meter attendants?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: The government must assuredly has not reached a decision on that.

MR. NEARY: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. When can we expect a decision in connection with the city council's request to have the government pay half the cost of parking meter attendants?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, unless that request has come to the government within the past week-I have to confess between sitting in this hon. House and cabinet meetings every day-there has been no request made, not to me.

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

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Premier. It is a subject that we have touched upon in this particular question period once or twice. Could the Premier let us know whether his administration - to use the correct term - or whether any of his colleagues in the cabinet, the Queen's ministers, have submitted proposals to the Government of Canada or to some minister of official thereof with respect to possible job creation programmes that could be put into effect in this Province this year?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Yes, Mr. Speaker, is the answer and there will be many more within the next few weeks. It is not just job creation. I think, Sir, what we are talking about in our representation to the federal government has been what areas of opportunity there are, particularly with regards to DREE and now that Mr. Jamieson is Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, possibly the resource development opportunities for jobs will be given what I think is the priority consideration they should be.

MR. ROBERTS: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, we are all pleased, of course, that such proposals have been submitted. Could the Premier tell us when they have been submitted? And could he be a little more specific? Would he undertake to make public the details of these proposals?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: The answer is, Mr. Speaker, that I do not know the exact dates. I can certainly find out. I can also advise the hon. gentleman any time he wants any specific type of proposals - but I think what is important is get the DREE - DREE, as you know, Sir, do not take the small proposal as such. What they do is take a resource development area, and set criteria that certain proposals can fall out in. To take up all the specific proposals to DREE would get us nowhere. Certainly it has not in the past, but if we get a terms of reference that DREE can qualify its programme to, then each proposal qualifies to that. That has been our experience, and it is the only way it works.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Forestry in his other capacity as acting Minister of Public Works undertook on the tenth of May to get some information for me, I wonder if he has it today? It was a question relating to the amounts of money that had been dispersed to Cabot Group 4 for the fiscal years 1973-1974, 1974-1975 and 1975-1976. I wonder has he got that information at the moment?

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

MR. ROUSSEAU: The minister is back today, by the way.

MR. SIMMONS: A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. SIMMONS: I am going to get the information one way or the other. Does the minister have the information though, or is he passing the buck, which?

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

MR. ROUSSEAU: I will check with the minister.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SIMMONS: By the way the answer is not nearly as funny as the way you are handling it.

MR. ROUSSEAU: You know, it is very fine. I appreciate the -

MR. SIMMONS: That is what you think.

MR. ROUSSEAU: - information that the hon. member requests. But you know, I made a request for it, and, you know, I am in and out so I have not followed it through, to be quite frank with you. But I will check with the minister. I mean that seriously. That is about the position I find myself in.

MR. SIMMONS: Okay. That is fine.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I previously indicated that after the hon. member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir that I would recognize the hon. member for Bellevue. So he may have taken that as assurance and perhaps did not rise.

The hon. member for Bellevue.

MR. CALLAN: Well, Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Transportation and Communications, perhaps the Premier could indicate to me or to the House when a decision will be made as to what roads will be paved in the Province this year, and what roads will be upgraded, and what have you? I might say that the Minister of Transportation and Communications had indicated a month ago to many delegations and so on that an answer would be given long before the twenty-fourth weekend, and the twenty-fourth weekend has come and gone. So, of course, naturally it is only natural that these people are phoning their M.H.A.'s trying to find out what time they can expect some answers, especially, of course, when there is -

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

I hesitate to interrupt the hon. gentleman but I was presuming that his remarks were sort of preamble giving necessary information, but really he should come to his question.

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, with all due respect, Sir, I think the question came early in the dissertation. I will check with the minister, Sir,

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but I see no reason why within the next few weeks those roads that will be fixed up and paved will be tendered and known.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary. I believe the hon. gentleman has a supplementary.

MR. CALLAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps the Premier can explain to the House and to all others who read the newspapers why some contracts have been let, and are being let daily for road construction, why some are being let daily and others have to wait?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Premier.

PREMIER MOORES: Mainly, Mr. Speaker, for engineering reasons, for technical reasons. In a department it has never been known that all tenders were let on one day. It has always been such that it takes a period of time to get them all let.

MR. SPEAKER: I indicated that I would recognize the hon. member for LaPoile, and then the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Premier if he has had any communication at all with Price Newfoundland Limited or Bowaters in connection with slow time, down time this year because of the slow paper demand, the slump in the paper market throughout the world, and if so would the Premier give us some details of it?

PREMIER MOORES: Mr. Speaker, the paper market throughout the world may not be as good as was anticipated possibly at the end of last year, but it certainly is not in the slump that it was a year ago or nothing like it.

I have written the Chairman of Bowaters asking about the company's policy regarding down time. I will be meeting one of the principle people of Abitibi and Price next week and I will ascertain from them what their policy is as well.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: If it is not a supplementary, then I will pass to the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Tourism who is in the House although he is not - well he is on his way to his seat, it is with reference -

MR. SIMMONS: He has his Labrador tie on.

MR. ROBERTS: Has he got his tie on again today?

MR. SIMMONS: His Labrador tie.

MR. ROBERTS: The Public Accounts Committee will be finding out, Sir, whether the minister purchased that tie personally or whether it is a departmental one, in which case it should have an asset number on it and be returned to the Department of Public Works each night.

PREMIER MOORES: He is a tourist.

MR. ROBERTS: The Premier says the minister is a tourist. Well so he is, Sir, but unfortunately he is a tourist on our money and that is the trouble with it.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, on the 27th. of April I asked the minister some questions about the affairs at the Salmonier Wilderness Park, in particular with reference to some buildings which have been under construction but are not yet completed, and at that stage he undertook to get the information. That was a month ago today, Sir. Is the minister as yet in a position to give the House this information?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not. I have asked my staff to prepare a report for me along the lines as asked by the Leader of the Opposition. When I have that report I will certainly be able to provide him with the information.

MR. ROBERTS: A supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. ROBERTS: Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister, and would he undertake to ask his officials please to hurry it up. I realize they are busy, I know the minister has been busy, but a month is a long time to get answers to a series of questions that were straightforward and I would have thought would have been brought to the minister's attention as they involved what appears to be some - I do not want to use the word, so I will not - but involved some unusual circumstances which I think require investigation and possibly action by the minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Tourism.

MR. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I have reminded my staff on two occasions to hurry it up. I will do it for the third time.

MR. ROBERTS: You might mention the number of deputies that have been assigned to each.

MR. HICKEY: I assure the hon. gentleman that we have the situation at the Wilderness Park quite well in hand at the moment, and in my view, and I think it is fair to say in the view of my colleagues, we have taken the appropriate steps to see that the project is finished and finished properly.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear! Hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Windsor - Buchans.

MR. FLIGHT: Mr. Speaker, this is a question for the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture. Unaware that the minister is discussing with Price Newfoundland the new forest management - and it is going to take some time to work out that - but what I am wondering is if the minister has got an undertaking from Price Newfoundland to salvage the thousands of cords of wood that is still floating free in Newfoundland, because I do not see that as being one or the other?

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

MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes, Mr. Speaker, if I remember correctly I mentioned it before now so we would undertake during meetings I had with Price last week in Grand Falls when the point was brought up to them, I think they have taken some preliminary steps and it is certainly our intention with Price - I have asked Price and I have asked Bowaters as well - that when the House closes and when the opportunity presents itself these amongst many other issues will be discussed at hopefully a long meeting of a day or two with both Price and possibly Bowaters together to get some indication of the problems they have and to give them some indications of what our views are on this. But in this particular instance of Red Indian Lake the point was brought to their attention and I understand that they would be taking some preliminary steps to rectify it, but they certainly knows our feelings on that particular issue.

MR. FLIGHT: A supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: A supplementary.

MR. FLIGHT: Would the minister advise the House if the actual salvaging of the pulp wood on Red Indian Lake and the salvaging of the wood, the cleaning up of Red Indian Lake - and there are thousands of cords involved, free floating - ~~is~~ that tied to any negotiations for long term forest management?

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

MR. ROUSSEAU: No. No it is not, Mr. Speaker.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker -

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member for LaPoile.

MR. NEAVEY: A question for the Minister of Fisheries, Sir. The minister is quoted publicly as saying that the minister is deadily opposed to allowing the Russians or anybody else to catch our caplin. Could the minister elaborate on that statement? Has the minister communicated this information to Mr. LeBlanc, the federal Minister of Fisheries? Is this one of the things that the minister will be discussing with Mr. LeBlanc should they be successful in getting their meeting in Ottawa, not allowing anybody other than Canadian ships to catch caplin off our shores? Is this what the minister is getting at?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Fisheries.

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I have expressed certain reservations with respect to the announced agreement between Canada and the USSR concerning caplin and redfish trade off. In the absence of any detailed and specific figures on the ratio of the trade off, whether how many tons of caplin for a ton of red fish, I am unable to say -

MR. ROBERTS: We want to know whether it is one for one or not.

MR. W. CARTER: I would suggest to the House, Mr. Speaker, it will be much more than one for one. It will be much, much more than that. But certainly I have very grave reservations with respect to the agreement. I have asked the minister in Ottawa to meet with me before the ICNAF meeting, at which time the agreement referred to by the minister will be ratified. I make that request on the basis that I feel caplin are very important to the fishery of our Province. It seems to be rather ironic that now, Mr. Speaker, we should be required to take stringent measures to conserve our fish stocks and to replenish our fish stocks, the depletion of which has been brought about mainly by Russia. Now that we are on the hand of imposing a 200 mile limit to give the fish stocks a chance to rebuild, now we are allowing that country to start on its obvious course to ravage caplin which is a very important ingredient in the replenishing of the cod stocks and other species of fish. That is why I believe it is imperative that we watch this thing very closely

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and that we think twice before we allow that sort of thing to go on.

MR. NEAPY: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question. Am I interpreting the minister correctly, that the minister feels that only Canadian ships should take caplin, no foreign ships be allowed to touch our caplin stock at all. Is that what the minister is saying in effect? Just quotas for Canada?

MR. W. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I question the availability of sufficient scientific data and research for the government in Ottawa to accurately determine what would be the sustainable yield or the total allowable catch in our caplin stocks. What I am suggesting is that maybe Canada should give some serious thought to restricting quotas to other countries except to this country and to our own fishermen -

MR. NEAPY: We are not catching our quota.

MR. W. CARTER: - until we are satisfied that the stocks are there and that by other countries taking the caplin in huge quantities that it will not interfere with Canada's desire and intention to rebuild other species including the cod.

MR. NEAPY: Mr. Speaker -

MR. SPEAKER: The thirty minutes is up.

MR. NEAPY: Time really flies, Sir.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

On motion of the hon. Minister of Health, a bill, "An Act Respecting The Newfoundland Optometric Association And Governing The Practice of Optometry In The Province," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow. (Bill No. 57)

On motion of the hon. Minister of Justice, a bill, "An Act To Remove Anomalies And Errors In The Statute Law," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow. (Bill No. 64)

On motion of the hon. Minister of Finance, a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Newfoundland Industrial Development Corporation Act," read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow. (Bill No. 72)

Motion, the hon. the Minister of Finance to introduce a bill, "An Act Further To Amend The Newfoundland Municipal Financing Corporation Act." (Bill No. 67), by leave, carried.

On motion Bill No. 67 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

Motion, the hon. the Minister of Justice to introduce a bill, "An Act To Strengthen Security Measures In Respect Of Private Property." (Bill No. 66), by leave, carried.

On motion Bill No. 66 read a first time, ordered read a second time on tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Order (1) Address in Reply. The debate was adjourned by the hon. member for Terra Nova.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. T. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, it is now very difficult to speak to the generalities of the Address in Reply because, in addition, of course, the specifics of the Budget and the estimates have been dealt with and discussed, hence, Mr. Speaker, having been provided with the generalities and the specifics of the government's plan for the coming year it becomes increasingly difficult to discuss one area at the exclusion of the other.

But, Mr. Speaker, be that as it may with all the sentences, phrases, words and other utterances of government documents, there is no practical, sound evidence of any real efforts by the government to stimulate the economy of this Province. In the Throne Speech there is no evidence of any long-term plan to come to grips with the severe financial, economic and social problems which this Province will face, thus giving rise to the amendment to the Address in Reply which I will address myself to for the next few moments. And the amendment, Sir, is as follows, to amend the motion by striking out all the words after 'that' and replacing them with the following, "This House reaffirms its faith in the future of Newfoundland and Labrador and calls upon the ministry to present to the House and to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador a detailed and specific outline of their goals for the development of this Province and the means by which they plan to achieve them."

Mr. T. Lush:

Mr. Speaker, in its generalities, what did the Speech from the Throne offer to this Province in the way of plans for the future economic development of this Province? What did it tell our people with respect to the present financial status of this Province and of the Province's ability to provide a good standard of living for its people? Did this Throne Speech enunciate the goals for the development of this Province? And did the Speech from the Throne clearly spell out how these goals were to be achieved?

Even with the knowledge of the necessity for fiscal restraints, the tremendous necessity for regulating and controlling our economy, did the Speech from the Throne encourage our people to be confident about the future prospects of this Province? Was the Speech from the Throne a document that gave our people new inspirations, new ambitions, and new hopes and new dreams?

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne illustrated the tremendous gap between promise and performance. It was a stark reminder to the people of this Province that the visions and the imaginative ideas of the government, revealed to the Newfoundland people from the pinnacle and the summit of the election mountain, had swiftly and rapidly taken a tremendous downhill slide.

During the weeks preceeding the Fall election and during the election great promises were announced by government candidates; the economy of this Province never looked brighter, hospitals were to be built, and expansions made to other hospitals, stadia and other recreational facilities were promised. No talks then, Sir, of the troubles at the Come By Chance oil refinery. Indeed the talk there was of expansion. Indeed there was no mention at all of the oil refinery in the Budget-or in the Speech from the Throne. No talk of troubles with the Lower Churchill Development. Indeed the explosions and the eruptions on the Labrador Coast made one believe that the tunnel across the Strait of Belle Isle would

Mr. Lush:

proceed in lightening speed. No talk of ~~tax~~ increases, no talk of higher hydro, electric prices.

During the election, Sir, the government was playing the old political game of promising the people of this Province things that they thought they wanted, things which they thought would get votes. No thought was given to delivery or what was possible. The government was guilty of re-enforcing the beliefs of the people in the government as the universal provider. Who then on the government side, Sir, talked of the undesirability of UIC benefits? Or who then encouraged welfare recipients to seek employment and to contribute to the growth of this Province?

Mr. Speaker, I suggest if we are to make this Province a strong, viable, economic unit of the Dominion of Canada, a number one priority must be the necessity of educating our people to understand what government is all about, the role of government. The task lies with responsible politicians. The attitude of our people must be changed respecting their expectations of government. Government must be seen for what it is, as policy makers, as decision makers, helping communities to organize to help themselves, helping people to be contributors to society, to be givers and not always receivers.

Sir, this government has not to date taken that kind of leadership. Consequently, Mr. Speaker, the Throne Speech had the result of completely demoralizing our people. Words were introduced into the vocabulary of Newfoundlanders that were heretofore foreign and completely alien, fiscal restraints, restrictive measures and entrenchments, words almost unknown to Newfoundlanders before the Throne Speech.

The government, Sir, called on the people of this Province to be prepared to work hard and to make sacrifices in order to help the government in its commitment to stand firm on the control of inflation. Of these two, Mr. Speaker, to work hard and to make sacrifices, there remaineth but one, and that is, Sir, to make sacrifices, because the Throne Speech gives no concrete evidence of

Mr. Lush:

the government's plan to create jobs. The speech, Sir, did suggest that the government was distressed at the high rate of unemployment, and well they might be.

Sir, distress, the feeling of distress will hardly create jobs. I am particularly distressed that -

AN HON. MEMBER: There is no quorum. A quorum call.

MR. LUSH: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Young): Will the clerk please count the House.

We have a quorum.

The hon. member for Terra Nova.

MR. LUSH: It is unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, that so many people feel that the Speech from the Throne is not important enough to stay around to listen to what members have to say about it.

Mr. Speaker, I was saying that the Speech from the Throne did suggest that the government was distressed at the high rate of unemployment. But, Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne contained no stimulating proposals to eliminate the high unemployment. The speech noted with pride that the Rural Development programme has so far created some 3,000 jobs, and, Mr. Speaker, this is certainly a desirable thing. But, Sir, in relation to the growing work force it does not represent an overly large increase, but that is not to say that we do not appreciate the 3,000 jobs which have been created to date, and I would hope that the minister can create more jobs in this very important area. And I would hope that the scope for the different types of programme is broadened and made more comprehensive to include more ventures and more programmes that can be useful to many communities.

The Speech from the Throne emphasized the fact that the future of Newfoundland depends on its people and resources. It reads, "My government is committed to an intensive programme of resource development which will build a stronger economic base and will require an individual and collective commitment to work for the common good." A noble objective, Sir, but what of the action? The Throne Speech proceeded to deal for some length on the fishing industry, talking of the necessity for a well-informed system of national management. Well, Sir, that certainly is desirable, but I certainly hope that this Province is prepared to have some input into this national management; that the fishery, it is our fishery, that we have to be concerned about it, and I hope that the government will not just wait for things to happen, but that we, too, will be ready to put some input into a system of national management.

Mr. Lush.

The government also talked of pursuing a solution to inadequate landings through joint ventures with large fishing interests in other countries which would permit agreement whereby fish catches would be landed and processed in Newfoundland. Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to caution the government here. I certainly agree with the principle, but I would hope that when we start those joint ventures that Newfoundlanders will be prepared to take the jobs. I hope that people from foreign countries will not be taking the jobs in this venture that Newfoundlanders should be taking, and I hope that our people will be sufficiently ready with the skills necessary for this particular joint venture. But, Mr. Speaker, for all its emphasis on resource development, what happened to the fisheries as far as the budget was concerned? Mr. Speaker, the expenditures for the fisheries this year was slashed and slashed heavily. What of the plans for other areas of resource development? How about our minerals, and our forestry and our hydro power? We are told by many authorities that we are fairly well endowed with natural resources. But, Sir, for all our resources our ability to exploit them falls far behind our need for new employment.

And, Sir, there is no evidence in the Throne Speech that the government is serious about planning for the future by determining what is the maximum utilization of our accessible resources, and determining what they can produce in the way of economic growth. What can we expect from our natural resources? How many people can we employ? Can we get more into the area of the manufacturing aspect of our raw materials? For example, the hon. member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) in talking about the fisheries some time ago talked about the necessity and the desire to get into fish processing. Sir, the members on the government side seem to suggest that this was nothing new, and even suggested that there was some difficulty in carrying on fish processing. But, Sir, I think it is something that we got

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to look at very hard. We got to explore this. It was also mentioned that the marketing was difficult in this area. Sir, this certainly has to be a responsibility of government to try and get into this area of fish processing and to find markets for the kinds of fish that will be processed and the kinds of foods that will be processed. Sir, how about agriculture and agricultural processing? Again I do not have the answers but all I am asking are questions. Are we developing our agriculture to the extent that we should? Are we looking at any areas of agricultural processing that we can get into?

Sir, what can we expect from our hydro power? It is with some degree of sadness on this side of the House that we hear what is happening or the troubles or the difficulties that the government is experiencing with the Lower Churchill. And we do not exactly sympathize with the way they got into the problem, but since they have the problem we are concerned. I want to say that we are behind the government in their battle with Quebec, and we want to get as much from that development as hon. members on the other side of the House, I can assure you. Certainly, Mr. Speaker, we must develop to the fullest our natural resources. We must explore every area to ensure that this Province and that our people are reaping the maximum benefits from our natural resources. But, Sir, we do not know our potential. We do not know what the goals for the development of this Province are, and we do not know how we are going to achieve them. The Speech from the Throne does not say. The Throne Speech glibly said that the government will call upon the initiative of Newfoundlanders and will ask people from every walk of life to bring forward ideas and proposals for growth and development. But yet they voted against a Private Member's bill which asked for a proper channel and a proper mechanism to provide precisely for this orderly and systematic way of collecting the information and the ideas that the government say that they wanted. No, Sir, no evidence that the government is the least bit concerned about setting up

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goals for the development of this Province. It is contented to go on in an ad hoc, higgledy-piggledy fashion. Mr. Speaker, what should our goals be? And how should we go about achieving them? This is what this amendment is asking.

The terms of reference of the Economic Council of Canada 1967 indicated the following basic economic and social goals for Canada: (1) Full employment; (2) A high rate of economic growth; and (3) A reasonable stability of prices; and (4) A viable balance of payments; and (5) An equitable distribution of rising incomes. Sir, these goals certainly provide the broad general goals for this Province. However, they have to be the broad general goals, because the needs of each province will differ, because of regional disparities, and we shall have different needs, but certainly they give us some ideas to the kinds of goals that we should have.

The Nova Scotia voluntary Economic Planning Board 1968 set out the following goals for Nova Scotia: (1) The highest possible rate of growth with an equitable distribution of per capita income; and (2) The highest possible level of employment.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Would the hon. member repeat number one?

MP. LUSH:

The highest possible rate of growth with an equitable distribution of per capita income.

MP. SMALLWOOD: What relates before that?

MP. LUSH: That was number one.

MP. SMALLWOOD: What was that?

MP. LUSH: That was a goal for the economic development of Nova Scotia. Two, the highest possible level of employment; and three, the achievement of the highest possible increase in productivity; and four, the development of all the resources of the Province to the highest point of efficiency; and five, the achievement of a climate both economic and political that will encourage the development of new industries and expansion of existing industries. Certainly these become a little more specific and I think here we can get some idea of what the goals of Newfoundland should be.

Certainly I believe one of the most important or one that should receive high priority is the highest possible level of employment. We have got to try and create jobs for the people of this Province. It is absolutely fantastic what can happen to the moral fiber of the people who are contented to live on social assistance, who are contented to work for three or four months and then receive WIC benefits. What is happening to the moral fibre of people who are contented to do this and not work? I do not believe that that is a natural **tendency** of Newfoundlanders. I believe Newfoundlanders want to work. But of course we have to provide the jobs. I believe the government has to do all in its power to try and create jobs for our people. They have got to explore every avenue.

I think another important one must be the achievement of the highest possible increase in productivity. To date we have got no system to monitor the productivity of Newfoundland. I want to get into that aspect a little later when I am talking about education. I think I can make the analogy in education that I want to use here.

Mr. LUSH:

Of course I think another high priority, another goal, must be the development of all the resources of the Province to the highest point of efficiency. Certainly there must be the achievement of a climate both economic and political that will encourage the development of new industries and expansion of existing industries. These, Mr. Speaker, are what I believe to be some of the goals that we should give priority to in the development of this Province.

The report of the Royal Commission on the Economic State and Prospects of Newfoundland and Labrador, 1967, states that the Newfoundland government has never defined any clear strategy for development. This has undoubtedly handicapped the programmes of both federal, provincial and municipal governments, as well as the private sector. Sir, then the commission goes on and makes the following recommendation. It recommends the following strategy. "The Newfoundland government should pursue a strategy of formal economic planning which would enable all levels of government to agree on orders of expenditures priority. Furthermore it would give confidence to the private sector inasmuch as the planned direction of public expenditures would be clearly understood while knowledge of the forecast and targeted direction of the economy as a whole would assist private entrepreneurs in their investment decisions."

Then it goes on to list certain priorities or criteria that should be used in the setting up for the economic planning. Mr. Speaker, the important thing here is that setting up goals for development along with a strategy can assist a government in establishing orders of expenditure priority. Then of course we develop criteria that will enable us to do the things that we want to do. From these criteria we would select the things that we would be doing on the basis of this criteria.

Mr. Speaker, the government have had plans. The government had plans, for example, a five year plan to upgrade and pave the roads

MR. LUSH:

In this Province, a five year plan. Well, Sir, what has happened to the plan? Where has the plan gone? Certainly a time of inflation and fiscal restraints does not necessarily mean that that sort of a plan has to be scrapped. It might mean stretching the thing out a little longer, five years probably becoming seven years. But this was a plan that they had. But, Sir, now there is no such plan. So what is the criteria now for the upgrading and the paving of roads? I think the whole idea of it was that communities would know when their road was going to be paved, when their road was going to be upgraded. But now, Mr. Speaker, it seems as though nobody knows right now what time their road is going to be paved, what time their road is going to be upgraded. The plan seems to have just gone by the way.

MR. SPALLWOOD: Would not the criteria be the amount that DECE gives?

MR. LUSH: Well I would like to know what the criteria are, for example, in my own district. I would like to know if when the estimates are approved, what criteria are used in upgrading and paving certain roads. For example, if there is twenty miles paved in a district that is adjacent to my district and only ten miles to be done in my own district I would like to know the criteria as to why. It is not sufficient to say that you could not afford to pave the twenty miles in my district because that applies to both. You see, the affording bit applies to both, the amount of money you have. So there must be some other criteria. There has got to be some other criteria to establish why roads are upgraded and paved in one area as opposed to another. Now these criteria might be there but I have not seen them and I would like to know what they are.

The same thing, Mr. Speaker, with respect to water and sewer. I believe there was a seven year, a proposal for a seven year programme here. Again, with this kind of plan that I am talking about, with the strategy and this criteria then people would know when to expect

MR. LUSH:

these services, whereas now people are just waiting from year to year wondering whether or not they are going to get the water and sewer this year, whether they are going to get an artesian well this year, and people do not know. Consequently what is happening is that our people are frustrated. This is the reason in the Spring particularly with respect to roads, why we have pickets and riots and disturbances and demonstrations on the public roads because people do not know when something is going to be done to the road. But, Mr. Speaker, with such a plan of development, a five year plan that the government proposed, this would have eliminated this. But it seems to be gone, Mr. Speaker.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have talked about the importance of developing our natural resources. I want to spend a couple of minutes talking about our human resources. The economic development of this Province will depend greatly on the aspirations, energy, inventiveness and the skills of native Newfoundlanders. Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne makes some reference to a point I want to make here. It says, "My government has been distressed at the high rate of unemployment in this Province. Despite the numbers of unemployed, it is disturbing that many jobs are unfilled because skilled men and women are not always able to take the available jobs." The Speech from the Throne, Mr. Speaker, indicating that we do not have sufficient numbers of trained men and women in this Province.

The hon. Minister of Mines and Energy made reference to the same point some time ago on television when he was saying that we lack certain managerial skills. Mr. Speaker, I have from time to time talked about in this House the importance of education with respect to the economic development of this Province. There are some people, of course, who would suggest that we should be more willing to spend the money in education than we have on some of our large industries. I certainly would not go that far. But I will again

MR. LUSH:

suggest that this Province has to be prepared to make a greater effort in education. I just want to elaborate on this for a short while. I previously pointed out that when determining the amount of money to be spent on education, there are two important areas that we must look at.

One, we must look at the needs, the educational needs of this Province. I have listed to this House the areas of weakness in this Province. The Speech from the Throne points out an area of weakness, the lack of skilled men and women.

MR. LUSH: We have got many inadequate school buildings in this Province. Our post-secondary institutions are not able to take care of enough people. There are too many people who cannot attend them. I have talked about the handicapped, and I have talked about the narrow curriculum in this Province and I just want to suggest, Mr. Speaker, that some people will go off on a tangent when you talk about education.

I remembered some time ago that somebody made reference to the fact that I, as a supervisor with the Avalon Consolidated School Board, was quoted in the paper as saying that I thought we should get back to the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic. I certainly said getting back to the basics, Mr. Speaker. But I think many people misunderstand what I mean by basics. I think so many people think that getting back to the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic that you are talking about three courses. Reading permeates the whole curriculum. It does not mean a narrow curriculum. Reading can be done in science, it can be done in the arts, it can be done in literature, in just about every subject reading can be done.

MR. ROWE: Bring out a person's interest.

MR. LUSH: Right. And writing the same thing; writing permeates the whole curriculum. So when I am talking about getting down to the basics of being concerned with reading and writing I am not talking about it in its narrow perspective of one subject, a writing subject or a reading subject, but I am talking about something that permeates the entire curriculum.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I have said when we are looking at education, the need for greater effort, the need for more money, we must look at the needs and find out whether we are not meeting the educational needs of this Province, whether we have problems, and we do. I have outlined those several times and I do not want to go over them again.

MR. LUSH: And I said the other criteria is the proportion of money that is being spent on education in other Provinces.

Mr. Speaker, I pointed out that this Province spends considerably less of its total budget on education than do other provinces of Canada. And very roughly what happens is that we spend generally about one quarter of our provincial budget goes to education, whereas in other Provinces it comes closer to one third, not quite to one third but it approximates a third more than a quarter. It is probably around twenty-nine, thirty per cent, anywhere from twenty-eight to thirty per cent, in that average, whereas ours is down around twenty-three, twenty-two, twenty-four and I do not know whether it has ever hit twenty-five or not. I do not think it has. That is one.

The other two that we must look at, and I just want to allude to these to determine the effort of other Provinces, and that is the amount of money that is spent on education per capita, that is what each of us spends on education and that is a very startling figure because this includes, here we are talking about the total expenditure on elementary and secondary education per capita. And I just want to take two years and give the House some idea.

In 1971-72, for example, in Newfoundland per capita we spent on primary and secondary education, we spent \$177. P.E.I. \$180, Nova Scotia \$183, New Brunswick \$191, Quebec \$269 and the average for Canada was \$250. And we spent \$177 per capita, that is what we spent; and the average, as I said, per Canada was \$250. Then the next statistic that is important is the total expenditure on elementary and secondary education per student, per student enrolled in the Province and in Newfoundland in 1971 we spent \$564, P.E.I. \$660, Nova Scotia \$670, New Brunswick \$688 and that is far enough. The average for Canada was \$933, compared to \$564 for this Province.

In 1974-75 Newfoundland spent \$803 per student, P.E.I. \$1,115, Nova Scotia \$1,040, New Brunswick \$1,050, the average for Canada \$1,222.

MR. LUSH: Mr. Speaker, spending money on education does not tell everything but certainly whether you are spending money on education it means for the most part more programmes. It means more facilities and what it means, Sir, when you have got more programmes and more facilities, it means that our students are not afforded the same equality of educational opportunity as other students throughout this Dominion.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there was another reference made to education here in the Throne Speech that I take a little exception to. It says, "In many of our service areas, such as Health and Education, these disparities have almost disappeared." Mr. Speaker, I think it depends on what we mean by 'almost', the degree of almost. You know if we are talking about, using the analogy of the fellow who almost caught the trout, well then that is all right. We have almost eliminated the disparities. But if we are using 'almost' in the terms of Maxwell Smart, 'by about that much,' then I think I take issue with the statement.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege to teach in a school where resources did not impose any problem and I know what can be done when you have resources. I have had the opportunity to spend some time in some of the most progressive schools in Canada, Etobicoke in Scarborough in Toronto, and visited schools in Nova Scotia. In the United States I have visited schools in New York, and I have visited school in Denver, in Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I think I have some experience and I can say that I do not think that we have come all that close to eliminating the disparities which exist in education, particularly when it comes to providing equal opportunity for education in this Province, the same equal opportunity as is afforded students throughout the rest of this Dominion.

MR. HOUSE: Would the member permit please? When the member compares he forgets the per capita cost in education in the Maritimes in the last year, I think the measure you have got to take is to see how

MR. HOUSE: how close we are coming and you went back to 1971-72 and up to 1974, what about the last year, have you compared that?

MR. LUSH: No. I have not got the statistic on that one.

MR. HOUSE: You will find that we are very close in the same kind of per capita expenditure.

MR. LUSH: Well, if so I am delighted to hear that if that is the case. And the minister, I expect, knows whether that is the case.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to make a couple of other comments with respect to education. I am just trying to point out, Sir, the desirability of a greater effort in education, and I think hon. members realize this and I do not think we need to go on the defensive. We realize we are living in difficult times but I am just pointing out the need for greater financial input if we are to develop our people to the full capacity that we should be.

Another concern of mine, Sir, with respect to education, and probably more so at this particular point than the finances, and that is with the curriculum. And I just wanted to make a couple of points here because some people have made reference to graduates coming out of university and not being able to find jobs, this sort of thing, and they are coming out of other post-secondary institutions too; and I spoke about the necessity of offering the proper types of programme for this Province and I think this is what is important, Sir, when I talk about curriculum. I believe this has to be a very important concern of ours of making sure that we are offering the proper courses, the courses that will train people in the skills that are necessary for the people of this Province. And, Mr. Speaker, on this point I am just wondering how much co-ordinating is going on throughout the different post-secondary institutions in this Province. In many provinces they have a programme officer, I am not sure that that is the correct terminology, but somebody who monitors

MR. LUSH: the programmes that are going on in the different institutions, and he with a committee will decide whether or not this course will be offered this year, whether or not this course will meet the needs of that particular province or meet the needs of the people attending that particular institution, and I believe at the moment that we have got no such agency to monitor the kinds of programmes that are being offered in our post-secondary institutions and one wonders how much duplication there is in some of the trade schools around, and one wonders about the value of some of the courses that might be in these places because there is no such mechanism to monitor the kinds of courses that are being offered.

So, Sir, I would suggest that the government look very carefully at this to come up with some means of monitoring the kinds of courses and the kinds of programmes that are being offered in our post-secondary institutions to

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make sure that we are not wasting resources, that we are not wasting human resources or the financial resources of this Province.

But, Sir, I just want to wrap up my remarks by saying that in the total the Throne Speech offered no solution to our problems during these times of economic crises, inflation, and rampant unemployment. They threw out no real challenges and gave us no direction for future development. And, Sir, just an illustration from a local paper, The Evening Telegram, in commenting on the Speech from the Throne. It said, "It was a fairly long document whose length was hardly justified by its content. Basically it was a recital of things past rather than things to come." As the speech said, it was largely the review of achievements made in the four years since the Moores Administration came to office. In summary it says, "The Throne Speech 1975 is not very inspiring. We trust it is not intended to set the pace for the next four years." And, Mr. Speaker, I expressed the same sentiments. Another writer says, "It was a very long speech to make about so very little. Sixteen pages and an hour of reading for a few scraps of information and the few ideas that could have been typed on one side of a lady's handkerchief."

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne did not offer much for the future development or much in the way of plans for the future development of this Province. What concerned me, Mr. Speaker, was not the call for belt tightening and fiscal restraints and the cutbacks. That the Province has to deal with a rough budgetary situation is understood and appreciated. We are fully aware of the necessity for restraints and cutbacks, and we believe that everybody and everyone in the Province must be aware of the financial limitations of this Province. But what concerns me is the pre-election promises and the sudden call, and the suddenness of the call for restraints and cutbacks. That, Sir, I find offensive. However, the greatest disappointment was with the complete lack of any planned programme of development in the Throne Speech. No

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indications of developmental goals or strategies whereby these goals may be achieved. No more money, Sir, needed for this. This is not a call for money, for when you are calling for plans for development, for the establishment of goals and strategies and criteria, you are not asking for more money, just asking for more imagination, more vision, more ideas. We are asking the government to establish, Sir, a plan for development, to set up some criteria and strategies to decide on spending priorities thus giving our people confidence in the future of this Province. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Young): The hon. member for Baie Verte - White Bay.

MR. RIDEOUT: Mr. Speaker, I want to take a few minutes to say a few words on the Throne Speech debate and then I would like to say a few words about the district of Baie Verte - White Bay, and also a few words about the conditions of the Province as I see them at this particular time.

First I want to talk about the district, and, of course the district that I represent - I do not know whether hon. members are aware of it or not - the district is actually two different and distinct districts. The two areas of the districts, the two parts of the district are different geographically, they are different economically, and they certainly have a different community of interest. In fact I would submit that the district of Baie Verte - White Bay, when one looks at it on a map or studies it more closely in economic or geographical terms, it is probably one of the most glaring mistakes of the last Redistribution Bill.

MR. ROBERTS: It was no mistake. It was done intentionally.

MR. RIDEOUT: Well it might have been done intentionally, but it is certainly a glaring mistake of taking and chopping that particular area up in the manner in which it was done. Now I want to hasten to add that

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I am proud to represent every community in the district -

MR. ROBERTS: They are all proud to have you.

MR. RIDEOUT: - whether they are geographically cut off from one another, or whether their economic interests are different, or whatever. But I want to say that because, Sir, in my mind this points out, or from the point of view of representation, or from the point of view of district visitation, or from the point of view of visibility of the member for the district - whether it is me, somebody else, or some other party is not important - but from those point of views, Sir, it makes it very, very difficult to represent a district that has such a diversity of interest as the district of Baie Verte - White Bay. It is rather difficult and sometimes I find it almost impossible when you want to sit down and look at the district as a concept to conceptualize, to put into any sort of category the needs of the district or to put them into any sort of package is almost difficult, is rather difficult because you find that one end of the district is not at all similar to the other end, and you find that the problems facing one end of the district are totally different in those facing the other.

I have said that the district is geographically different. First of all I would like to deal with what I tend to call the Northern part of the district, that is the area of Harbour Deep, Englee, Roddickton and Bide Arm. Harbour Deep, Sir, is the only isolated community today in the district of Baie Verte - White Bay, the only one. It is a community of about 400-odd people, and it solely dependent on the fishery at this present time. The people of Harbour Deep are a very independent people. They make a good living from the fishery, but we must, Sir, in this House, and I, as the member, certainly am, we must become concerned about the future life of that community of Harbour Deep. with the isolation barrier broken on each end, with Roddickton and Englee and Bide Arm with that area being connected to the outside world by road, and

Mr. Rideout.

with the other side of it, the Jackson's Arm, Sops Arm area being connected by road, with the isolation barrier, as I have said, broken on each end the people or some people of Harbour Deep are beginning to look rather longingly to these particular areas. And it is my fear and the fear of a number of people in the community that many people just might begin to leave that very thriving and independent community to go elsewhere.

MR. DOODY: How far is it from Harbour Deep to Englee?

MR. RIDEOUT: Well the road would have to be built across country from Hawkes Bay. I think it is about thirty-five miles.

MR. MURPHY: How many families in Harbour Deep?

MR. RIDEOUT: Well there are about 400 people, as I have already indicated.

So, Sir, you know, with the isolation barrier, the point is with the isolation barrier broken on each end of it, and with that becoming increasingly attractive, especially to the younger people, the future prospects of Harbour Deep might not look at all too pleasant at this particular time. But I would not want to advocate that type of thing. The people, Sir, are not going to stay there forever in isolation. I think that is a self-evident fact: They will not stay in that community forever in isolation. The young people will not stay there, and that is the important point to remember, because while the older people might stay, they are not going to be able to regenerate the life of that community. The younger people must be attracted to stay in that community. I think it can be done, and I think we must address ourselves to that problem and begin to do something about it. I think it would be a shame for a community like Harbour Deep to disappear. They are hard-working people. They are viciously independent people. They work very, very hard. To my knowledge there is little or no welfare in that community at any time of the year. They make their living totally at the present time out of the fishery, and, of course, they draw unemployment insurance benefits during the Winter, and partake in some woods operations. It is a good, clean living for those 400-odd people. And I think we should encourage in anyway we

Mr. Rideout.

can to ensure that that community remains a stable and viable community far into the future. But, Sir, in order to do that we must break the isolation barrier. As I have suggested,

Mr. T. Rideout:

those people will not stay with the glamour and the glory of non-isolation beckoning them on both sides; they will not stay there, and we must be concerned about it. To retain the young people we must break the isolation barrier into Harbour Deep, and, Sir, that is why I was very happy when the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture announced a few days ago that the government had been able to obtain cutting rights to the Mooney Block. Now the Mooney Block of timber, as I understand it, is located behind, on the back of the community of Harbour Deep. In order for that Mooney Block to be exploited, to become assessible as a timber resource to the mills of this Province, forest access roads will have to be built into that region. And I think we should begin to look now at the possibility of extending such forest access roads out into the community of Harbour Deep itself. That is the only way, Sir, I suggest that that community will remain a strong, viable and stable community is if the isolation barrier is broken. I maintain it can be broken and we must begin now to plan to do that. I do not expect it to happen this year or maybe not even next year, but as the forest access roads are pushed into the Mooney Block to take out the timber resource of that area, then we must concentrate on extending those roads for the next few miles, be it ten or fifteen or twenty miles whatever the case might be, into the community of Harbour Deep to break the isolation barrier of that community forever, and thereby insure that that community will be around forever and a day as a viable, strong community.

That also, of course, will have another economic consequence for the people of Harbour Deep. It will provide them with an added economic boost in the sense that the people from that community will be able to partake of the forest industry. Right now they are dependent totally and solely on the fishery. Up to this point they have been able to make a real good living from the fishery. But we know that the fishery has its problems, and of course if the forest industry is exploited -

MR. W. CARTER: Would the hon. member yield for a question, Mr. Speaker?

MR. RIDEOUT: Sure.

MR. SPEAKER (MR. YOUNG): Order, please!

MR. W. CARTER: I had the honour too to represent-- I think it was called Great Harbour Deep in those days?

MR. RIDEOUT: That is right, yes.

MR. W. CARTER: And the matter of a road across the peninsula was an issue then. But it seems to me, maybe he can refresh my memory, it seems to me that there was quite a steep cliff right around the Harbour, the settlements, which made it almost impossible.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. W. CARTER: Straight up, which made it I think almost impossible to bring a road down to the community. Would he mind refreshing my memory?

MR. RIDEOUT: Yes, I would -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Yes, there is a way to get down there.

MR. RIDEOUT: Yes there is, Sir. If you are familiar with Harbour Deep, I know it is a number of years since the hon. minister represented that community so he might have forgotten. In Harbour Deep there is the Northwest bottom and the Southwest bottom. The Northwest bottom, down this way, there is no problem at all to bring a road in there. In fact, seventeen miles of right-of-way have been cut, and it was cut under a LIP Programme, I believe, two Winters ago, and it is, just know, beautiful. Now on both sides of the community, as you suggest, there are cliffs and you would never get out that way. And this is why the road must go through towards Hawkes Bay rather than go up the other way and link into Jackson's Arm which I believe milewise would be much more closer. But through the Northwest bottom and over to Hawkes Bay, no problem at all.

Now the problem is with building the road across there, as I have been told by engineers, is the first few miles from Hawkes Bay out towards Harbour Deep is, you know, very poor terrain, and it would be very expensive to build a road through that type of

Mr. Rideout:

terrain. But that will have to be overcome in order to get into the Mooney Block of timber. So therefore once that is done the initial great expense is taken care of to get the road from Hawkes Bay into the Mooney Block. There should be no problem in getting into Harbour Deep. And that is why I was so pleased to hear that announcement by the Minister of Forestry and Agriculture.

And as I have suggested, Sir, also that those people were dependent solely on the fishery. Now with the opening up of the Mooney Block they will be able to take part in the jobs and the further economic boost that will be provided to that area by exploiting the forestry resource. So, Sir, the people of Harbour Deep and that particular area welcome that news, and I certainly welcome it, and I hope that the end result will be that the devilish isolation that has plagued so many communities in this Province will be broken in to one community in the District of Baie Verte-White Bay that is still plagued by it. I hope that will be the great result, and the result that will be around long after the forest access roads have been built.

Now I want to say a few words also regarding Englee. As many members might know, Sir, Englee was once referred to as the Queen of the North. It was the thriving metropolis, I suppose, to put it that way, after you left Baie Verte before you got to St. Anthony. Englee was the Queen of the North where everything happened. Englee, Sir, still has a great potential as a community. But it is basically now dependent on the fishery. It has a fish plant there that is operated by the Lake group. And that, Sir, is the economic life of Englee. Without that fish plant Englee, a community I believe of 1,800 or 2,000 people, will be economically dead, and that is the problem that we face in Englee at this present time. The plant in Englee is an old one. It is in dire need of modernization and of refurbishing and rebuilding. It is old and in very, very poor condition; in fact I believe it was once operated by John Reeves Limited which is an old and historic firm along the Northern Coast of

Mr. Bideout:

Newfoundland.

If that plant should collapse, and that is the problem that we must face when we look at Englee today, if that plant should collapse, so collapses the whole economy of the town. And as I have suggested, it is a town of 1,800 or 2,000 people. They are dependent solely and wholly on the fishery. Nothing else. There is nothing else for them to do, Sir. But up to this point they have been able to scratch, by hard work and sheer determination, a good living from the fishery in that area. But if it is to continue then we must ensure as a government that that plant at Englee is maintained and properly maintained and in such a condition that it can into the future be the economic boost that area needs. The government must ensure that it continues to operate. Some of the best fishermen of Newfoundland, Sir, are located along that part of the Northeast Coast, but that small plant is needed in order to maintain the economic life of the town of Englee.

Now I have tried to impress on members that without that plant there is nothing to Englee. Not a thing. There is nothing else there. There is nothing else that anybody can think of that can replace the fishery in that particular area.

Yesterday, Sir, we heard a few words about Bide Arm in the form of a petition. Bide Arm, Sir, - the story of Bide Arm must be the saddest story to ever face a community on the Northeast Coast of Newfoundland. It must be the saddest story to ever face a community. There are times when I feel that Bide Arm could be referred to as the Come By Chance of the North. Bide Arm began with so much promise; the people were taken from the isolation of Hooping Harbour and they were brought to the promise of a new life in Bide Arm. It must be the greatest promise that ever faced those people, Sir, to be brought out of that isolation and into a community like Bide Arm where they thought they would make for themselves a new and a better life. It is a beautiful community. It is well planned. It has many modern facilities, for example, water and sewerage and things of that nature.

Mr. Rideout:

The people are hard working, and to say the least, they are certainly God-fearing people.

But, Sir, Bide Arm today is a very, very sad community. There has been a heavy government investment in Reid Products Limited, to the best of my knowledge there has been on both levels of government, heavy government investment in Reid Products Limited that is not turning in this Province or the people of that community one red cent. It is sitting there idle and has sat there for the past, I do not know, three, four, five years or something of that nature, I know that there has been a consultative committee study in it for the past eighteen months or two years, and yet that project, that facility with all of the government that is in to it is sitting there and sitting there and it is not turning the people of the community in anything and it certainly is not turning anything into the area.

There are excellent facilities there, Sir, with the proper approach and with the proper planning they could provide, I am sure, a viable economic boost for the community of Bide Arm. Now I am not totally convinced that it would be totally related to the fishery. Bide Arm is only, I believe, three or four miles away from Englee which has a fish plant, and that plant cannot operate to total capacity except for the glut periods of the year. So I do not think it is logical to expect that another plant doing the same thing could operate three or four miles away in Bide Arm. That is probably one of the problems related to that particular project.

But there are other things that could be done with the particular facility that is there, and, Sir, that is what we much search out, and that is what we must ensure is done, so that that facility can be used for the good of the people of Bide Arm in particular, and the whole area in general.

MR. RIDEOUT:

Now I do not want to become too involved in talking about the Ride Arm situation at this particular time, become too involved in the comments. I feel and I understand that there is something about to happen with the co-operation of the Department of Rural Development. So I am anxiously awaiting - I do not want to use my tongue in a political sense to upset the apple cart in any way. I feel there is something about to happen. I have seen recommendations and so on that have been put forth. I believe they are good ones and I believe with a bit of government help and government support, which I am quite positive will be given to that particular project, something can be done to rid that community of the ghost, the white elephant that is there at this particular time and has been sitting there for the past four or five years and turning nobody in anything. The result, of course, is that we have heavy unemployment in Ride Arm. The people are dejected. They have seen their hopes dashed. There is nothing for them to turn to. Some of them get a bit of employment in the woods industry around Poddickton. But basically there is very little there for them to turn to.

So we must, Sir, and we must do it very, very quickly I would hope now that all the study and so on has been done by the consultative committee and the rural development people. I hope we could do it very, very quickly, get something moving in that community with the government investment that is already there so that we can provide jobs for the people of Ride Arm and in that area and an economic base for Ride Arm and its people.

Now Poddickton, Sir, is currently a very prosperous community because it is located in an area that is very heavily dependant at this time on the woods industry, the forest industry. Also it is a service center in a medical sense and an educational sense for a number of other communities around it. It is a large community again, 1,000 or 2,000 people living in it. They have a water and sewer system that is not yet complete and, Sir, that certainly is

MR. BIDEQUI:

a problem for a town of that size. I hope it can be completed this year. But the prospects at the moment for Roddickton, Sir, look good. But we must ensure that the forest resource in and around Roddickton is properly managed and wisely managed to ensure continued prosperity for that community and the other communities surrounding it that depend on the forest industry.

If I were asked to name the greatest problem facing most of the communities in that district I think I would very quickly have to say transportation. Transportation is the greatest need in that particular area of the district, and I am pretty near convinced that it is also the greatest need in the Baie Verte Peninsula sector of the district. The road into Harbour Deep I have talked on at some length this afternoon and I have mentioned it before, I believe, in this House. It is a must if that community is to survive and I believe it should survive. It would be a shame for a community as independant and as economically well off as Harbour Deep to disappear. We should not let that happen. The cross country road from Plum Point to Roddickton and thence to Englee needs to be upgraded and eventually paved. Nobody expects it, Sir, to be done all in one year or two years or three years. But what we expect is a beginning, something to show the people that we do have a commitment and we do have good intentions.

The people in that area often refer to themselves as the forgotten North. From Harbour Deep down they refer to themselves as the forgotten part of not this district but every district that ever occupied that particular coast since Confederation and I suppose before it. They feel that the Southern part of the district of whatever used to be there - White Bay North, White Bay South and, I believe, White Bay at one time - the Southern parts of the district always got the greater attention in that they were always somehow left on the losing end of the stick. When one goes down there and sees the conditions of transportation in those particular areas, then

MT. RIDEOUT:

it is easy for one to realize or to believe and understand why the people believe as they do in that particular area.

But we must make a beginning in transportation in that area. We must make a beginning so the people will at least see for themselves by our actions that our intentions are good and that we intend to provide them with what are today, Sir, I would submit, the necessities of life and no longer luxuries.

I want to talk secondly about what I consider to be the second geographic division of the district of Baie Verte-White Bay and that is the Baie Verte Peninsula itself. The Northern part I hope I have dealt with adequately. I want now to talk about the Baie Verte Peninsula for a few minutes. That part of the district, Sir, begins in Middle Arm in Green Bay and goes to Westport in White Bay and then it is tacked on after you cross White Bay to Harbour Deep to make up the rest of the district.

This is the part of the district, Sir, that certainly does have a similarity of interest, that certainly does have a community of interest and that certainly does have common problems. That part of the district is very easy to lump together and to see the problems in a conceptual sense and to categorize them. Transportation, as I have suggested, is a problem in the North. It is also a problem on the Baie Verte Peninsula. The major roads on that Peninsula need to be, over the next four or five years, upgraded and paved. The road from Seal Cove, Wild Cove into Baie Verte is a very major road. Everybody travelling over that road to work in Baie Verte and in Advocate Mines-I believe in a petition I presented a couple of days ago there were something like 200 school children who travel that road twice daily - so it is certainly a major road and something should be done within the very near future to begin work on it.

The road from Fleur de Lys, Coachman's Cove to Baie Verte, again the same thing. Fleur de Lys, a community of about 1,000 people,

MR. RIDEOUT:

Coachman's Cove of about 500, a total of 1,500 people, with four school buses and all the men that work in Advocate Mines travelling that road again. We do not expect pavement tomorrow morning, Sir, but we do expect a beginning, we expect a plan so that we can look forward and know that in four years time it will be completed or next year a start will be made or this year a start will be made, whatever. The people are sick of living in false hopes. They are sick of hearing those pious platitudes and promises only at election time and that has been the case for far too long. We must get rid of that and level with the people and say, 'Here is our plan. In five years this can be done and we will start so much of it this year, and so much next year and so much the year after and so on.'

Also the road from Burlington to Baie Verte is a very major arterial road on the Baie Verte Peninsula. Also the road from Westport to Baie Verte. These would be the priority roads, if I could use that term. I know all roads are important but these would probably be the priority roads in a sense that they serve the greater amount of people and they -

MR. W. CARTER: Who was representing that part of the country already?

MR. RIDEOUT: We were doing well until we got a Tory government five years ago.

MR. ROBERTS: Hear, hear!

MR. RIDEOUT: And of course because the government would not call a by-election we were almost two years without anybody.

So, Sir, the branch roads now off the LaSalle Highway, that would be roads going into places like Ming's Point and Pacquet and Woodstock, these are also priorities but they, I think, in all fairness and honesty they should be looked at after the major arterial roads, the routes themselves are done. They need to be upgraded. Eventually someday I hope they will be paved. But at the present time I think upgrading would satisfy the people who live in those communities because you have got to be realistic about

MR. RIDEOUT:

it. You have got to deal with the major needs of the district first.

Water and sewerage is also a problem in most every community in the district. That is on the Baie Verte Peninsula part. We need a planned approach to providing this necessity to life also, Sir. It is almost disgusting to see a project started, you know, a few months before an election and then given up and then not started again. Not saying that that happens in every case, but it happens in some cases. We need planned approaches to all those necessities of life.

One of the worst problems with regards to water and sewerage that - water in particular - is faced in the district is Smiths Harbour. It is only a very small community, fifty or sixty people I suppose. But in Summer they have to go miles by boat, or either that walk miles to get water, something as necessary as water. You cannot live without it. Yet they have to go miles by boat or either that walk miles into a pond in on the back to get water to keep their homes going during the Summer. Something has to be done about that deplorable situation. I understand they tried drilling wells out there, I believe it was last Summer, but nothing came of it. I do not know. Some people tend to suggest that the wells did not go deep enough. I do not know what the problem is but the wells were drilled and no water.

MR. PECKFORD: I had them studied to death down there.

MR. RIDEOUT: No water down there or what?

MR. PECKFORD: No, just the same as everybody else, there is no water there.

MR. RIDEOUT: There is no water there.

MR. PECKFORD: The pond is the only answer and it is too far away.

MR. DOVE: They were drilling for votes.

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Tape 2072

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MR. PIPEOUT: So, Sir, I also tried to bring out in this House a couple of days ago that the government must realize that there is a viable fishing industry which can exist on the Baie Verte Peninsula. There is a large modern plant at LaScie, one of the largest and one of the most modern plants in the whole Province. But, Sir, that plant must be properly managed to provide maximum benefits for our fishermen. There are times when you listen to the fishermen, especially as we did at a fisheries conference out there some weeks ago, there are times when it is impossible to believe that that plant is properly managed.

Newfoundland Quick Freeze,

MR. RIDEOUT: at this particular time the operators of the plant, are now in the last year of their third year, a three year operating agreement. They have an option to buy that plant at the end of this year.

The fishermen of that area and I support them, we want the government to look very, very carefully, Sir, before they allow Newfoundland Quick Freeze to buy that plant in LaScie and then tie it up in any way they want to. They have to look very carefully at that. The fishermen should be consulted. I think they ought to be consulted and a full thorough investigation of that operation carried out so that we know exactly what the economic viability of the plant is. I personally feel it can operate a lot longer than it does. I personally feel that it can take more species of fish than it does. For example they are not taking any crab whatsoever yet that plant is sitting alongside of the greatest crab resource that we have in this Province. People are going down from Bonavista and Trinity Bays and fishing it, bringing it into Jackson's Arm or Fleur de Lys and onto a freezer container truck and right out of the Province and here is a plant in LaScie with the capability of handling that resource and we are not touching it. We have to do something about that. It is disgraceful. Also the squid potential of that particular area has never been looked at with the exception the Japanese looked at it last year, it looks good. But we are not doing anything about it ourselves or if we are it is something secret, it is under the table, nobody knows anything about it.

There are a number of communities in the district, Sir, that are in dire need of fishing facilities. I mentioned that I believe in the House a few days ago also. One of the most disgusting things that ever came to my attention shortly after I was elected was to look at the Community of Nippers Harbour and the Community of Wild Cove, two of the greatest fishing communities on the Baie Verte Peninsula and has been since the beginning of time as far as I know. They do not have any fishing facility whatsoever.

MR. RIDEOUT: You go to Seal Cove a few miles from Wild Cove where there is only two or three fishermen, I do not know if there is that many there or not, they have got a big community stage, not being used. The mess is growing on it. The fishermen in Wild Cove still got to crawl out around the cliffs to get out to the rickety and worn out and broken down old wharf where they still tie on their boats. Year after year after year they have cried for something to be done about it but nothing has happened. The Federal Government is just as much to blame as the Provincial Government. I do not mind, Sir, when it comes to blame let the chips fall where they may. If the Feds deserve it then they can be rapped on the knuckles too.

Now out in Nippers Harbour a couple of years ago they built a beautiful wharf, fisherman's wharf. It was built, I do not know who did the engineering studies but it must have been somebody who knew nothing about the course of the tides and so on in Nippers Harbour. I was over there Saturday and the thing has fallen down, the front of it is under the water. A beautiful job, it must have been \$100,000 or \$150,000 job now under water.

AN HON. MEMBER: Submarine wharf.

MR. RIDEOUT: Submarine wharf. And you know Nippers Harbour is depending totally on the fishery. The men are now ready to fish. Where are they going to land their fish at this year? Call up the Federal Fisheries people and say, "Oh, we have got to send out Public Works and study it."

MR. NEARY: They have got it studied to death down there.

MR. RIDEOUT: They have got it studied to death down there. If they put the wharf across the cove like it should have been and blasted down the hills that would never ever move again in God's earth, they would not have to go back and do it the second time.

MR. PECKFORD: But one of the problems was that they allowed that wharf to go there because they were getting some money, rather than say, no, they do not want it there.

MR. RIDEOUT: They got nothing there now.

Also, Sir, in talking about community stages, I cannot understand how any government any time could overlook a community like Nippers Harbour and not put a community stage there when practically everybody there is fishing and they do not have a thing to store their fish in, just this broken down old wharf I have mentioned and a plywood shed put on it by the Newfoundland Quick Freeze Company that operates the plant in LaScie.

So that is the way the two major fishing communities on the Baie Verte Peninsula are treated. If we are to build up a viable fishing industry, Sir, on the Baie Verte Peninsula we have got to change that and we have got to change it damn fast. Time is going away from us and those communities will give up the fishery, those fishermen will give up the fishery, we will have a regeneration of the unemployment problem and another industry lost. That is exactly what will happen unless we grapple the problem now and try to do something about it.

Now, Sir, it is almost a paradox I suppose to say that the one stable industry we have on the Baie Verte Peninsula mining, is a problem. But it is, Sir, probably a weird thing to say and almost a cruel thing to say but the mining industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula is a problem. Anybody in their right senses will have to be concerned with the asbestos mine at Baie Verte because they are - but in voicing our concern there are two things which we must realize, one is the economic factor. The Baie Verte Peninsula to a great degree depends totally and solely on the jobs provided by Advocate Mines at Baie Verte, take out Advocate Mines and the economy of the area is shot and the whole thing goes down the drain. But having said that out of the other side of our mouth we must say, and we must become concerned about the health of the workers and not only that but the health of the citizens of the Baie Verte Peninsula.

Now I seem to think that I have said probably all that needs to be said about that in this House during the Health

MR. RIDEOUT: estimates some weeks ago. But I will say again, and I must continue to say that we must be very, very careful with the situation at Baie Verte. Fortunately through God's luck we have twenty years to look at an asbestos problem before it becomes a death problem. That is the gestation period for asbestos and we have twenty years. But time is running out, Sir, we are into the thirteenth year now. And we cannot drag our feet too much longer before people start dying off on us and then it will be too late to moan and groan about the situation that existed at Baie Verte and we knew it was there. What right did we have to expect that there are no health problems at Baie Verte? We do not have a right in the world because all the evidence is there. You can pick up practically any mining magazine or any medical magazine and you can read about the health hazards created by over exposure to asbestos dust. We do not have a right in the world to even think, to even let the thought enter our mind that there is not a problem there. We know it is there and how quickly we deal with it and how efficiently we deal with it that will determine how tragic the situation will become when the final period begins to draw up on us. It is not only a health danger to the workers, as I have suggested before and as hon. members know, it is a health hazard to the whole area. Women, children as well as the workers and we have to be very, very careful, Sir, in what we are doing about it.

I say that the government should be into Advocate Mines in Baie Verte like flies around a molasses barrel, Sir. There should be monitored dust levels there. It should be independent monitoring, not done by the company or not by the union, it should be done by some official or other of Mines and Energy, independently, and they should set standards - the government must set standards. It is no good to sit back on our haunches and expect the company to keep

MR. RIDEOUT: standards that are not even passed into legislation and passed into law in this Province. We have the authority to do that. We should be doing it. We should set standards that are attainable within our technological capability and we can do that. It has been done in other areas, Asbestos in Quebec is one place I can think of right at the top of my head. We should insist and ensure that such standards will be adhered to. Who can do that? The company, you know the company, Advocate Mines are good corporate citizens but it is only so far they will go without the necessary legislation passed by this House and enforced by this government to see that the regulations are adhered to. You cannot expect them to do everything on their own without some prodding and pushing by legislation. We should leave no stone unturned, Sir, in that problem that exists at Baie Verte. Human decency demands that and we would be failing in our duty to the people of that area if we do not take up the challenge.

Now it has been suggested that the Baie Verte Town water supply and probably the supply in other towns around the Baie Verte Peninsula will need filtration systems. You know asbestos dust is in the air. We know that. Everybody knows that. And we know that it blows around and I suppose it is logical to assume that it has to land somewhere. You know when the winds die out it will fall down. It will fall on the trees and it will also fall into the water. And it is therefore logical to assume that it is going through our water system, out into our tap and down into our insides, that is a logical assumption. We know that there are high asbestos counts in the water. We do not have all the knowledge so far to know what is acceptable, what is tolerable and what is not, we should very quickly get that though, Sir, I submit and once that is done we should move quickly to ensure that we cut down as far as possible the asbestos contamination of the water around the Baie Verte Peninsula. If that means putting in water filtration systems we have to do it. A few thousand bucks is a measly pittance to pay for the lives of people of a particular area. It might not sound nice in times of restraint and retrenchment and inflation but if

Mr. Rideout. it is necessary we have to do it and I serve notice now that the government has not heard the last of the water filtration problems on the Baie Verte Peninsula. And I hope that they will not be lacking in their duty when the time comes to put in a few dollars to help the council install those necessary - what I think will be necessary - filtration systems.

Sir, I could talk a great deal longer about many of the other relative needs of the district, but I think probably I have said enough in that respect, and I will probably get an opportunity to dwell on more of them later. But, Sir, I think I have talked about what I consider to be the priorities in the district, and that is what we have to tackle, Sir, the priorities. That is our challenge. And I pass that to the government. If the government accepts it, and performs well, then I will be the first to say, "Gentleman, you have done a good job. I might not support you politically all the way, but I will be the first to say that you have done a good job." We must take those priorities and tackle them. They are not all expensive priorities. They are not things that have to be done overnight. But we must come up with a planned approach to them, a planned approach to solving those problems, and that is what we have not done to this particular date.

Now, Sir, I am concerned about the district. I would not be here but for the people of the district who sent me here. So I would have to be concerned about the district. But I am equally concerned about the Province. Where is this Province going at this particular time? With 28,000 people unemployed where can we go?

CAPT. WINSOR: Nowhere.

MR. RIDEOUT: Our options are fairly limited when you come to think about it. What are we doing about it? What are we doing about the direction in which this Province is going? I think we have to address ourselves to that problem, and we must begin providing jobs for our people.

Mr. Rideout.

It is as simple as that. Jobs based on development of our own resources. We have the resources in this Province, Sir, but they are not developed. But if we could develop them, and we must develop them, then we will be providing the necessary jobs for our people. Not development at any price, but development based on what we have in Newfoundland. In other words development for Newfoundlanders. And I would submit that practically every community in this Province, practically every community could be engaged in some productive enterprise. Almost all our communities have something, some resource that could be developed. It might only provide two or three or eight or ten jobs, but it can be done. Such development or such productive enterprise would have to be based on fishery. It would have to be based on forestry. It would have to be based on agriculture.

MR. NEARY: Point of order, Mr. Speaker. There is no quorum in the House. We are down now to - there is not enough here to haul up a punt.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Young): We have a quorum.

The hon. member for Baie Verte - White Bay.

MR. RIDEOUT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Now, Sir, I was saying that I believe that every community in this Province could be engaged in some sort of productive enterprise. It would be enterprise that would be based on the fishery, based on forestry or based on agriculture or based on tourism or based on mining or based on whatever the resources of this Province, and around our communities are. But we have not to this moment done that with the degree of success which we must do if we are to reduce the staggering unemployment roll that we have in this Province. And I would further submit, Sir, that we send out too much of our resources of this Province in a raw state to be manufactured elsewhere to provide jobs for other people. We have heard discussions in this House about the frozen blocks of fish that are sent out of this Province providing the skilled jobs and the high paying jobs for people

Mr. Rideout.

in other parts of the world. That has to stop, Sir. And we have not encouraged agriculture in this Province to the degree that we must. We could be very close to self-sufficiency and probably past self-sufficiency in a number of agricultural areas. We have not done it. We must do it. That will provide jobs for our people. In all these areas we must move.

The rural communities must develop their own resources native to their areas, whether it be fishing or forestry or whatever. That is the challenge, Sir, that faces Newfoundland today, and that is the challenge that faces us, to develop what we have. If we can get big projects to come in from outside to fit into our Newfoundland way of life, and to be an asset to this Province, great, welcome them here, help to set them up. But we do not want things that are rocks around our necks, Sir, that will help to drown us economically. We do not want that. Our future depends, I believe, on this type of development, and that is what we must address ourselves to in this Province today. We can build a unique way of life for Newfoundlanders. We have the resources to do it, and we must, therefore, get on with the job of developing those resources. That must be the crux of the problem that faces us today, to develop what we have. We have tremendous resources in this Province that are not developed. We can stand in this House, Sir, and we can cry about economic ruin or we can cry about bankruptcy. We can bemoan our financial situation. But that will stay with us, Sir, unless we become more productive. That is what the whole problem is all about. We must produce. We must provide jobs for our people. We must generate new dollars. We must increase the productivity of our people, and we cannot do that unless there is employment. So that must be the key. That must be the cornerstone. The pin on which we base everything in this Province is greater productivity and providing more jobs for our people.

Mr. Rideout.

When we have done this, Sir, then Newfoundland and Newfoundlanders can look ahead to economic prosperity. They cannot do it until we have accomplished that. Without that we shall continuously live in an economic crisis. And I say to this House that that is our challenge. In fact it is more than a challenge. It has to be our duty, our sacred duty, jobs for Newfoundlanders, increase our productivity, and then our financial problems, I believe, will be solved in that light. And should we fail, Sir, if we fail in this House to do that or this government or if we fail in this Province then we will have doomed future generations of Newfoundlanders to the same economic crisis that face us today. That is what will happen if we fail in our task that is before us now. Future generations of Newfoundlanders will be doomed to be fighting and scratching and experiencing the same economic problems that ever hon. member of this House is facing today in 1976.

So, Sir, I say to all of us as members, "Let it not be said that we have failed, but let us bend our backs to the task and get ahead with the problems and the job and the work of developing this Province for our people and for our own good."

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Young): The hon. member for Bay of Islands.

MR. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say a few words about the amendment, and I read it before I started talking about it. However, I would at first like to congratulate the member for Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout) who has just spoken. I have been taking note, Mr. Speaker, of all the members of the House since I came here, and I must say that I have found the member for Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout) to be very sincere. I have travelled with him several times to Deer Lake, and he is not only sincere, he is friendly, he is a man who realizes that he has been elected for his district, and he is trying to do his best for the good of the people who sent him to the House of Assembly. And a member like this certainly moves me. In

Mr. Woodrow.

fact he even moves me to speak here this afternoon. So I whole-heartedly congratulate him.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, the amendment reads, or the sub-amendment or whatever you want to call it, the amendment: "To amend the motion by striking out all the words after 'that' and replacing them with the following, 'This House reaffirms its faith in the future of Newfoundland and Labrador and calls upon the ministry to present to the House and to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador a detailed and specific outline of their goals for the development of

MR. L. WOODROW:

this Province and the means by which they plan to achieve them!" Now the main word, Mr. Speaker, in the motion is the word 'goals'. So I have some facts outlining what the Progressive Conservative Government of Newfoundland and Labrador have done and what their plans are, in other words, what their goals are. And I sometimes wonder what more in the name of God can this government do? They have so many plans, in fact, I am going to speak first of all of the Department of Forestry and Agriculture, and I will go on to some other departments.

I have certain facts here which I am going to relate to the members of this House. I became a member of this Administration because I thought -

MR. NEARY: Not a member, a supporter of the Administration.

MR. SMALLWOOD: A supporter.

MR. WOODROW: A supporter. Very good! Very good! It is always nice to receive a correction from a member who has been here in the House for a long time. I must again thank the hon. member from LaPoile (Mr. Neary), and the hon. member from Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) who have from time to time corrected me in this hon. House, and I really appreciate it.

So as I said, I became a member of the government of the Province, and supporter of it -

MR. NEARY: A member of the House.

MR. WOODROW: - a member of the House, because I feel and I felt that they are trying to work honestly and sincerely for the good of the Province.

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman almost got captured by the old line Liberals.

MR. WOODROW: As I have said, Mr. Speaker, I think it was in my maiden speech, I pointed out that the men on this side of the House -

MR. DOODY: Have escaped the snares.

MR. J. CARTER: The ones that got away.

MR. WOODROW: You know, take a look at them. We have doctors, Mr. Speaker, we have lawyers, we have school teachers, -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Handsome.

MR. WOODROW: - we have -

MR. DOODY: Picked a barrel of apples.

MR. WOODROW: - people who worked in grocery stores.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Handsome.

MR. WOODROW: Of course!

MR. DOODY: He made a wise decision.

MR. WOODROW: What shall we say, even undertakers. So really I suppose, you know, we have to try to keep a little bit of humour in the House. My goodness it would be terribly monotonous if we did not have a joke.

MR. SPEAKER (MR. YOUNG): I would ask the hon. member if he would keep it above ground.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Keep it above ground. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, yes I will do my best.

MR. SPEAKER (MR. YOUNG): Continue your speech.

MR. WOODROW: Yes. Very good.

In any case, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to outline first of all some of the plans, yes, plans I suppose you would call them, of the Department of Forestry and Agriculture, some of the things that they are trying to do. Now I do not know if they are going to succeed or not but at least they are trying. First of all the inventory of blueberry lands has just been completed in order to get a true picture of the average involved and to provide a firm footing for this natural resource development. Now blueberries may not seem very important, but I recall the day in fact, when a lot of us in the Province of Newfoundland had to depend upon blueberries. At that particular time I remember picking blueberries for as little as ten cents a gallon, and the price today is possibly up to \$1.50 or more. So it is nice to know that this resource is being looked into. I imagine certain grounds have been burned over for the good of the blueberry crop. Of course for several years they have had what has been referred to as mechanical blueberry pickers.

Mr. Woodrow:

In 1976 the soil survey will continue as Newfoundland has a limited amount of the basic world resources. Utilization of its full potential is dependent on classification and protection. The department is also continuing its programme of breeding disease free swine at the breeding station in St. John's and next year -

MR. NEARY: Windsor Heights.

MR. WOODROW: Windsor Heights.

MR. DOODY: That is a recruiting programme for the old line Liberals.

MR. WOODROW: Yes. Very good.

MR. NEARY: They are letting the taxies go to their caucus meetings.

MR. WOODROW: - next year will serve the West Coast when a similar operation begins at the Provincial demonstration farm at Pynn's Brook. Now I have been, incidentally, invited by Mr. Dave Sharpe, I think, his title is director of this farm or something out there in Corner Brook.

DR. FARRELL: A regional director.

MR. WOODROW: A regional director, right. He has asked me, when convenient, to go there and look at this particular operation with him.

MR. NEARY: Is his father the president of the chartered bank out there?

MR. WOODROW: Mr. Speaker, I am also happy to say that in the Bay of Islands district, at the present time, in the Serpentine Road area there is another progressive individual who is interested in getting a swine farm and a sawmill on the go. This has happened he tells me because -

MR. NEARY: Another loan and guarantee.

MR. WOODROW: - of the incentives of the Progressive Conservative Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Now I do not think he had his loan guaranteed yet, but he is working, in fact, I hope it will be, I do not know when. But in any case, Mr. Speaker, I had to get that over because of the hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. DOODY: Let us drop his name in the hat.

MR. WOODROW: Yes. It is quite possible. But as I say it was only yesterday I received a long letter from him, I would not want to read it for you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WOODROW: In any case, you know, it is nice to see people, I think, our own Newfoundlanders taking a lead in this field, especially in the field of, as I have mentioned, the field of forestry and agriculture. It is really good. And I for one would like to encourage people to try to help themselves. I always revert back to the late President Kennedy, Mr. Speaker, when he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country." I know my idea is to try to help people who try to help themselves. Sometimes you can give out all the handouts you like and they will come and still ask for more. But there are many good Newfoundlanders who when you give them a little bit of help - it is like, for example, maybe the talents, you know. Remember the story of the talents in the gospel? One fellow had five, and another fellow two, and one and so on, and they went and increased them.

MR. NEARY: I liked the one who had six -

SOME HON. MEMBER: Oh, oh!

MR. WOODROW: No, no. One had one thousand -

MR. SMALLWOOD: One fellow had, and the other fellow had -

MR. WOODROW: Two thousand talents. The other one had five thousand talents.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The other fellow.

MR. DOODY: That is the do way version.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The other guy.

MR. WOODROW: Well.

MR. NEARY: What about the fisherman that is the one I am interested in.

MR. WOODROW: I do not know what they were called in those days, you know, probably they did not call them fellows.

AN HON. MEMBER: Well get out and find some of them then.

MR. WOODROW: The loaves and the fishes, you mean?

MR. NEARY: Yes.

MR. WOODROW: That was another occasion was it not?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. WOODROW: Very good. That is it.

But in any case I was just making that comparison, Mr. Speaker, and I hope that all of our Newfoundlanders, or many of them, will take, you know, note of people who are trying to help themselves and not depending upon the government to give them everything, just a matter of give me, give me, give me.

Mr. Speaker, also a programme to provide disease free lambs for local farmers will begin this year from the new sheep breeding station near Carbonear. So you will notice I have gone from Corner Brook to St. John's to Carbonear. In other words, what the government are trying to do is spread things out over the whole Province. Not just confine them to one particular spot but spread them out over the whole Province, and I think this is good.

Now something else that has been done; the development of disease free potato seed will continue in 1976 at the farm in Glenwood. Gone again to another location of the Province. It is the first time such a programme has been carried out. The community

MR. WOODPOW:

The community pasture programmes which provides land otherwise unavailable to help livestock production and improve breeding stock through better breeding methods will continue in 1976. In fact in the community of McIver's in the district of Bay of Islands there was quite a programme on the go to clear a community pasture. I certainly feel that this is a good thing and certainly encourages people to keep cattle.

Now concerning lands. The lands branch has just moved to the Higgins Line Building. This should provide much better service to the public because of the new well-equipped facility. Also in compliance with the regionalization of the Department of Forestry and Agriculture the lands branch will be completing it's programme to ensure better service not only in St. John's but in other areas of the Province through the regional office of this department.

Now, the question of forestry which, of course, has been mentioned quite a lot in this session - and probably I should, Mr. Speaker, even though the hon. minister is not here, I would like to pay a compliment to the hon. Minister of Forestry and Agriculture. He is very sincere and I am sure he is admired by every member of this House. He is admired especially because of his sincerity. I really am one who found him, when I had problems and had occasion to talk with him, I always found him to be very co-operate and very helpful. Again, Mr. Speaker, I wonder sometimes - I heard somebody say today in the question period that the government should decrease the number of portfolios. Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not know how this could happen because I feel that the ministers at the present time, in their various portfolios, are certainly overworked. I have heard from many of them that they are spending many a long hour burning the midnight oil and also many of their holidays, like Saturdays and even Sundays. I talked with one minister who told me that he spent just about all the twenty-fourth of May in his office. So I feel, Mr. Speaker, that they are all doing a tremendous job and I certainly

MR. WOODROW:

wish them well. I wonder sometimes how they can continue at the speed they are going, spending x number of hours in the House of Assembly each week, spending x number of hours in their offices and then again, of course, working for their district as all hon. members of the House of Assembly have to do.

Mr. Speaker, speaking of forestry, this year was the first one in which this department assumed full responsibility for forest fire protection throughout the Province under the Forestry Act. I heard the hon. minister mention today an act concerning the forest fire protection. It was a very bad year for fires. I am speaking now of last year. With the co-operation of crews from the paper companies the department showed its capabilities and brought the fires under control. I think, Mr. Speaker, that is very important because a lot of our valuable timber has been destroyed because of forest fires in our Province. You only have to drive, in fact, in the vicinity of Gander where that terrible fire took place a couple of years ago and I believe one in the Bishop Falls area no later than last year.

So I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that the government are doing all they can in this particular field. What more can they do? The use of an infra red scanner was implemented. This device is effective in detecting hot spots in fire areas as it is activated by heat rising from these trouble areas. It proved very effective and will be used in future. This year we will be continuing the programme of forest access roads which is instrumental in enabling improvement of age and class distribution of the forest as well as salvaging the wood from forest insect investigation. I think, Mr. Speaker, I mentioned it the last time I spoke in this hon. House. I mentioned the three great natural resources in our Province, rock, wood and water. It is unfortunate there is so much of the wood or timber going to waste but I am sure, I am positive that the hon. minister is conscientious of this and as is outlined here, hon. minister, you and the administration are doing all you can to avoid this in the future.

MP. WOODROW:

This year the fight will center on the spruce budworm.

It has been government policy to salvage infested timber rather than spray, although this is an alternate method of coping with the problem. Just imagine this particular item alone, the budworm, how much has to be spent in order to arrest a little worm as the saying goes.

MP. NEARY: What about the hemlock looper?

MP. WOODROW: Hemlock looper, well that is the same thing.

MP. SPEAKER: Order, please! While the hon. member has paused for a moment it would be an opportune time to remind members or to call to the attention of members the matters which will be debated at five-thirty. I have received notice of two matters. One submitted by the hon. member for Bellevue (Mr. Callan) arising out of a question asked to the acting Minister of Recreation and Rehabilitation on the subject of the government's plans to build a stadium in the district of Ferryland.

The second arises out of a question asked by the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) to the hon. Minister of Justice. It concerns the inability of the ombudsman to get access to the records of patients of Waterford Hospital and the alleged refusal of the government to broaden the terms of reference of the ombudsman in order to give him access to the records of other boards, crown corporations and agencies which are directly or indirectly financed through public funds. Those are the two matters which will be on the agenda at five-thirty.

The hon. member for Bay of Islands.

MR. WOODROW: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Finally, Mr. Speaker, forest inventory. A joint government industry programme will see Price (Nfld) Limited carrying out inventory on their timber limits in 1976 as part of the continuing process of accessing forest potential throughout the Island.

MR. NEARY: And Bowaters as well.

MR. WOODROW: And Bowaters as well, Mr. Speaker. I did not have

MR. WOODROW:

that noted but I am glad to hear that as well. Now I feel sure that the hon. member for Buchans (Mr. Flight) will be glad to hear this as he has spoken recently in the House, has been questioning the hon. minister on the wood that is drifting around the various parts of Central Newfoundland.

Mr. Speaker, in that field alone, in the field of Forestry and Agriculture alone I just pointed out a few of the things. A tremendous amount of work has been done and is planned, and I am sure in the future will be done. So

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when we speak of the goals, the goals for the development of this Province and the means by which they plan to achieve them. Well I certainly think, Mr. Speaker, that this here is a document certainly of one of the goals that the Department of Forestry and Agriculture is trying to outline for the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. And I challenge any other party, I challenge any other party to do any better, to outline any better plans than have been outlined by the this Department of Forestry and Agriculture.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Now, Mr. Speaker, I would just like now to move on to the Department of Health. I am glad the hon. minister is here. In fact I have to say that I have been impressed, Mr. Speaker, by what has been done in the Province for health since this administration took over. In fact you would have to be blind not to see it. I would like to refer, Mr. Speaker, to the beautiful new hospital that has been constructed in the city of Corner Brook. This hospital has been constructed at a cost of something like, I think, -

DR. FARRELL: Twenty-one million dollars.

MR. WOODROW: \$21 million so says the hon. Minister of Public Works, of course, a member of one of the districts over there. And this hospital, Mr. Speaker, is serving the need of people from Port aux Basques - in fact I know what I am talking about, because I visit the hospital often - Burgeo and as far East, I would say, as Gander. Well, I have seen people in the hospital, Mr. Speaker, from Gander.

MR. NEARY: In Corner Brook?

MR. WOODROW: I certainly have, yes, indeed.

MR. NEARY: They are down there taking their laundry for Port aux Basques.

MR. WOODROW: I see. Yes, I understand the hon. member.

Also it takes in patients from as far up North as St. Anthony. So it is serving a large part of the Province of Newfoundland and

Mr. Woodrow:

Labrador. Now several other members, Mr. Speaker, have spoken about various new hospitals that have been constructed in their district or will be constructed in their district and others are crying for new hospitals, and in fact I appreciate a member who works for the good of his district. I think really, in fact, this is the reason why we were elected to come to the hon. House of Assembly. We came here to work for the good of the district of the people who sent us here. But by the same token, as I have said, and I will keep on saying it again, we have fifty-one districts, and this administration has tried to be fair to all the districts in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. And when you start cutting the pie sometimes it becomes very small, and it is very difficult to do what all the various members of the Province would like to have done. But I am sure that the government will continue to have compassion and understanding for the people all over the Province. And I think after all, Mr. Speaker, this is what politics is all about. This is why we were sent here to the House of Assembly to try to help out the people of the districts who sent us here.

But I would just like to say a few words about health.

First of all I speak about the role of voluntarism in health care. Voluntary efforts through an agency or on an individual basis is still very necessary, and most desirable in the delivery of our health care. While recognizing the tremendous efforts and contributions that have been made so far by a voluntary body, for example, in the field of handicapped children I recall the hon. member for Burgeo - Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Simmons), I listened to him back here during the estimates when he spoke of handicapped children down in St. Alban's. I spent many happy years going back and forth to St. Alban's, Mr. Speaker, and I was so happy to hear the member for Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir (Mr. Simmons) also trying to work for his constituents and especially the handicapped who

Mr. Woodrow.

unfortunately are unable to help themselves. I think it is a great charity when we try to put our hand out to help those who are unable to help themselves. There are still many more challenges ahead. Of course, there are many more challenges ahead. In fact I do not think if we live to 100 years, Mr. Speaker, we would ever solve the problems of all our districts. But if we keep on trying, once again, if we keep on trying with sincerity and doing our best, I believe that when the next election rolls around, if we run again, we probably could be elected. In fact that is probably what a lot of us are looking ahead for. If we do a good job in this term, if we try again, well perhaps we will be elected again a second time.

The development of geriatric programmes and of effective prevention of injury and disability resulting from traffic accidents and smoking to name only to hazards must have heavy voluntary input. Now I am very pleased to know, Mr. Speaker, that the old Western Memorial Hospital is going to be used for extended care patients and geriatrics and the like. In fact only yesterday I wrote a letter to the parents of a geriatric patient in the community of Bennoit's Cove, and I had to communicate with the doctor concerning this particular patient, and I am glad to know that in due course, when the money is available the old Western Memorial Hospital will be used for extended care to geriatric patients and the like. And once again this is going to take in people from Port aux Basques up to St. Anthony, out to Baie Verte, and so on. So it does take in a lot of the Province.

Now another heading I got, Mr. Speaker, is the need to change the balance of the health care system. The present emphasis of our health care system in this Province, and across Canada is on the cure of disease, and on the delivery of the necessary treatment to institutional facilities. Much more emphasis now has to be given to the preventing of many of these diseases or disabilities or at least reducing their impact and cost to society, alcoholism, for example, traffic accidents where well-organized and adequately financed preventive measures

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can achieve more or less cost to all concerned than the present approach of extensively attempting to cure or alleviate preventive health problems.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that was just a couple of things there, a couple of headings, that I mentioned on the question of health, and there are many, many more things, Mr. Speaker, that really could be done, and could be talked about. In the way of health I just, we say, merely scratched the surface. That is all. And I feel, you know, that

MR. WOODROW:

this administration is doing everything they possibly can to show again their great compassion for all Newfoundlanders wherever they may be.

Mr. Speaker, another important topic that this administration - this administration, is that right?

PREMIER MOOPES: That is right.

MR. WOODROW: Good enough, fine.

MR. DOODY: That is correct.

MR. WOODROW: Very good.

MR. SMALLWOOD: This government or this administration.

MR. WOODROW: Very good.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Not my government.

MR. WOODROW: Right.

MR. FARRELL: Our government.

MR. WOODROW: That is it, of course.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The people's government.

MR. WOODROW: Very good. I must say, Mr. Speaker - and I really admit that this is my first time really in the House. I have been in only a few months and I am prepared to learn. I am prepared to learn from the youngest hon. gentleman in the House, the youngest hon. gentleman from Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood). He may not be young in years but young at heart and young in spirit. Nobody can deny that.

MR. NEADY: You will be over here yet.

MR. WOODROW: You cannot say a thing, Mr. Speaker, or somebody will take you differently. My goodness! In any case I feel, Mr. Speaker, that the Department of Rural Development has done a lot and will do more for the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Department of Rural Development, Mr. Speaker, to my mind is helping especially where help is needed in the outports or in the rural districts of the Province.

Now the Minister of Rural Development outlined here a couple of days ago some of the various things that have been done in this

MR. WOODPOW:

field. I have not got a copy of them but it certainly has been to me very encouraging. I am hearing from time to time, even before I got elected to the House, Mr. Speaker, I am hearing from time to time of various projects, some large, some small, which are being done in the district of Bay of Islands and I am very happy over it. Once again, Mr. Speaker, I can say that there are fifty-one districts and I know it must be hard sometimes for the administration to have to refuse people. They cannot accept them all but there are times when they certainly must have to refuse some. This to my mind is not very easy for a government that has compassion and, I say again, is trying to help all over the Province.

But just to outline, Mr. Speaker, a few of the programmes. The employment creation aspect of our rural development programmes have been very satisfying in that approximately 3,000 jobs have been created in nearly 300 communities in the Province. Now I am not counting the last ones that were outlined by the hon. minister. So this certainly is helping the people in the rural part of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. I think the members from the various rural districts certainly must be pleased and happy to hear this. Maybe they will not always agree. After all I would not want them to agree. How could they agree? They have to in fact try to say the government are not doing enough and so on and so forth. But you know really if they were over here themselves I wonder how much more would they do? In fact I wonder would they do a fraction of what is being done under the present administration?

Actually you know, I cannot tear down. By nature, in fact, I am a builder. If I were in the Opposition and if I tore down, in fact, I would have to do it with insincerity because -

MR. FAPPELL: Such a fine government.

MR. WOODPOW: Right! Because after all I think the very words, Progressive Conservative, is just simply what this government is trying to do.

MR. WOODROW:

Organization work has resulted in the formation of twenty-seven regional development associations including two in Labrador. So I am sure my hon. friend from Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) must be glad to hear that. I think I told him the last time I spoke in the House how happy I was to hear him speak and also how sincere he is in his approach and how hard he is working on behalf of his district. Now I venture to say that every member of this hon. House, every member over on this side and every member over on that side, I think they all appreciate the sincerity of the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan). I believe when you can see sincerity in a man that is the man you are going to help.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. WOODROW: Thank you, very much. The man who is hypocritical, in fact, you will help him but you will help him unwillingly. It is the man who is sincere, the man who is trying - and I think all of us in this hon. House, in fact, we can generally tell when a member is sincere.

This has provided many of our rural areas with the means to plan and implement their own economic projects and keep in mind the impact on the social structure of their communities. Over 300,000 Newfoundlanders have been involved with these programmes. Just imagine, over 300,000 Newfoundlanders have been involved with regional development programmes. Again this really is something. In fact, actually -

MR. NEARY: Was it 300,000 did the hon. gentleman say?

MR. WOODROW: 300,000 I said, yes.

MR. NEARY: He must be a prophet of the Province.

MR. WOODROW: Well I tell you, Mr. Speaker, I have heard some of the hon. members speak about unemployment. When I was at home last Monday I was trying to find a carpenter and we could not find one. So in fact -

AN HON. MEMBER: Carpenters are hard to find.

MR. WOODROW: Well yes, right you are. In fact I have heard the hon. member mention it a couple of days ago in the House. Well this is a fact. It is very hard to find - and I speak now of the Bay of Islands area in general, speaking of the four districts over there - a carpenter to work. So it means that people are working. Maybe some of them are yet receiving unemployment. I do not know. But I guarantee you this is a fact, it is very hard to find them.

So really when all is said and done, Mr. Speaker, there really is a lot being done. In fact it is just amazing. I believe today, I still maintain today that any man who wants to work today in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador can find work. Any man who wants to work - now I may be wrong. But there are many, many people who want to work. But in fact there are a good many who do not want to work. But I think the majority who want to work can find work of some kind or another.

Now I will probably - maybe I will not get time to finish, Mr. Speaker, but I just want also to mention the many associations that work in Winter will be in co-operation with the Department of Rural Development conducting community profiles. This information will form a basis for comprehensive development plans in these areas. We encourage the establishment of central planning facilities on a recreational basis throughout the Province.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there is no end to what has been done in the Province by way of recreation. In fact in almost every community today in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and especially in communities where the councils have work,

MR. WOODROW:

quite a lot has been done for recreational purposes. In fact, when I speak of this I think of - and I repeated this here last week, but probably some members did not hear me or were not here - I would like to refer to the community of Cox's Cove where a brand new arena was built this past year. They have a park over there. In fact they are trying for this thing and that thing but there are very energetic councillors. They are very energetic and they are working hard. In fact we all know this. But after all, is it not good to see a council energetic and active? We will be pursuing development opportunities in trout farming, eel fishing and the processing of native fruits. After all, Mr. Speaker, all those things in my opinion are very important to the Province.

A special emphasis will be given to development of all aspects of handicraft industry from the product level through to final market.

MR. LINDRICAN: We are doing that now.

MR. WOODROW: Absolutely. In fact the hon. minister tells me they are doing a lot of that now. I witnessed last Summer, Mr. Speaker, a lot of this going on in the Bay of Islands district and I think the hon. minister mentioned a mill or something out in Codroy Valley there last week. Particular attention will be given to ensure that quality products only will be marketed as Newfoundland crafts. We will be made to introduce new techniques while still maintaining the handicraft tradition which will enable the producer to realize greater returns. Special programmes will be devised to encourage local enterprises in order to avail of all possible development opportunities.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I believe that my time - they have already informed me it has just elapsed. I had a few more things to say but I hope I will have an opportunity at a later date. I therefore, Mr. Speaker, have to conclude that this administration know where they are going. In fact it is not easy, but I know they have goals and that is the reason why, Mr. Speaker, that I am with them.

MR. WOODFOW:

I am going to work with them in fact, tooth and nail, because they encourage me and I encourage them. As I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, I certainly will work on behalf of the Province in general, in particular for my own district, and I realize again that there is only so much to go around. It would be foolish for me in fact to expect everything for the Bay of Islands district or even for the West Coast. We have to think of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. Therefore I am happy, Mr. Speaker, to be able to say those few words this afternoon and I thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on the amendment, Sir, I would first of all like to have a few words on a proposal, if you like, on a suggestion or an idea that was put forward the other day by the Leader of the Opposition, the old-line Liberal Party, in suggesting that the rules of the House should be changed. Well, Sir, it is very seldom that I find myself in agreement with Mr. Mick Collins and Mr. Michael Harrington of The Evening Telegram. This indeed, Sir, is a very historic day in my life because for the first time in recent years anyway I find myself in complete agreement with the editorial in today's Evening Telegram headed 'The House Rules'.

To quote from the editorial, Sir, it says, "It has become fashionable in the House of Assembly for members to preface their statements on procedures with the phrase 'this House is no longer relevant to the needs of the people' and to go on from there and suggest what needs to be done to make it relevant. And staying right in fashion was Opposition Leader Ed Poherts when he wrote a letter to House Leader Robert Wells suggesting some changes in the rules, particularly those dealing with the spending estimates."

"Well", says the editorial, Mr. Harrington or Mr. Collins, "who better to suggest rule changes than Mr. Roberts. He is one of the

MP. NEAPY:

most determined obstructionists in the House and is more noted for the long rambling speeches he gives on vague generalizations than he is for hard-hitting debate on well researched probing for weaknesses in the government's spending habits. Good for Mr. Roberts if he wants to make the House more relevant, but he himself is going to have to make a much larger contribution to relevancy than merely writing a letter to the House Leader. He has got to learn that Opposition can be constructive without loss of face and he has to teach his own members to be relevant, a condition that is rare to Opposition benches."

A wonderful editorial, Mr. Speaker, excellent. If I wrote it myself I could not have done a better job, Sir. "Apart from that, his suggested changes are in line with much that has already been said and written on the topic." Well now, Sir, my reaction to that is 'Hear,hear!' It is a most timely editorial, Sir, and I think the editorial as I read it, quoted verbatim from today's Evening Telegram, speaks for itself. It is self-explanatory. When the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Sir, stands in this House and decides to give members on either side a tongue lashing or to give them the odd little flick or the odd little dart below the belt, the hon. Leader should stop and think about the words in that editorial.

I think we all agree, Mr. Speaker, that a lot of the things that we do in this hon. House are not in the interests of the best needs of the people of this Province. We all have a tendency to stray away from what are the real issues and the real needs of the people of this Province occasionally. But, Sir, I think we are all guilty on either side of the House. But the Leader of the Opposition especially, Sir, is a gentleman who has a very responsible position in this hon. House and should learn to conduct himself in a more gentlemanly manner than he has in the past.

When the hon. gentleman stood up the other day and took a little swip at me for attacking somebody's wife, that had to be the gross exaggeration of the century. I was tempted to remind the hon. Leader

MR. NEARY:

of the Opposition when he attacked another gentleman in this House, and let go a vicious attack on one occasion on the Speaker of the House, a man that aspires to becoming Premier of this Province, a man whose ambitions -

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Speaker, a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order.

MR. F. ROWE: I do not think that the Leader of the Opposition needs anybody to come to his defense, Sir, but we are on an amendment which reads, "To amend the motion by striking out all words after 'that' and replacing them with the following: This House reaffirms its faith in the future of Newfoundland and Labrador and calls upon the ministry to present to the House, to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador, a detailed and specific outline for their goals for the development of this Province and the means by which they plan to achieve them."

Now I know, Sir, that this amendment and indeed the sub-amendment allow for very wide-ranging debate. But, Sir, I cannot see how any amendment or sub-amendment can be used by an hon. member to personally attack another member of this House, which is occurring at this particular moment. And on the grounds of relevancy, Sir, I would submit that the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) is out of order in using this amendment to simply lash out and personally attack the Leader of the Opposition, and it is not at all relevant to the particular amendment.

MR. NEARY: To that point of order, Mr. Speaker. It was on the very amendment that the hon. gentleman, the hon. expert, the instant expert on Beauchesne, it was on the very amendment, Sir, that the Leader of the Opposition made the statements that I am referring to.

MR. F. ROWE: When did he attack the Speaker?

MR. NEARY: And made the statements that resulted in this editorial in today's Evening Telegram. So I would submit, Your Honour, that this is a far, wide-ranging debate and that I am perfectly in order.

MR. NEARY:

It is just a foolish point of order that the hon. Opposition House Leader dreamed up.

MR. F. ROUF: Further to that point of order, Sir. The member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) specifically stated that the Leader of the Opposition had attacked the Speaker and he certainly did not do so during this amendment or anything to do with this motion.

MR. NEARY: Who said it was during this amendment. I am referring -

MR. F. ROUF: The hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) said it earlier.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please! Order, please!

I will now dispose of the point of order. I will ask the hon. gentleman to adjourn the debate, if he wishes to continue.

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I move the adjournment of the debate.

MR. SPEAKER: On the point of order. It was in a sense two pronged, alleging that the hon. member was out of order, one, on the grounds of relevancy and, two, on the grounds of being unparliamentary.

With respect to the ground of relevancy, as hon. members know, and I refer to "av, page 379." The object of an amendment may be to present to the House a different proposition as an alternative to the original question." That is what

Mr. Speaker:

this form of amendment is. May then continues on page 380, "This latter purpose may be effected by moving to omit all of the words after "that" and to substitute in their place "other words of a different import". In that case the debate that follows is not restricted to the amendment, but includes the purposes both of the amendment and of the motion, both matters being under consideration of the House has alternative propositions." And what I understand that to mean in everyday language is that with this kind of amendment what would be relevant in speaking on the main motion is relevant in speaking on the amendment.

So on the grounds of relevancy, and with our own precedent with respect to the debate on the Address in Reply, with our own precedent there, it would not be irrelevant.

Now with respect to the second point, while certainly the hon. member was taking serious issue with the Leader of the Opposition, and his remarks will not be considered to be complimentary, I would not regard them as a personal attack but as a criticism, as a criticism but not as a personal attack. Whether constructive or not of course will be naturally open to different people's interpretation and I would not have the right to make a decision on that.

It now being 5:30 I will call upon the hon. member from Bellevue.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. W. CALLAN: Mr. Speaker, let me first of all say that I am sorry that the Acting Minister of Recreation is not in his place today, I dare say the hon. gentleman is ill, he has appeared to be the last couple of days, but then on the other hand perhaps it does not really make any difference to the matter that I want to discuss or debate this afternoon because I do not think the hon. Acting Minister of Recreation is in any way responsible for the problem as I see it.

Mr. Speaker, I refer first of all to The Evening Telegram

MR. CALLAN:

of Saturday, April 10, 1976 titled Committee Chairman feels Southern Shore will have its own rink in operation in November. It goes on to say that, "Charlie Power, Finance Chairman for the Southern Shore Stadium Committee, said they have a definite commitment from the Provincial Government to help cover the cost of constructing a rink in the area. "Two weeks ago", it says, "two weeks ago they started to raise funds for this arena. They have raised \$6,000, and they hope to raise another \$3,000 in another couple of weeks!" It says, "we are shooting for \$200,000 over the three year period," I do not know what that means but he does refer to a three year period, "and in total though we hope to raise \$100,000 this year. " So the Committee Chairman says that they will raise \$100,000 this year, and they will have a stadium for November.

I also refer, Mr. Speaker, to a press release dated A.M. Thursday, March 13, 1975, March 13, 1975 which is the day after the Budget came down last Spring. It says, "Mr. Doyle said that the new policy regarding stadia for the present at least will apply only to stadia in the following nine communities Whitbourne, Conception Bay South, St. Georges, Windsor, Bishop Falls, Marystown, Wabush, Corner Brook and the Avalon Arena in St. John's." There is no mention there, Mr. Speaker, among these nine, no mention made of the Southern Shore or Ferryland or any of that area. And here is the punch line, Mr. Speaker, the minister, the hon. Tom Doyle at the time, "The minister added that a freeze has now been placed on capital grants for stadia for a period of at least one year from April 1, 1975."

Now in answer to an oral question that I asked here in this House a couple of days ago and previous to that, but two days ago the Acting Minister of Recreation said, "Yes, government is committed to build a stadium at Ferryland or in that area because or as a result of a commitment made by the then hon. Tom Doyle last August 1975." Here the minister is saying that we are looking after nine areas

Mr. Callan:

stadia will be built in nine areas, and then there will be a freeze for at least one year. This freeze by the way was announced at a time when there was no talk for inflation, and all the other things that are associated with the inflationary period, and so on.

Mr. Speaker, it seems rather strange to me that if there is a freeze for one year on then how could that minister make a statement four or five months later that a stadium would be built and was committed and promised to the Southern Shore, Ferryland. The hon. minister at that time said it is hoped that during this one year period that cost will have levelled off and as well it will give government an opportunity to work out a new policy with regard to the construction of any additional stadia in the Province.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are three questions that I want to ask in connection with this matter. Number one, is the government going to be consistent in its stadium building programme? As I understand it from the hon. lady member from St. Georges (Mrs. McIsaac) and, of course, as you just saw, as I just read here from the news release by the hon. member, the minister, a stadium was promised for St. Georges, but then of course that promise was withdrawn, and they still do not have their stadium. But here is a stadium going to be built in a brand new area which was not mentioned last Spring and for which there was suppose to be a freeze ever since last April. Is the government going to be consistent in a stadium building programme?

A month after the hon. Tom Doyle made a commitment to Ferryland the Premier was out in Placentia and made a commitment to build a stadium there. Are they going to build a stadium in Placentia? Are they going to be consistent?

Number two, are statements or promises made by individual ministers outside of the House to be considered a commitment of government even during an inflationary period? And the third and last question, is it necessary, and here is the big one, is it necessary for government to carry out projects for political reasons rather than

Mr. Callan:

for need and priority?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

HON. J. LUNDRIGAN: Mr. Speaker, I just want to acknowledge the statement by the hon. member. I am sure if he had a long chat with the hon. House Leader he could clear up all these questions in his mind. There is no reason, I cannot quite fathom the basis for his comment. Whether there was a contradiction between the former minister's March statement and then his latest statement in August, was it August he indicated?

MR. CALLAN: Yes.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: August 1975, whether that is his concern, the contradiction that existed or whether his concern is that the government are trying to be political. Now he has got to make up his mind which route he wants to go.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Both.

MR. CALLAN: Both.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: Which route he wants to go because the government - there was a commitment made stated by the hon. House Leader in this House long before there was any contemplation of or thought of or suggestion of any by-elections in the district in question, it was made in August 1975 according to -

MR. CALLAN: It was announced before the Provincial election of last Fall.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: There were all kinds of commitments made around the Province, across the country -

MR. CALLAN: Are they all -

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - governments are unusual, you know, they do make commitments -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - and the member from Bellevue (Mr. Callan) who has a particular bee in his bonnet to work very hard for the stadium in

Mr. Lundrigan:

Whitbourne, and was assisted greatly during a prolong period of time by the former member who I am sure out of his own pocket made substantial commitments to the stadium in Whitbourne -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Not one copper.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: - and worked very hard, the member will have to agree work very hard in connection with the particular stadium committee, and I do know that the hon. member present and the former member had a great sorrow off during a period of time prior to his present election and I understand that stuff, that is part of human relations and all kinds of other things, politics included.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. LUNDRIGAN: The point I am trying to make is that there was a commitment made by the former minister in August of 1975 -

Mr. Lundrigan.

The point that I am trying to make is that there was a commitment made by the former minister on August of 1975. It had nothing to do with by-elections. It was not politically motivated. It was not geared up for any kind of circumstance that might exist in the particular area at the moment. I think it is grossly unfair for the member and, yesterday the Leader of the Opposition as well, to try to make the suggestion or statement that there is some kind of surreptitious or sneaky or kind of an under the table or underhanded or political motivation behind the present arrangement, hanky-panky, as a former colleague used to say. There is no such contemplation of same, and it certainly is not precipitated in that direction.

Now I can answer the second part of his question or really the first point about the contradiction in the positions that were taken between March of 1975 and August of 1975 as well. I can answer that. The hon. former minister did make a commitment in August of 1975. That commitment to my knowledge still stands, and I presume that there will be some kind of follow through. I presume that. Again I am not the minister, and I am only answering and feeling the question in the general sense. But the member cannot have it both ways. Assuming that there is a contradiction in the former minister's position during that year, assuming that he wants that point debated, well that is one point, but certainly you cannot make the suggestion, and neither can the Leader of the Opposition that the present follow through and the government's position on that stadium is in anyway motivated by the fact that there is a by-election. The commitment was made in August of 1975. Now that is a fact, and that stands by itself as an indication that there is no presumption of a by-election. Again the other people have to argue their own cases, and I am sure that the present minister will be quite willing over a period of time to receive representation from the hon. lady, who is spokesman for her district, and I am sure she can verbalize her concern, and articulate her concern adequately, and I am sure that the minister will receive any kind of representation. I am sure that eventually there will be a lot of places

Mr. Lundrigan.

in the Province that will receive stadia, hospitals, more roads, and all kinds of other kinds of projects and programmes that will be developed by government. But the member on this specific case must make up his mind. He cannot have it both ways, and the one fact that we can lay to rest in the minds of the Leader of the Opposition and himself who presented a very good case today - I think he is on the verge of going to law school, if he has not already been there - was a very good case and that is that there is no precipitated political motivation behind that particular decision which was made in August of 1975.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for LaPoile.

MR. MEARY: Mr. Speaker, it would appear to me at the moment that the government are rushing ahead to try to get the business of the House concluded and close up the House as quickly as possible. This is what prompted me, Sir, to put my question to the Minister of Justice the other day in connection with the problems being encountered by the Ombudsman and raise this matter during today's Late Show of giving the Parliamentary Commissioner, the Ombudsman, access to records at the Waterford Hospital and jurisdiction in other areas in which, in my opinion, Mr. Speaker, the Ombudsman should have jurisdiction because it seems to me, Sir, that the House will soon close for the Summer holidays and that there will be no amendments to the legislation brought in for our deliberation. So, Mr. Speaker, I want to say here and now that I will personally support any legislation that might be brought into the House in the next few days to restore the right of appeal to patients at the Waterford Hospital who are detained there by so-called experts who in a good many cases are nothing more than witch doctors who present opposite views and diagnosis, especially, Sir, when they are presenting evidence in court. And we have seen an incident of this recently in the Patty Hearst case in the United States. Yet, Mr. Speaker, under our present laws we bar these patients from an appeal to the Provincial Ombudsman. But, Mr. Speaker, I do not know if members are aware of it or not, we allow criminals, we allow inmates at Her Majesty's

Mr. Neary.

penitentiary the right of appeal of any grievances they may have to our Provincial Commissioner but we allow the human rights of individuals who are committed to institutional care to be cancelled out.

Mr. Speaker, apart from the authority to examine the records of patients at the Waterford Hospital, there are several other areas in which changes must be made to the Provincial Ombudsman Act, and the government should make arrangements, Sir, for these amendments before the current session of the House adjourns for the Summer. Mr. Speaker, it is apparent to me that the best interests of the people of this Province would be better served if jurisdiction were conferred upon the Ombudsman to include grievances with municipal governments, all crown corporations, senior citizens homes and private boarding homes funded by the provincial government and any other organization, Mr. Speaker, in the public or private sector who directly or indirectly are in receipt of provincial public money in the form of grants from the public treasury. When the Ombudsman legislation was passed, Mr. Speaker, in the House of Assembly members on both sides of the House expected that eventually recommendations for improvements would have to be made. And I think we all remember, Sir, the criticism of the appointment of Mr. Ambrose Peddle. That was considered as a political appointment at the time. As it turned out, Sir, in my opinion, it turned out to be a good appointment that Mr. Peddle is doing a half decent job but at the moment is hamstrung by being restricted by the legislation. And, Mr. Speaker, there have been so many complaints in the past year or so concerning municipal problems, school taxes, garbage collection, water and sewerage, and tax concessions for private companies and so on, it is now imperative, Mr. Speaker, that we give our people, the people who have these grievances, who have problems -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Tax concessions.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon?

MR. SMALLWOOD: Tax concessions.

MR. NEARY: Tax concessions for private companies and so on like the building of Atlantic Place.

MR. DOODY: Not this government.

MR. NEARY: No, not the government. I am talking about municipal problems which I mentioned and the school tax, and garbage collection and water and sewerage and tax concessions for private companies by municipalities and so on.

- that it is now imperative, Mr. Speaker, that we give all our people an avenue through which they can process their grievances in these matters, and there is no better way, in my opinion, that this can be done, if it cannot be done through the elected representatives of the people, then it should be done through the Ombudsman.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

MR. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, if I may first -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. HICKMAN: - if I may first deal with the issue raised by the hon. gentleman with respect to the Waterford Hospital. Firstly may I say that I reject categorically the allegations by the hon. gentleman with respect to the competency of the staff, the medical staff of that hospital -

MR. NEARY: Not all of them.

MR. HICKMAN: - to my knowledge the Waterford Hospital is staffed by a group of highly competent personnel. The Parliamentary Commissioner Ombudsman Act provides for jurisdiction by the Ombudsman over every department or agency of government. Hon. gentlemen will recall this act was passed in 1970 but not proclaimed until June 16, 1975. Now when the act was passed the Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases was operated directly by the Department of Health and was an agency of government, but prior to the proclamation of the act the stages of the hospital changed when it was incorporated as the Waterford Hospital Incorporation under the provisions of the Hospitals Act. The decision of Mr. Justice N. S. Noel of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland in the application made by the Ombudsman for an order directing that certain files regarding two patients be turned over to him, the decision to disallow that request is based, in my opinion, on good sound law.

Mr. Hickman.

The hon. gentleman from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) says that he raises this at this time because he is concerned that the House may adjourn before the necessary legislation is introduced to remedy this situation. Well, Mr. Speaker, I direct hon. gentleman's attention to the provisions of the Ombudsman's Act, and in particular Section 21 (a) of the act which provides for an order, which gives in effect the Lieutenant-Governor in Council the right to designate any body, an agency for the purpose of the act, upon the recommendation of the House. But there is also a provision that if the House is not in session

MR. HICKMAN:

an Order in Council can designate any body as an agency and then you simply come back to the House when it next sits for confirmation of that order.

Mr. Speaker, the issue is not all black and white and it is not as simply resolved as one would indicate. For instance, the ombudsman in the two reports this House have received from the Ombudsman are of the highest caliber and indicates the wisdom of this House in appointing Mr. Peddle to that very impartial position. But the ombudsman refers or implies in his report, when he says that we have heard from the law, I now look forward to a decision from those who make the law that legislation is necessary which it is not. It can be done should government decide as a matter of policy to do it by cabinet.

The cloudy issue in this particular area is that we do have the Mental Health Review Board which is a statutory body, which board deals with all complaints. Every complaint I am told that comes from a patient at the Waterford Hospital is dealt with by this totally independant statutory board. There is also a right of appeal from a decision of that board on matters of law to the Supreme Court on questions of law. Insofar as questions of fact are concerned the finding of the Mental Health Review Board is final and binding.

Before I suggest we make a firm decision on this we have to address ourselves to the situation as to what might occur if you have the Health Review Board making a decision on a question of fact which is final and binding and then along comes the ombudsman who under the Act is not supposed to appear on the scene until all other remedies are exhausted and overrules the statutory board.

MR. NEADY: They can overrule ministers of the crown.

MR. HICKMAN: The hon. gentleman in expanding on the question also suggested that the jurisdiction of the ombudsman should be extended to

MP. HICKMAN:

municipalities, school taxes and that sort of agency where - and he referred to tax concessions and garbage collection and that sort of thing. That is not the function of the ombudsman, as I understand it. If a municipal council in their wisdom decides within the powers conferred upon them by the local government act to induce an industry into their town and give a tax concession, that is not open to review, that decision by the ombudsman. It is only -

MP. NEAPY: What about the parking space down at Atlantic Place?

MR. HICKMAN: - where a person believes that someone in exercising the administrative responsibility conferred upon him under a particular act and a minister, has not properly interpreted that act and has in a discriminatory way against the complainant exceeded the jurisdiction that is imposed upon him.

The ombudsman is supposed in certain cases where as I envisage and as was outlined at the time the bill was brought into this House, in cases where a citizen finds that he or she in their opinion has been caught up in red tape where an administrative body has rigidly interpreted the law, has rigidly enforced the regulations to their detriment, that there is someone who can come in, have a look at the file and see whether or not there has been indeed a usurping of the privileges and the rights of that citizen.

MR. NEAPY: All he can do now is remedy the mistakes of ministers.

MP. HICKMAN: That is the responsibility of the ombudsman. If the ombudsman can succeed in remedying the mistakes of the ministers then I would say that this House will have no hesitation in giving him all the staff that he so richly and rightly deserves.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MP. SPEAKER: The motion before the House is that the House do now adjourn. Those in favour "Aye". Those against "Nay". In my opinion the "Nays" have it. The House is adjourned until eight this evening.

The House resumed at 8:00 P.M.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

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

MR. NEARY: Mr. Speaker, I believe there was about five minutes of my time expired when the House had to adjourn for the Late Show, and I was just after drawing to the attention of the House, Sir, before we rose for supper, the editorial in today's Evening Telegram entitled, "House Rules", especially the paragraph that referred to the Leader of the Opposition. "Well, who better to suggest rule changes than Mr. Roberts. He is one of the most detrimental obstructionists in the House and is more noted for the long rambling speeches he gives on vague generalities than he is on hard-hitting debate." Well, Sir, I think that is well put, and I am not going to get involved, Sir, in an argument or a controversy with the hon. Leader of the Opposition. My real target is not on this side of the House. My real target is on the opposite side of the House. And if the members on this side to my left have trouble with their leader and with his image, with his public image, then, Sir, that is their problem.

MR. ROWE: He is so cute and cuddly!

MR. NEARY: Yes, he is so cute, Sir, all across Newfoundland they love him. They just cannot wait to get into the polling booths to make the hon. gentleman Premier of this Province. But one thing I have to take exception with the hon. gentleman and that was his reference to me, when the hon. gentleman made a remark that he did not hate me, but he pitied me, the hon. gentleman pitied me. Now the hon. gentleman is very quick, and very snarky and can be very rude and very nasty on times, and this is one thing that hit me. And when the hon. gentleman made that statement I said to myself, now what does he mean? What does the hon. Leader of the Opposition mean, he pities me?

MR. DOODY: It is on page six -

MR. NEARY: What does he mean when he pities me? Does he mean that he pities me because I did not get in to the motel business when

Mr. Neary.

I had the opportunity? Does he pity me because I did not get into the investment business when I had the opportunity? Does he pity me because I did not get an opportunity to attend St. Andrew's College on the mainland? Does he pity me because my parents were not wealthy? Does he pity me, Mr. Speaker, because I am not in the drug business? Does he pity me because I do not have any companies that can loan money? Why does the hon. gentleman pity me? That is the question. Or does the hon. gentleman pity me because I am down here by myself? Does the hon. gentleman pity me because the hon. gentleman was able to shaft me in the last election? Why does the hon. gentleman pity me? That is what I would like to know. Does the hon. gentleman pity me because I am not a snob or an aristocrat? Does the hon. gentleman pity me because I am a Bayman? Why? Does the hon. gentleman pity me because I am not a resident of Hogan's Pond? Why does the hon. gentleman pity me? Sometime, Sir, I would like for the hon. gentleman instead of making vague general statements if he would just tell the House why it is he pities me, because I would like to know?

When I was a member of government - I have been in this House for fourteen years, Sir, - and since I have been a member I am happy to say that I am not in any way shape or form associated with any companies of any kind, neither is my wife and neither is any of my family. And if the hon. gentleman pities me for throwing out names, sometimes, of people whose names are on the public records of this Province, then I stand accused, Sir, if that is what the hon. gentleman pities me for. Because one thing that Mr. Wick Collins or Mr. Harrington will never be able to accuse me of and that is for not making a hard-hitting speech in this hon. House.

Now, Sir, the hon. gentleman the other night said that he had no shares in the Battery Motel. Well, that is perfectly true. The hon. gentleman at this moment has no shares in the Battery

Mr. Neary.

Motel. But the hon. gentleman did have shares in the Battery Motel at one time. The hon. gentleman was secretary of the Signal Hill Motel Company for three years. But I am not going to get into a hassle, Sir, about the number of companies that the hon. gentleman has interests in or the number of companies that the hon. members on the government benches have interests in. I am not going to get involved in that sort of thing. There is nothing illegal about it. We do have a Conflict of Interest Act in this Province, and all you have to do is declare your investments and you are away to the races. There is nothing illegal about it.

But one thing, Sir, that I am going to suggest to the hon. gentleman. I have done a lot of research over the last couple of years in connection with involvement by members of this House in companies and so on, and people outside of the House who have close affiliation and close connection with government. I have done a lot of research, and I have got a lot of evidence in my files, and a lot of it has not even come out yet. But one thing I am going to say to the hon. gentleman - and, Mr. Speaker, before I do this let me say that one of the reasons, somebody put their finger on it the other day. I think it was the member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Nolan), - one of the reasons it is so difficult to bring about reform in this hon. House, is that you find members on either side of the House right up to their eyeballs in similar businesses, and that is why sometimes you cannot get - I stand here alone sometimes bucking the system, knocking the system. I know what I am up against. I know what I am trying to fight. I am trying to fight the establishment and the system, and the system of this Province is controlled and dominated by a handful of people. I realize what I am up against, Sir, but I am not afraid to buck the system to try

Mr. Neary.

to bring about reforms, but it is very difficult when you have to try to do it alone sometimes. I was so happy to hear the member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Nolan) yesterday support some of the things that I said, and more or less this afternoon the member for Baie Verte - White Bay (Mr. Rideout) made a pretty good speech this afternoon, a better one than the hon. gentleman made in his maiden speech, and I certainly commend him for it. The hon. gentleman is improving and has great potential.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: But the speech the hon. gentleman made this afternoon may not meet with the approval of his leader. But, Sir, during my research I came across a company - if I can find it here in my evidence file - a company, Sir, called Newfoundland Building and Savings Investment Company, and it is a company, Sir, -

MR. ROWE: He has two evidence files, one on the Government and one on the Opposition.

MR. NEARY: No, I do not have one on the Opposition. But I guarantee you when I am dared I do not mind going and doing a little research. At least I justify my research grant that I get, and I do not get near \$90,000 a year that the Opposition get.

Mr. Speaker, during my research, Sir, in the Registry Office I came across a company that the hon. Leader of the Opposition is very familiar with, a company called Newfoundland Building Savings and Investment Company, and I presume the hon. gentleman has entered it under his conflict of interest statement. I did not check it. I do not care whether he did or not. But I want to tell the hon. gentleman that I am not a lawyer, that as far as I am concerned that company is registered under the wrong act, and I am going to call upon the Minister of Justice of this Province to see that the registration of this company is repealed under the act under which it is incorporated, an act that is called, The Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

MR. NEARY: The company, Sir, called Newfoundland Building, Savings and Investment is nothing but a loan company. It is like every other loan company and why is it not registered under the Companies Act? These are the kind of reforms that I talk about in this hon. House and no wonder I cannot get support sometimes from the sources that you would expect to get it from.

This company, Sir, there are only two companies in Newfoundland, as my hon. friend from St. John's East is aware because the hon. gentleman was the legal counsel for this company at one particular time, there were only two companies incorporated under this act, It is a hang-over from the Commission of Government days, Sir. I had to go right back through the records. Look, there is the original Act and all the amendments I think since 1920, right on up to the present time. It is called an Act Respecting Industrial and Provident Societies, and what is -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Was not the Grand Falls Co-operative Society originally registered under that same Act?

MR. NEARY: No, Sir! The only other company that was registered under that Act was the REWA, the Railway Employees Welfare Association.

AN HON. MEMBER: You are wrong.

MR. NEARY: I am wrong? Well, Sir, I have been told, and I have done a fair amount of research and I could be wrong.

MR. SMALLWOOD: The Co-operative was.

MR. NEARY: I could be wrong. But I am told there are only two companies registered, and one was the REWA, the Railway Employees Welfare Act.

MR. DOODY: J.V. Ryan.

MR. NEARY: J.V. Ryan, that is right, Sir. And, Mr. Speaker, under this Act, the spirit of this Act would enable a group of people to get together such as railway workers, to get together and set up a benevolent organization, an organization to help one another, an organization to which people could invest \$100, and put some money into it, and then they could draw some money out if they wanted to

MR. NEARY: build a home, a sort of a co-op thing. That is what the original legislation was meant to do, Sir, such as the REWA. A group of people to get together to help themselves. Well the only ones who are helping themselves in this case, Sir, are the shareholders of that company and I submit to the Minister of Justice -

AN HON. MEMBER: Name them.

MR. NEARY: Yes I will name the shareholders of the company. I will not name them all.

AN HON. MEMBER: Why not?

MR. NEARY: I put that question before to the Minister of Finance, the minister said, "Yes, name names." I read out seven or eight mortgage companies and investment companies, brokerage companies and I got rapped on the knuckles for it by the Leader of the Opposition for naming names.

But this company is owned and controlled by the Roberts, and the Leader of the Opposition has 825 shares in that company. And as far as I am concerned it is registered under the wrong act. And now, Mr. Speaker, I went to the Registry Office today and I discovered that after being in arrears for two years -

AN HON. MEMBER: What are the total shares?

MR. NEARY: I do not know. Well, Dr. Harry owns 1,008, the Roberts Professional Building Company owns 3,055 and your leader has a great interest in the Roberts Professional Building Company, and H.D. Roberts has 825 and Dr. Peter Roberts has 825 and Edward M. Roberts has 825 and I would say between them they probably control the company.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear! Hear!

AN HON. MEMBER: All in the family.

MR. NEARY: It is all in the family, Archie Bunker-type thing, Sir. But, Mr. Speaker, I am not suggesting there is anything illegal about this, Sir. It is not. But what I am suggesting, Sir, is the company is illegally registered in this Province and when I went today,

MR. NEARY: Sir, to check to see if they had submitted their financial statement -

MR. SMALLWOOD: Not illegal.

MR. NEARY: Illegally as far as I am concerned. I am not a lawyer, but I would say they are just the same as any other lending company and they should be registered under The Companies Act, not under this Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Which is the Newfoundland equivalent of the English Friendly Societies Act. When they enacted it here they changed the title.

MR. NEARY: That is right, Sir, that is right.

MR. RIDEOUT: Of course the Roberts have always been a friendly bunch.

MR. NEARY: Well, I am not arguing about that, Sir, I am just using this to illustrate a point of how difficult it is to bring about reforms in this Province when you have people on this side of the House with interests the same as influential members on the other side of the House. So how can a little fellow like myself, a little Baywop, bring about major reforms? And this particular company, Sir, was given a grant by Commission of Government, I think it was - was it \$40,000 or \$50,000? I have got it here. I have got it here, Sir.

Paragon Motel, Newfoundland Quick Freeze - Newfoundland Building Savings and Investment Limited, and I want to thank the minister for helping me with my research. This company, originally a non-profit housing organization, issued debentures to the Province at a total amount of \$46,000 to cover advances made by the Commission of Government during the years 1938 to 1944. These debentures were issued for five year periods at an interest rate of four per cent. Not bad, Sir! However, when the current shareholders gained control of the company it ceased to be a non-profit organization. At that time new debentures were issued maturing March 31, 1971 - 1976 with an interest rate of eight and three

MR. NEARY: quarter per cent. The current status, as the final redemption has been made, the company is no longer indebted to the Province. Thank God for that, because every year in the public accounts, if members want to go back and check, they will see that that company was listed as owing the government money. And they are a very wealthy company.

But my main argument now, Sir, my main complaint now is that the Minister of Justice should see to it that the registration of this company is repealed under this act because it no longer qualifies to be incorporated under that act, and should be incorporated under the Companies Act, and that is my main beef at the moment.

Now, Sir, down through the years, maybe the Leader of the Opposition might pity me because I did not get aboard the gravy train when I had the opportunity. There are a number of companies in Newfoundland that manage to get loans and guarantees from the government and here we are at this particular point in time strapped for money, and if I were the Minister of Finance -

PREMIER MOORES: You never will be, fortunately.

MR. NEARY:

I would go after some of these companies to see if I could not collect some of the debts. I do not have a list of all the companies, Sir, I only have a random sample that I took from the Auditor General's Report of 1975, but I can mention one, the Paragon Hotel, the Paragon Hotel. The purpose of the loan - and the Paragon Hotel by the way, in case members think that it is owned by Mr. Weston Simms, I can tell the hon. House who the shareholders are, Mr. Weston Simms, c/o Paragon Hotel Limited owns one share, Leonard Simms owns one share. Maxwell Simms, Pine Avenue, Corner Brook, owns two shares, Emily Simms owns two shares, Westport Inn Limited, 8,500 shares, Lincoln Construction Limited, 1,600 shares, Cohen's Home Furnishings, 500 shares.

"The government in 1966 assisted in financing the construction

MR. NEARY: of this motel by guaranteeing a first mortgage debenture issue of the Paragon Hotel Limited. As a result of financial difficulties experienced by this company, government during the period 1970 - 1973 was required to make the principle and interest payments on the debentures. These payments are recorded as a direct loan from the Province and bear interest at six and a half per cent per annum"

Now let us look at the current status of the Paragon Hotel Limited. "In 1973 the Paragon Hotel Limited entered into an agreement with the Province to make monthly payments of \$4,000 to be used to service the company's outstanding debts. However, the company continues to experience financial difficulties and has now defaulted under this agreement. The 1975 financial statement show a net loss of \$30,000 and a working capital deficit of \$188,000 and little

MR. NEARY:

improvement is expected for 1976. The company's operations are now being analyzed with a view to deciding whether or not the Province should attempt to realize on its security." To that, Sir, I say hear, hear! Because if these hon. gentlemen, Lincoln Construction, Westport Inn Limited and all these hon. gentlemen, Sir, cannot afford to meet their monthly payments to the Province at a time when we are strapped for money, when we are absolutely desperate, when we are socking it to the taxpayers, then I would say let the government foreclose and take it over and recover their investment." Electric Reduction Company of Canada - their current status is that they are up to date as of March 31, 1976. They had a loan of \$852,000. This amount is being repaid to the Province by Peco over a period of thirty years at an interest rate of 7.5 per cent. Repayment commenced in 1969 and the company has paid all its instalments when due."

MR. DOODY: That is why the government -

MR. NEARY: That is right. "Fishery Products Limited - the Province during the 1950's advanced loans to Fishery Products Limited to finance the construction of fish plants at various locations around the Province. These loans were consolidated into one loan of \$4,840,000 having an interest rate of 3.25 per cent. Through a series of moratoriums repayment was to be over twenty years commencing in 1980. As security the Province holds a first mortgage on the company's plants" and so forth. "With effect from December 27, 1975 the company entered into a new agreement - and we have heard about that recently. "The company issued to government \$3 million in preferred shares thereby reducing the loan to \$1,848,000. During the years 1975-1979 the company will pay interest only at the rate of 8.5 per cent with principal repayment commencing in 1980 and concluding in 1999."

"Newfoundland Quick Freeze - purpose of the loan - government in 1956 purchased for \$50,000 the fish plant at Dildo owned by Newfoundland Quick Freeze Limited. At the same time the plant was leased back to a company for a period of thirty years. The annual lease payments of \$3,069 are sufficient to amortize the purchase price of \$50,000 with

MR. NEARY:

interest at 4.5 per cent over the term of the lease. The annual lease payments have been paid as required." In good shape!

MR. SMALLWOOD: They are one of the successes here.

MR. NEARY: One of the successes. Newfoundland Building Savings and Investment, just mentioned a few moments ago, finished up this year. Shephard's Realities Limited - it is apparently a company down in Happy Valley that are having some difficulties. But here is one here, Sir, another \$169,000 that the minister should go after instead of socking it to the poor, ordinary Newfoundlander. Ocean Kist Products, 1970 Limited - the purpose of the loan - "In 1971 government guaranteed a bank loan in the amount of \$125,000 obtained by this company for the purpose of establishing a fishing operation at St. Lunaire. As security government obtained the guarantee of the parent company, Nucore Limited, the directors of Nucore Limited, namely, Mr. Wesley K. Andrews, Mr. L.M. Cashin and Dr. James Sceviour. Subsequently in July, 1972 government was required to honour its guarantee by payment of \$131,410 to the Bank of Nova Scotia. The current status - the guarantors of Ocean Kist Products were granted a moratorium on the repayment of this loan provided that payments would be made by an affiliated company, St. Lunaire Fisheries Limited. However, no payments have been forthcoming. As of March 31, 1976 the account is as follows: principal, \$131,410; accrued interest, \$38,500; total amount owing to government, \$169,000," almost \$170,000 by a group of wealthy people in this Province. Mr. Speaker, I can tell the hon. Minister of Finance I went to the registry office this morning and that company is being dissolved and registered under the Companies Act, and the same principals -

MR. DOODY: Did they have the same name?

MR. NEARY: No, this was Ocean Kist Products 1970 Limited.

MR. DOODY: Who do you suggest I get after, this new company?

MR. NEARY: Sir, I understand, the legal advice that I have indicates to me that the principals of the original company are liable for the debts of

MR. NEARY:

that company even though they have now formed a new company.

MR. DOODY: They personally guaranteed it.

MR. NEARY: I beg your pardon?

MR. DOODY: Guaranteed it personally?

MR. NEARY: That is right, Sir. So therefore, there is another \$169,000 that can be paid out for glasses for people who are going blind, and for crippled children. Then there is another one - ah! I had better skip over that one. I might be accused of being personal, involving a member of the House. I will skip over that one. Atlantic Films and Electronics Limited - well that one seems to be up to date but it is not cash. We are getting our money back in coin. Maritime Bedding and Upholstery Company Limited - let us have a look at that one. The current status, this company experienced financial problems from the beginning. Despite technical assistance from the Department of Industrial Development and the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation it ceased operations in early 1975. The Province was subsequently called upon to honour its guarantee and on October 24, 1975 paid to the Royal Bank an amount of \$79,416. The company's assets are being sold by the Industrial Development and \$7,000 has been realized to date. Who were the owners? Who were the owners? A few gentlemen out in -

MR. DOODY: The major shareholder in that lost his shirt.

MR. NEARY: The major shareholder might have lost his shirt.

MR. DOODY: He did.

MR. NEARY: Well I feel sorry for him. I feel sorry for him. What about the major shareholder of the Crossroads Motel Limited? There is \$53,000 there, although they are up to date. But there is \$53,881 there that if the minister got strapped for money that he could go after.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: They are up to date. Why am I going to go after them?

MR. NEARY: Go after them and see if you can get them to pay it off.

MR. LUNDRIGAN: And hound them out of the Province.

MR. NEARY: No, do not hound them out of the Province. They can well afford to write it off, pay it off. Let us see what else I got here?

MR. NEARY:

I got Howie Meeker in here somewhere.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. NEARY: Yes, yes.

MR. DOODY: Maritime Bedding.

MR. NEARY: The what?

MR. DOODY: Maritime Bedding.

MR. NEARY: Maritime Building?

MR. DOODY: Bedding.

MR. NEARY: Maritime Bedding. No, that is not the one. Is that the one?

MR. DOODY: Yes.

MR. NEARY: Island Equity Group Limited. Is that the one?

But anyway, Sir, Mr. Meeker has now departed from our shores. We can see him every night during the N.H.L. hockey games, sitting up there, proud, in all his glory, while we are down here struggling trying to dispose of whatever assets the hon. gentlemen left behind in Stephenville so that we can try to recoup some of our losses. Then there is Ocean Harvesters Limited, \$300,000. "Purpose of the loan - this government guaranteed loan was required to finance the cost of installing equipment at the company's Old Perlican plant, the Old Perlican plant. The current status - this government guaranteed loan was reduced by a further \$7,500 during April. The balance outstanding as of April 30, 1976 was \$130,000. The company advises the balance of this loan will be liquidated from the proceeds of an insurance claim." I am glad to hear that the government has first claim on that insurance. The government -

MR. DOODY: Things have changed since you got out.

MR. NEARY: No, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. minister would just hold his fire for a minute. I am just merely trying to make a few positive, constructive suggestions to the hon. minister so he can raise a few dollars. As I say, Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to go into this in any great detail. But these are just random samples that I picked from the Auditor General's report. I pass the information along to the House because the House would not ordinarily get that information.

May 27, 1976.

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MR. DOODY: The one you are really concerned about is
Newfoundland Building Saving and Loan.

MR. NEARY: No, I am not concerned about it. I want to see the Minister
of Justice take action to have that incorporation repealed and have them
register under the proper act.

Mr. Neary:

Mr. Speaker, all of this, what does all of this mean? Well what all of this means, Sir, is this; that up to now the government had been considered as a soft touch. If you wanted to get a handout and you had a good story, you could go and almost con the government into anything. Well, Sir, I believe that it is time now that we discontinued this sort of nonsense.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: It is time, Mr. Speaker, that if we are going to have industries in this Province, as has been said here so often, it is time that the Minister of Industrial Development tried to attract the type of industry where people are prepared to put risk capital into it themselves, and not just put their arm down to their elbow into the public treasury.

MR. DOODY: Put their own hurt money up front.

MR. NEARY: Put their own hurt money up front. That is right, Sir.

MR. DOODY: If you will just give me the job, and get rid of that fellow Green, I will write your speeches.

MR. NEARY: That is one thing I do not need, Mr. Speaker, is anybody to write any speeches for me. I do not need any Milleys or Carters or any Korhais or any Butlers or anybody around to write my speeches for me. Anytime I want to I can get up in this hon. House and make a speech.

Now then, Sir, let me get back now, Sir, to a couple of other things. I just throw these little tidbits of information out for the benefit of the members of the House. And my advice to the Minister of Finance, instead of going around socking it to the ordinary people that he try to recover some of this outstanding money. There are some very wealthy people involved here. One gentleman built a regional college in Corner Brook. He should be able to cough up a few dollars that is owed to the public treasury.

MR. DOODY: I will get after him Monday morning.

MR. NEARY: Well get after him right away. I am surprised the minister is not after him already.

MR. NEARY:

Now, Sir, I only got a few minutes left. Forty-five minutes is not very much, Sir, and I do not want to be accused by The Evening Telegram of making long-winded speeches, but certainly I can make hard-hitting speeches. But my few remarks that I am going to make now, Sir, are not going to be very hard-hitting, as a matter of fact, they are going to be very complimentary and they are going to be - it probably may come as a surprise to most people to hear what I am going to say now. And that is, Sir, I am going to pass out a bouquet to the hon. Premier and the hon. Minister of Public Works and Services and anybody else in the administration who had anything to do-

PREMIER MOORES: What about the Minister of Health?

MR. NEARY: I am not sure whether the Minister of Health, he might have been part of the decision-making, but the accolades I am going to pass out, Sir, the bouquets I am passing out now are to the people in the administration who were good enough to recognize the fact that the Opposition needed more space in this building, and that they needed more staff, and that they needed more financial assistance in order to carry out their heavy responsibilities that have been placed on their shoulders by the people who elected them and sent these gentlemen to this House. And it would be far better for the Leader of the Opposition instead of getting up and getting rude and nasty and ridiculing my dear friend the member for Twillingate (Mr. Smallwood) when the gentleman was not in his seat the other night to defend himself, and that is one thing I cannot stand, Sir! The hon. gentleman brought me into politics, and he brought the hon. Leader of the Opposition into politics, took him out of university, put him down in his office, gave him a safe Liberal district, and he would not dare leave it, he would not do what I did. He would not leave the district, stays there because it is a safe Liberal seat, would not come out and challenge the Premier or challenge the Minister of Mines and Energy or the Minister of Justice, but wanted me to go

Mr. Neary:

down and take on the Minister of Justice. Only for I had a point to prove, I might have done it.

But to stand there and ridicule the hon. gentleman who did so much for him! If he does not agree with the hon. gentleman he does not have to ridicule him, and talk about this being the worst kind of Toryism. And I had to remind him of the unfair labour practices, because the hon. gentleman's shares were sold to his father. And that is just the same as the Minister of Mines and Energy has done with his shares, put them in trust.

MR. CROSBIE: They are not in trust. They are gone with the wind.

MR. NEARY: Well I do not know where. They are in a holding company somewhere.

But, Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment the government -

MR. CROSBIE: That is not true.

MR. NEARY: I want to compliment the government for giving the Opposition the badly needed space. They are down on the fifth floor now. They just moved in.

MR. DOODY: They recognize your inadequacies.

MR. NEARY: They moved in over the weekend, and they have posh offices, wall-to-wall carpeting, the Liberal colours, red and white, and on the opposite side of the hall the Tories will have -

AN HON. MEMBER: Blue.

MR. NEARY: - blue and white. Magnificent accommodations, absolutely fantastic, I have no idea yet myself where I am going.

MR. DOODY: What colour office do you want?

MR. NEARY: I want to thank the government for giving me a secretary of my own, and for giving me \$1,000 office grant, a research grant that I will put to good use, and that I will account for in this hon. House. And I have not seen any accounting yet for any money that has been passed over.

MR. COLLINS: What colour carpet do you appreciate?

MR. NEARY: The colour does not make any difference to me, Sir. I do not want any carpet, I will sit on a pork barrel and a soap box

Mr. Neary:

if I have to.

But, Sir, the government are to be congratulated, because that is a far cry and a big change from what it used to be when we used to tell the Opposition to go out and use the telephone booth, or go out in the men's room. and do their work. That is a far cry, Sir.

And, Mr. Speaker, I only have a couple of minutes left, but I hope to get back again in -

MR. CROSBIE: My! Look where we had our office!

MR. NEARY: Well certainly, Sir, I could not be higher in my praise of the Premier. One thing about the Premier, Sir, he is not a vindictive man, if he were he would not have done what he did. Absolutely magnificent.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: And, Sir, before I sit down I also want to congratulate the Minister of Public Works, I am so happy to see my hon. friend back in his seat after his bout in a Montreal hospital.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: The hon. gentleman has his contacts now, and he can get a good bead on me over there now. But, Sir, I want to congratulate the hon. gentleman for having the foresight to take Mr. Al Evans on his staff.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. NEARY: I do not know what his title is, Sir. I think it is a little more than building inspector, he has a big title, a big handle on him, he is inspecting all the public buildings in Western Newfoundland, and I look forward to working with the gentleman because there are a number of public buildings in my district. But I could not condemn the minister for taking the hon. gentleman on his staff. No doubt before too long the hon. gentleman will be an assistant deputy minister, then he will be deputy minister, and the next thing you will know he will want to take the minister's job. But I would

Mr. Neary:

say that is certainly the minister's good deed for the year. And I certainly would not condemn the minister for doing it, I think the hon. gentleman deserves a break even though he was my opponent and I defeated him in the election. I am glad that the minister has found employment for Mr. Evans, and I am sure that he will do a good job.

MR. ROUSSEAU: Do you want leave to speak to that?

MR. NEARY: No, no, indeed I do not.

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

MR. F. ROWE: Mr. Speaker,

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. F. ROWE: Probably that might not make the press, the fact that he left, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I had not intended to get into this debate on the amendment. I was going to spend some time on speaking on the district, but I have to reply to some of the remarks made by the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary). Sir, the member mentioned that the Leader of the Opposition pitied him, but he could not see what was the reason for pity. And I think it is pretty obvious here tonight after listening to the member for LaPoile why some members pity that particular member.

Sir, I worked with the member for LaPoile when he was member for Bell Island for some three and a half years, and I always felt and I still feel that he is one of the hardest working members in this House of Assembly, one of the hardest working members in this House of Assembly. I believe, Sir, that the member for LaPoile eats, drinks, and sleeps politics. I firmly believe that, and I firmly believe he works extremely hard. But, Sir, the reason why I had to agree with the Leader of the Opposition in pitying the member is I think he is grossly misdirected,

MR. F. POWE:

grossly misdirected in some of his activities. Now, Sir, we have heard the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) attack inside the House and outside the House the member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) who happened through no fault of his own - the only one you can blame it on is his father - to be born into a family - his late father - to be born into a family with some wealth. Now if that is a crime, it is a peculiar one, to be born into wealth, it is no more a crime to be born into wealth than to be born into poverty. But, Sir, the fact of the matter is that the member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) for whom I have a great deal of respect - but I do not necessarily agree with all of his policies and all of his political stands - is also a very hard working gentleman.

Sir, that gentleman for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) could be sitting in a law office and making a lot more money than he is making here, working in a law office, working. I emphasize the word 'working'. He could even have it easier than that. He could be in the Crosbie group of companies sitting behind a nice comfortable desk in one of the big Crosbie buildings not even working and probably making more money. But, Sir, the fact of the matter is the hon. member has seen fit to serve this Province in his own way and he is working very hard. What does he get? He gets a slap in the face from the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary), innuendos. Nothing crooked has been proven against the member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie), the Minister of Mines and Energy. Nothing has ever been proven that he has been involved in anything that has been shady, shoddy, crooked or illegal or against the law. But by inference and by innuendo the impression painted of the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie) is that he is a pseudo crook because he just happened to be born into a family with wealth, and he happens to have a few relatives who have accumulated wealth, I believe honestly, and who are employing and circulating money within this Province and therefore contributing to this Province.

MR. F. POWF:

Now, it is a strange thing for me to be praising the Minister of Mines and Energy indirectly. I do not agree with all of his policies, Sir, but I find it a damn shame for a man to be pulled down because of his association through birth and relations with wealth.

MP. NEARY: He should refuse to read the book by Canadian Javelin.

MR. F. POWF: The same thing, Sir, is true for the Minister without Portfolio, the government House Leader, the member for Kilbride (Mr. Wells). Sir, he has also been smeared, in my opinion, by the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) because of the fact that he is a lawyer and he has some association or had some association, again through marriage or through relations or through friends, with a mortgage company which I understand has done nothing illegal. If the hon. Minister without Portfolio had been involved in an illegal act I would be the first one to jump up here in my own small way and attack the member. But, Sir, the fact of the matter is his name has also been brought down in my estimation because of the actions of the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) who, however hard working, I believe is misdirected.

MP. NEARY: Time will tell who is right.

MR. F. POWF: Time may well tell. I may do what Mr. McGrath did when he finally took off his hat to Beryl Plumptre after her report came out if the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) is right. But I have not seen any evidence of it yet.

Now the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) tonight happened to go through a random sampling. Now a random sampling, Mr. Speaker, as you well know is just that, a random sampling. You sort of just pick out without knowing, out of a great group, you just pick out at random, certain things. It is a kind of a peculiar coincidence that the first item on his random sampling happened to involve the Leader of the Opposition and his association with some company.

MR. F. ROWE:

Then, Sir, we get this business about a resident of Hopan's Pond, the fact that the Leader of the Opposition's father has been and is a successful doctor and had, like many other doctors and lawyers, become involved in the business community of this Province and made money honestly and, hopefully, also circulated money within this Province which helped the Province.

MR. NEARY: With a little help from the former Premier.

MR. F. ROWE: Maybe so. If that is so, he would not have been the first nor the last one. Also, Sir, employs people in this Province and therefore is contributing to the welfare of this Province. But because the hon. Leader of the Opposition happened to be born into that family, his name has been dragged down in the dirt and mire and slime and scum, the kind of thing that we have heard coming from the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary), yet another member.

MR. NEARY: You are getting more like your leader every day.

MR. F. ROWE: Sir, might I remind hon. members of this House that in each of the three cases that I have cited these gentlemen would be much better off financially, they would have less worries, if -

MR. NEARY: Are you supporting the amendment?

MR. F. ROWE: The amendment is most wide-ranging as was ruled on by the Speaker this afternoon. I will come to the amendment in a few minutes. But I am trying to make a point. It is difficult enough in this Province, Sir, to serve the public. You lose all privacy. You have no privacy. If you want any privacy, you have to get out of the Province. You go home after a day and night in the House of Assembly or in the office accepting phone calls, making phone calls, you go home and your phone is constantly ringing. Your family life is almost destroyed. It is difficult enough to serve the people of this Province without the kind of - what I believe - mud slinging that we have heard from the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) tonight.

MR. DORETS: Hear, hear!

MR. F. ROWE:

Sir, all the hon. members like I said, would be much better off downtown in their capacity. Each of the hon. members who have been downgraded are lawyers and they could be making a very good living and a more comfortable living and have more privacy and have a much happier life, I submit, in the practice of law or in the practice of business than contributing their efforts and their time and their energy in the public service of this Province. I think it is a disservice, Sir, I honestly and sincerely think that it is a disservice for one of our own colleagues in this House, for political reasons and because of personality differences, to try to drag down the integrity, the honesty and the sincerity of other hon. members. It is a real disservice to this House to do so by innuendo, character assassination and trying to get the people of this Province to become suspicious of these members by innuendo.

MR. NEARY: What happened to the former member for St. George's?

MR. F. ROWE: Sir, I can remember - I will just relate a personal experience. I was teaching - no I was a member, I was not even teaching at the university at the time I was a member of the House of Assembly. I had a brother. I still have a brother who started a very small business and it went bankrupt, not an unusual occurrence in this Province for a business to go bankrupt. But I had a brother who was the president of a company that went bankrupt. I can remember the day he proudly got the articles or memorandum or whatever it is for the company. He wanted two names, is it? You got to get three names for the directors of a company, three names. So naturally enough he said, "Fred, would you mind signing your name here?" I said sure, you know, I did not even put a cent into it. I do not know if a dollar is required or what have you. No, it was not me. It was my wife who signed her name as a director of the company. Not one cent did she put into it, not one cent did she take out of it.

My brother's wife, Penny Powe also put her name down as a director of that company. The company went bankrupt. On the

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MR. F. BOWE:

front page of the Telegram, a front page story, "Company Goes Bankrupt Doing Business With Government." Now as it happened it did have a government contract and he got it through a legitimate tender, a bid. What were the contents of the story?

MR. F. ROWE:

"George Rowe, owner of Corinthian Enterprises," - you know, and declared bankruptcy - anyway, "George Rowe, son of Senator F.W. Rowe, brother of the government House Leader, William Neil Rowe and brother of Fred B. Rowe member for St. Barbe North went bankrupt. Members of the firm or the directors of the firm, Penelope - whatever her second name is - Rowe, wife of William M. Rowe, Opposition House Leader, member for White Bay South, and Sandra Maude Rowe - the only thing she did not like about the article was the fact that they mentioned her second name - Sandra Maude Rowe wife of Fred B. Rowe, member for St. Barbe North."

The only amusing thing about it, Sir, I think, the lawyer who wrote up the articles of the company was the hon. Leo Barry who happened to be Minister of Mines and Energy at that time. So his name was brought into it. Now, Sir, this is the kind of thing that people in public life are subjected to day in and day out. I do not think it is at all necessary. There was nothing illegal but it was a sensational story written up by the Evening Telegram at that time. I was disgusted when I saw it. I was disgusted in one sense and I found it humorous in another. But the story came out, and needless to say it did not do my brother and myself or our wives any good, or the Senator any good. It was not meant to do any good. It was meant obviously to leave the impression that the Rowes were all tangled up in a great business deal. Some business! Not a cent out of it. Not a cent into it. Just a matter of signing your name.

Now tonight because of the fact that the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) has had a personality clash with the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Roberts), because he was not given a free ticket to run in Terra Nova, and he blew the nomination down in LaPoile (Mr. Neary) and then ran as independant Liberal and was elected, Mr. Speaker, as a Liberal, carrying a letter from the hon. Don Jamieson that was given to him before he was nominated, based

MR. F. ROWE:

on the assumption that he was going to be nominated as a Liberal member, elected as a Liberal, Sir, sees fit to come into this House and try to cast suspicions upon the Leader of the Opposition, the same way as he has done with the hon. the House Leader across the way and the hon. Minister of Mines and Energy.

Sir, I do not care how bullheaded the Minister of Mines and Energy might be, I do not care how much I disagree with the Minister of Mines and Energy, politically speaking, or the House Leader opposite, politically speaking. I will never in my life, and hon. members on this side never in their lives, in their political lives, will stoop to the depths that the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) has stooped to during this session of the House of Assembly. If we are going to attack, Sir, we will attack based on policy. We will attack if we think a minister is incompetent and is not performing his duties properly. We will not try to destroy a minister or any member of this House of Assembly through character assassination or through innuendo. I would like to make that quite clear.

It is a sad day, Sir, when one of our own colleagues - because I look at everybody here in this hon. House as a team. We have different lines. We have the P.C. Party. We have the Independant Liberal. We have the Liberal Reform Party and we have the Liberal Party. We have different lines but we are on one team, Sir, and the team, supposedly, is working in the best interests of this Province. If we do not have some respect for our own members, for the members of our own team, if we are going to get up here in the House of Assembly or appear before certain hearings and try to drag down the honour and the integrity and the character of our own members without proof of any illegalities, then it is a darn shame. I am almost ashamed to be a member of this House of Assembly. As a matter of fact I think I am dignifying the hon. member's speech by even replying to it. It is a sad thing, Sir -

MR. NEARY: You are justifying your \$10,000.

MR. DOWE: Now there you go again, justifying my \$10,000. For the hon. member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary)'s information last year, Sir, I almost went up the spout myself.

MR. NEARY: \$14,000, is it?

MR. DOWE: No, it is not \$14,000. I wish it were. Last year I decided to go into business, if you want to call it that. I am not going to mention what it is. I can inform the hon. member now that I could have made an honest dollar three times in excess of what I am making as a result of being appointed as House Leader. So do not get on with that malarkey about trying to justify my \$10,000. I can take that \$10,000 and stuff it down the member for LaPoile's (Mr. Neary) mouth and be better off if I was not in this House, financially speaking. So do not go on with that kind of nonsense, Sir.

Now, Sir, there is another side to the coin. Sir, besides being subjected to the kind of attack we have heard here tonight there is a distinct disadvantage to being a member of this House of Assembly if you are thinking about the welfare of your family and your own personal welfare as far as privacy and finances are concerned. I know hon. members in this House, Sir -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. DOWE: I know hon. members in this House who have personally suffered in a financial manner by virtue of the fact that they have become elected to this hon. House of Assembly. They were involved in business. If they had to have been defeated certain financial arrangements could have been made which cannot be made now because of the fact that they are members of this House of Assembly. I appeal to these hon. members to stand up and tell the story in this House about some of the financial disadvantages.

MR. PECKFORD: Do you think anybody would believe us?

MR. DOWE: I think if it is told some people will believe it. We can at least try. The fact of the matter is, Sir, that members of

MR. F. ROUE:

this House of Assembly are open to more investigation by all forms of organizations and the public at large than any other group of professionals in this Province. There is no closed shop for members of the House of Assembly. There is no association of the members of the House of Assembly. There is no closed shop. We are open to the investigation of good investigative press reporting. We are always held in suspicion by certain segments of the electorate. There are certain members of the electorate who feel that once we are elected to this House we have it knocked, we have it made and, Sir, it is the very opposite.

I would submit, Sir, that on the other side of the House of Assembly and on this side of the House of Assembly that there are people who would be making far in excess of what they are making this day, who could be making far in excess of what they are making this day if they were not elected to this House. It is as simple as that. Do not tell me that the lawyers on that side of the House could not be making more money if they were just practicing law. Every moment spent in this House for a lawyer means a lot of money lost.

We do not even have to look at these so called higher income groups. If a businessman is using his office or a lawyer is using his office or a doctor is using his office to benefit himself you will see it on the front pages of the paper the next morning. You will see the Opposition digging it up. If it is an Opposition member you will see the government digging it up, because we have that adversary system. I am not saying, Sir, that we are all pure and clean. There are bad apples in the legal profession. There are rotten apples in the teaching profession. There are rotten apples in the medical profession and the dental profession. I would even go so far as to say that there may be even some rotten apples in the ministry. In any

MR. ROWE:

institution in this Province, or in this country, no matter who they are, what the institution is or what the profession is, you will find a few bad apples. And in the case of politics they are answerable to their electorate, and sometimes they get their answer. Any member of this House of Assembly is as open to the fraud squad of the RCMP as any other individual in our society. So we do not need our colleagues coming in here slinging the mud, trying to drag down the character of an individual.

Now, Sir, I was going to speak on my district but I felt compelled to react to the member for LaPolié (Mr. Neary) because I honestly and sincerely believe that he has done, yet another disservice to the honour and integrity of some hon. members here, and indeed of the House. And I hope it stops. I hope it stops. If the member has a case, I wish the hon. member would take it to the court and not use the immunity of this House to attack other hon. members. Sir, I am saddened beyond belief by the words of the hon. member for LaPolié that he has spoken with reference to the Minister of Mines and Energy, the hon. House Leader on the Government side and the Leader of the Opposition. Because, Sir, I worked with him for three and a half years, we were buddies, and he was a hard working member and he is a hard working member, but his efforts, Sir, are grossly misdirected. He has got a fanaticism for attacking certain members of this House of Assembly the least of which is not the Leader of the Opposition. Little cracks about meetings in basements, distorting what was discussed in private.

My colleague from Baie Verte-White Bay (Mr. Rideout) in his very maiden speech, the hon. experienced member for LaPolié was there taking cracks at a rookie member in his maiden speech. What a despicable display by the member for LaPolié. Sir, I am just deeply saddened by what he said tonight and what he said about other hon. members opposite. If he is so convinced that these members are filling their own pockets, or using their office to their own benefit, or are involved in anything that is illegal or even immoral,

Mr. Rowe:

there is some morality in our courts, let him bring it to court. Let him not use the immunity of this House to try to tear a person's character down.

Sir, I cannot go on any further without getting emotional about it because it just makes me almost want to vomit. When I hear a person's hatred for another person in this House, an hon. member letting that hatred carry him away with the kind of innuendo and gutter-snipers that we have heard here again tonight. Now, Sir, for the sake of all of us I just hope that some hon. members will get up, I know it sounds like they will be getting up and patting themselves on the back and asking for pity, and sounding almost like, "Why not pay us \$50,000 or \$60,000 a year." But the fact of the matter is, Sir, that most hon. members who come in to serve this Province have suffered financially, Their wives and their children have suffered because of the lack of privacy and now we got to take the type of knifing in the back that we heard here tonight, to add insult to injury. Let us hope, Sir, that we have heard the last of it, and that we can get back to the business of the House and try to get some legislation through and try to be responsible and forget about our petty differences which are really politically based, in this particular case, personality based, and get on with the business of the House. And I again appeal to a few hon. members to cite a few examples of the disadvantages, personally and financially, of ending up in this hon. Chamber. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. Georges.

MRS MacISAAC: Mr. Speaker, the amendment to the Speech from the Throne calls upon the government to give this House and the people of this Province a detailed and specific outline of their goals and objectives for the development of Newfoundland and to specify the means by which they plan to achieve those objects.

MRS MacISAAC:

There is in this Province, for the first time I believe, a growing unrest about our future, a growing doubt about the capability of our Province's economy to provide opportunities for our people to obtain jobs, to live productive and useful lives in their home communities. This doubt and uncertainty must be put to rest. Our people must be given a clear indication of what lies ahead for them, and more importantly, Mr. Speaker, they must be given a clear indication of what the future holds for their children who want the opportunity to live and work in this Province.

Mr. Speaker, this is the first opportunity I have had to address this hon. House, -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS MacISAAC: - as the first woman elected to this Legislature since 1949.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS Mac ISAAC: I take particular pleasure in using this occasion to make a few comments on the role I feel, we as representatives of our various constitutencies, should be playing in this hon. House. Mr. Speaker, I am here to represent in this Legislature the views, interests and concerns of my fellow citizens of the district of St. Georges. I am here as a citizen with a keen interest in the affairs of my district and of our Province.

Mr. Speaker, as an individual who had never visited the House of Assembly, who was not at all familiar with parliamentary procedures, or maybe I should say some of the unparliamentary procedures -

AN HON. MEMBER: I think that was pretty good.

MRS Mac ISAAC: - I was to say the least disgusted and disappointed with the happenings in this Hon. House. The name calling, the personal attacks, heckling and rude interruptions were to me a complete reverse of what I was taught as a child. These actions may not be unparliamentary but do little in the way of gaining the respect and admiration that we as members of this hon. House of Assembly should

MRS Mac ISAAC:

strive for both for our personal images and to make this House of Assembly as honourable as I and most of the people of this Province always thought it was.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS Mac ISAAC: Mr. Speaker, I feel that each and every member of this hon. House should be extended the courtesy of being heard regardless of political beliefs. There are contributions to be made from both sides of this hon. House that should not be ignored in this day of financial restraints and difficulties.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is traditional that members speaking to the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne use this opportunity to talk about the problems of their district.

MRS Mac ISAAC:

As well, Mr. Speaker, we have, for the first time in the history of this Province, a reasonable balance between government's strength and Opposition strength in this House. This has resulted in the assignment of shadow department responsibilities to each of us in the official Opposition caucus, and, Mr. Speaker, I want to use this opportunity, a bit later on, to make a few brief comments related to my area of interest, the Department of Forestry and Agriculture.

I would, however, like to get into the issue that was brought up yesterday on stadiums for the Province. I was quite disappointed - of course, I was happy for Ferryland that they will be getting a stadium - but I was quite disappointed that Ferryland is receiving their stadium before St. Georges gets theirs. Last year in our district of St. George's the stadium project was approved. It was a package deal, \$90,000 was applied for and granted through the LIP programme, and the government, the Department of Municipal Affairs had agreed to match the LIP grant, plus all local collections dollar for dollar, plus the grant from the Recreation Department, which would have and should have completed our stadium in St. George's. However, as a result of the restraint programme last year the stadium for St. George's was deferred along with some other stadiums. I accepted this, and the people of the district accepted this. It was a restraint programme and nobody was to receive a stadium so we did not feel that much neglected. However, I have some correspondence here that I would like to go through sort of quickly to indicate that we did have a previous commitment for the stadium, and the stadium for Ferryland was not mentioned, was not listed among the nine communities who were given a financial commitment by the department. I hate to think that it is political, but there is not too much more that I can think at this point. This goes back to May, I believe, of 1974 when we received the first guarantee, a letter from, I believe, Mr. Doyle to Mr. Dunphy, was presented to us in St. George's saying that the stadium had been approved, that the funding for the stadium had been approved. And again in March, there is a letter

MRS Mac ISAAC: from Mr. Doyle.

MR. ROBERTS: March of 197. ?

MRS Mac ISAAC: March of 1975.

MR. ROBERTS: That was well before any commitment to
Ferryland.

MRS MacISAAC: - signed by Mr. Doyle, and I would like to read it: "You will be aware from today's budget speech of government plans to further assist the nine communities to which my department has already committed a capital recreation grant for a stadium to the extent of \$225,000 over a five year period. As you will know these communities are having tremendous financial difficulty, either to complete the stadium or in some cases to get started, due to the tremendous increase in construction costs and increases in the cost of money over the last year. I am writing at this time to elaborate on the budget speech announcement as it pertains to the nine stadia involved. The new policy which will come into effect with the approval of the estimates in the House of Assembly is made possible through the co-operation of my department and the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing. It is as follows " - and it goes on to say, "For the purposes of cost sharing by the government, the maximum cost of a stadium shall be deemed not to exceed \$700,000. Any monies required over and above that amount must be found exclusively by the municipal authority concerned. The stadium capital grant of my department shall be increased from \$225,000 to \$300,000 to be paid in five equal annual payments. The balance of the cost involved, not to exceed \$400,000, shall be shared equally, fifty/fifty by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the municipality concerned in the following manner. The department's share shall be financed on a long-term basis through the Newfoundland Municipal Financing Corporation in the name of the municipal authority with the principal and the interest on the said amount

MRS MacISAAC:

to be paid by annual subsidy through a newly established subhead in that department," and so on.

Then to go on, a press release, March 13, 1975.

"Rehabilitation and Recreation Minister, hon. Tom Doyle, has given further details regarding the governments new stadia capital grants policy which was announced in yesterday's budget. Mr. Doyle said the new policy is primarily designed to assist nine communities who were given a financial commitment by the department under the old stadia grants policy," which includes St. George's, of course.

MR. ROBERTS: What were the nine?

MRS MacISAAC: Mr. Doyle said that this new policy for the present at least will apply only to stadia in the following nine communities; Whitbourne, Conception Bay South, St. George's, Windsor, Bishop Falls, Marystown, Wabush, Corner Brook and the Avalon arena in St. John's. The minister added that a freeze has now been placed on capital grants for stadia for a period of at least one year from April 1, 1975. It is hoped that during this time costs will have levelled off and as well it will give government an opportunity to work out a new policy with regard to the construction of any additional stadia in the Province.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. lady allow me to ask her a question? Is she arguing now to the House that we have got to get Tom Doyle back here to get these stadia, nine of them, is it?

MRS MacISAAC: No.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Does this depend on getting Mr. Doyle back?

MRS MacISAAC: No, I am not arguing that Mr. Doyle should come back.

MR. SMALLWOOD: No?

MRS MacISAAC: I am trying to point out the fact that St. George's did have a prior commitment for a stadium.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS: Well if getting Tom Doyle back in Ferryland means a stadium then St. George's and all these others should get their stadium first.

MRS MacISAAC: St. George's had a commitment for a stadium prior to any commitment made to Ferryland, from what I can understand.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS MacISAAC: And this is my point. My point is that St. George's was included in the nine stadiums that were to be constructed before this freeze was in effect first of April, 1975. The freeze was in effect from the first of April - a one year period - from the first of April 1975 to the first of April 1976 - however, in August of 1975, which was only four months after the freeze was put on, Ferryland was apparently given some indication that they would get a stadium. St. George's had their commitment prior to the time that this freeze was put on. Now Ferryland is getting their stadium, St. George's is not. This is my point.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS MacISAAC: I do not want to say that it is political, and I hope that it is not, but it would appear that there is some special reason for Ferryland getting a stadium.

MR. FLIGHT: Yes, the by-election.

MR. ROBERTS: Ask Tom Dowie.

MRS MacISAAC: The stadium last Fall for St. George's was deferred because of the fact - it was not completely cancelled, it was deferred, because of the restraint programme.

MR. FLIGHT: No by-election.

MRS MacISAAC: No by-election.

MR. ROBERTS: That is the real restraint programme, no by-election.

MR. RIDGENT: You should resign 'Hazel.' You will be back again.

MR. FLIGHT: No by-election. Resign and get a stadium Hazel.

MR. SPEAKER (Mr. Young): Order, please!

MR. ROBERTS: The lady is very much in order, Mr. Speaker.

MRS MacISAAC: So I hope that the government will take a look at this previous commitment. I am not concerned about the nine communities. However, I guess, their representatives will be concerned. I am concerned about St. George's. I hope the government will take a look at our situation and

MRS MacISAAC:

honour it. Last year we had in our area to give up a \$90,000 LIP grant which was part of our funding for our stadium. We had to refuse that LIP grant, and as a result there is \$90,000 that if and when we get the stadium, the government or somebody is going to have to pick up. This year I hope that St. George's will again apply for the LIP grant, which I understand applications will be or the programme will be out around the end of May, and I am hoping that they will again apply. However, it is kind of useless for them to apply for this grant and probably receive it again, and not be able to use it. The first thing that they are going to need before they make their application for the LIP grant is some guarantee from government that they will be getting it.

MRS MacISAAC:

I hope that it will receive some favourable consideration.

MR. POBEPIS: Hear, hear!

MRS MacISAAC: Mr. Speaker, the district of St. George's, to get back to other problems in my area, stretches from Gallants to the Codroy Valley. In representing this district, Mr. Speaker, it is necessary to travel over that section of our Trans-Canada Highway which greets visitors to our Province after they have travelled approximately twenty miles from Port aux Basques. As such this highway is nothing but a disgrace to our Province. The pavement is rough, badly broken, eaten out, narrow and generally hazardous to drive over.

The railway underpass at Codroy Pond is a danger to traffic in that it is extremely narrow and constructed at an awkward angle to the line of the highway at that point. Parts of the Trans-Canada Highway in my district, Mr. Speaker, are, I believe, the oldest in the Province having been built over twenty years ago. However, on an immediate basis consideration could be given to some upgrading, constructing of extra passing lanes, posting of more hazard signs and cautionary speed limits. Some road work is being done in my district, Mr. Speaker. Nova Construction has moved equipment into the Codroy Valley and begun paving there. We hope only, Mr. Speaker, that the work will be completed before the equipment is moved elsewhere in anticipation of the upcoming by-elections as was done last year.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS MacISAAC: This project I must say was started last year in the Codroy Valley and was deferred, the equipment was taken out and moved elsewhere. I hope it will not happen again.

The limited resurfacing being done on some sections of the Trans-Canada in my district is indeed welcome and I hope that the Minister will be able to bring about a more complete rebuilding programme which is so urgently needed.

MRS MacISAAC:

Mr. Speaker, during the past two or three years, and particularly during last July and August, a number of artesian wells were drilled in various areas of St. George's district. Many of these wells have not been harnessed and are utterly useless to the people who live there. They are merely holes in the ground. While these wells remain uncompleted, Mr. Speaker, they represent a substantial waste of public funds. Surely the people of this Province would have been better off if the government had drilled one-third as many wells and completed them. At least somebody would have water.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS MacISAAC: Mr. Speaker, there are only two incorporated communities in the district of St. George's, Stephenville Crossing and St. George's. Both of these towns right now are looking for extensions to their water and sewerage services. In Stephenville Crossing the situation is particularly serious because as most members are aware there is a new senior citizens' home there that will be opening shortly and the water supply is not ample. This senior citizens' home will be facing some more demand on the existing water supply and we are hoping that the government will take a look at that with the view to extending the services in the Stephenville Crossing area and providing additional water systems for the area.

Mr. Speaker, the fishermen of my district, and indeed of the entire Bay St. George area, possibly right through the Province, are faced with continuous destruction of gear by herring seiners operating in the region. These boats of Canadian registry are apparently not fishing illegally though they are operating close enough to the shoreline to destroy gear placed in the water by the inshore fishermen. I have contacted the different departments concerned on both the provincial and federal level to see if anything could be done about this. I have been told that those seiners are licensed. They are given quotas. They are given an area in which

MRS MacISAAC:

fish and they are allowed to fish and come right in on the rocks if necessary. This does not seem fair to the inshore fisherman who has his gear in the water trying to make a living. Just last week I had complaints from the area that a lot of gear had been destroyed.

These fishermen in my area are not wealthy men. If they were they would not be involved in the inshore fishery using the little boats that they have. This is making it quite awkward for them to fish and make a living. Apparently there is not too much that can be done about it. Complaints to the provincial Department of Fisheries and the federal Department of Fisheries say nothing can be done because of the established quotas and licensing. I intend to work on it a little more with the fishermen who are now drawing up a petition, getting ready to get a petition going, to see what can be done to protect the inshore fishery. The inshore fishermen of my district are seeing their livelihood destroyed and nobody seems to be able to do anything to help them. If something is not done fairly soon, Mr. Speaker, there will be no more problem because the Bay St. George fishery will exist no longer.

Solutions to these problems, Mr. Speaker, represent solutions to some of the employment problems we face today. Problems facing our forest industries are also of critical importance. The allocation and utilization of our available wood resources must be placed on a more rational footing. If this Province is to develop a viable sawmill industry we must ensure, Mr. Speaker, that all available saw logs go to the sawmills and that all available pulp wood resources go to the newsprint and linerboard mills, not vice versa as sometimes happens now.

Reforestation efforts must also be stepped up to both improve the resource and to provide immediate jobs. Mr. Speaker, we must do more to bring about further development in agriculture. I know the present minister is making considerable efforts in this

MRS MacISAAC:

region, in this regard. But his government's policy to spend minimum amounts of money in resource areas is limiting his programmes.

There are further opportunities for promotion of livestock breeding and production. This type of agriculture is well suited to this Province in that we can produce from a local market without being dependant on any outside materials other than feed grains. With adequate storage facilities around the Province even these difficulties could be largely overcome. Mr. Speaker, many more people than ever before are becoming interested in these types of agricultural activity which are not dependant entirely on weather or soil conditions. Every possible encouragement must be given to our farmers and to anyone interested in the agricultural industry to ensure that we produce as much as possible here of what we consume.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this month the Minister of Rural Development announced a grant to the Codroy Valley Development Association to help them establish a wool carding and spinning mill. The market in this Province for these hand crafted items is good. Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, we should not limit our prospectives. We must be prepared to make an effort to produce quality crafted materials as is being done in the case of the Codroy Valley Development Association, and to market them wherever they can be sold, whether that be Halifax, Montreal, New York, Vancouver or wherever. Our efforts, Mr. Speaker, must not be restricted to assisting with the purchase of machinery. Assistance must be provided to these enterprises so they can develop marketing skills needed to sell our products on a worldwide basis. We must enlist the help of the federal government, the university, any agency or individual who can help should be enlisted to develop the expertise we need. Once we get one or two operations underway, Mr. Speaker, we will have an advantage because we will have begun to develop the expertise we need here.

MRS MacISAAC:

Mr. Speaker, one of the things that concerns me most both as a politician and as a mother is the lack of opportunities in this Province for our young people. If we do not make a supreme effort to help these people to find useful occupations here, we will be losing our most important resource, and with it the key to our future. Our young people, Mr. Speaker, possess the intelligence and the ingenuity needed to make it in this world. As legislators we have a responsibility to help them. But we should not take the approach of making jobs available, rather we should be making efforts to help them develop their own opportunities. Every one has to get involved, Mr. Speaker, to teach our young people the skills to produce quality crafts, to produce quality fish products, to produce livestock and then to market these goods and products. We need more emphasis on resource industries, small-scale resource industries.

Mr. Speaker, for centuries Newfoundlanders have survived here by working for themselves not others. We must bring back this spirit of self-reliance.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MRS MacISAAC: The skills that we need are still here, all that is needed is that little push to help people develop their own opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion let me say simply that much has been done in the past to develop the economy of this Province. But let us not rest now, we are falling behind in our efforts to develop a growing and a vibrant economy, new approaches will be needed. Let us make the effort to ask our citizens for their advice. Let us not make decisions in the isolation of this Chamber. Let us as responsible citizens and leaders spearhead a new drive to develop our own opportunities for our own future. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

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

MR. I. STRACHAN: Mr. Speaker, I had intended talking briefly about the fisheries, about a part of the fisheries which I know well, the catching part. After I listened to the member from LaPoile (Mr. Neary)

Mr. Strachan:

I feel, and my colleague from Trinity-Bay de Verde (Mr. Rowe), that some of the points which have been raised require an answer or some of the points require some form of rebuttal.

I have respect for the member from LaPoile for being a politician, but I am saddened a little by his implication that all members of this House who are involved in companies are therefore crooks. I feel that there are bad apples in the barrel, that is for sure in all businesses and all ventures and all places. But I was really upset a little by the implication because when I became a member almost everyone I met almost automatically changed their attitude towards me because now I am a politician I am therefore a crook, now that I am a politician I must be getting backhanders, now that I am a politician I must be coining money somewhere hidden, now that I am a politician I must be in good business circles with people assisting me. People regard us as only being in politics to make money the dirty way. And I feel that somehow or other this attitude throughout the Province, and I notice it greatly in my private life, this attitude is prevalent. Ninety-five per cent of the people in this Province believe that or are led to believe that either by other people or by the press. And I feel that somehow or other we must indicate, whether people are going to listen to us or not, whether the public really believe us or not, we must indicate some of the difficulties and some of the hardships that some members face, and many other members face in trying to hopefully do a service for an area or a district.

I particularly know this well because when I became a member I suffered, financially, very greatly probably more than anyone else in this House. Apart from the salary, which I will not go into, which is ridiculous, foolish, it keeps young people, people who were not born into wealth, but young people who have the ability, young Newfoundlanders, young Labradorians who want to get into political life, it keeps them out of political life because they cannot afford to get into it.

Mr. Strachan:

I will not go into travel because my district is extremely difficult and it costs me a great deal of money to travel through. I am already \$5,000, a little over \$5,000 in the hole since November of last year.

But I would like to talk about a particular business I was in, in which on the day that I became elected I no longer received any privileges as an ordinary citizen. And over the next ten year period of time, for being granted the privilege of representing the district of Eagle River in this House, it will cost me in the area of \$45,000. A year and a half ago, two years ago I realized that my work in Nain, Labrador was finished and I got into the idea of trying to set up a small business, a company, in Nain, Labrador, a small hotel. We formed a company, I have 51 per cent of the shares, my wife has 44 per cent of the shares, and an Eskimo friend of ours has 5 per cent of the shares. The company is registered downstairs, it is on the conflict of interest statement, anyone can look at it. It is a struggling company. It is a small hotel in Nain. It is going to be very difficult for it to prove itself over a number of years but we hope, anyway, by our work and effort that in five, six, seven, eight years time we will make it pay and we will be able to live independently. As an ordinary citizen I applied for a loan from the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation, and was granted a loan. The loan was for a considerable amount of money to set up the hotel. But on the day that I decided to run in an election, to run in the campaign, and when I became elected because of the conditions of the corporation which is set up, in which the corporation is to attempt to have no political influence so that members of the House of Assembly here or M.P.s. cannot use the corporation to their own benefit, and probably quite rightly so, but because of it the amount of money that I was going to obtain at a lower interest rate than is commercially available, that sum of money, considerable amount of money, was no longer available to me. If I had not been elected or if I had not been in the House here representing a district I could

MR. STRACHAN:

have obtained money at a very favourable rate of interest. But on the day that I became elected, and I only entered politics at a very late stage, the idea of the hotel and the company was something a year and a half before that, but however in the long process of getting the money the decisions came close together to election time, and I therefore had to be turned down by the board and I had to look elsewhere for funding of a considerable amount of money which I now pay for at the rate of 2.25 per cent more than I would have to pay if I were not a member of the House of Assembly.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Two and a half percentage points?

MR. STRACHAN: Two and a quarter per cent.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Two and a quarter percentage points more.

MR. STRACHAN: That is right.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Say, for instance, instead of 10 per cent, 12.5 per cent, two and a half percentage points.

MR. STRACHAN: Twelve and a quarter per cent. That is right.

So I sometimes get disappointed and I sometimes get saddened by attitudes of public, attitudes of many people, when we feel that we are in here trying to do a reasonable job or trying to represent a district, especially myself in trying to represent a district which is extremely difficult to represent, when all of the time we are smeared with hate or dislike because we own companies or we are in companies or we are trying to do a business, we are trying to make some money. And this attitude has become more and more prevalent. It is an attitude which has been expressed to our families. It creates a great deal of difficulty for us, a great deal of personal difficulties,

Mr. Strachan.

especially more so I feel in my case, because since February 26, as representative in the district of Eagle River, I have spent a total of seven days at home. Since February 26, that is seven days at home! And because I am here - the business which keeps us living we draw no salaries out of it whatsoever, none at all. The only thing it provides us with is our food and shelter. And because we are trying to do that - because I am here I cannot, therefore, run that business. It must be run by my wife who, therefore, cannot come to St. John's, because to come to St. John's means that nobody would be there to run the business, and I would not be able to afford to be in the House of Assembly. I feel greatly saddened when I hear the number of accusations, continually. I think if many of them have some point or have some legitimate base, then fine. I think one has to prove these. But I feel if we are going to continue peeping through keyholes, continue watching people, continue nailing people, continue calling people who have companies, crooks, then we are going to turn off a great deal of people who want to come to the House of Assembly who because of the low salaries in the House of Assembly cannot support themselves on the salary of a politician, of an MHA and, therefore, must have some other source of funds to keep themselves living. I know there is a great deal of cynicism. I know probably what I say will not matter to many people. Many of them will not believe it. Many of them believe that we are getting a backhander somewhere or there is some things helped at other places. But I feel very strongly about this attitude because this attitude has got to change, and has got to be directed elsewhere. Otherwise what is going to occur is that many young people who want to come into this House and do a job for this Province, who want to see this Province held together, will take the attitude that if this is the way that it is going to operate then it is better to be out of it, that the disadvantages, the lack of privacy, the sneers, the cutting off of relationships, and the constant jibes of being in business because of political connections, influenced, peddling or whatever else you want to call it, makes us all feel that to stay in this kind of existence

Mr. Strachan.

or carry on in this kind of existence is useless. I become extremely upset at this kind of allegations, continual allegations. I know many people who would not want to be present in this House, who do not want to come into this House. And I know that there are many more people here on this side, and I imagine there must be some more on the other side - I do not know them personally - who must be in similar situations. We cannot live off our salaries. There is no way in the world we can live off our salaries. And we must have some other ventures, some other means of making an income to try to keep ourselves going. I estimate that by the end of November, this year, after one year here in the House, I will have earned roughly, at the moment as a total salary, I will have earned from this House \$7,000, a little over \$7,000 for my time here. Seven thousand dollars for being away from home, from February 26 until now, and only back for seven days, for being here over the holiday weekends, the May 24 weekend when everyone else is home, and yet people look at us and regard it as though we are in there for the money, we are in there for the backhanders, we are in there for the graft, we are in there for what we can get out of it, and who totally misunderstand, who are fed this continually and, therefore, lump us altogether and treat us all as though we are bad apples and crooks.

As I said I had not intended speaking about this, I intended to speak about the fisheries. Possibly because I have been in here for so long I become more upset than other people. I become maddened by attitudes, and I sometimes wonder whether it is worth it all, whether the effort is worth it, whether to represent a district in this House is an absolute and total waste of time. Quite apart from the House itself and the relevancy of it, just the personal difficulties, the financial difficulties, the long times away, makes one question whether all of it is worth it. I can understand, and I have respect for the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary). As a politician I think he is extremely clever, but I sometimes wonder whether the next company will be my company. Therefore

Mr. Etrachan.

if my company was to be attacked I wonder whether you would force me on the defensive? Because the public do not hear the second story, they never hear the rebuttal. All they hear is the first story. Afterwards you have to defend yourself or you are on the basis of denying the charges and, of course, denying charges to the public means you are guilty anyway.

MR. ROWE: Guilty by insinuations.

MR. STRACHAN: As the member says, guilty and guilty by insinuation. So I wonder whether if not the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) but some other member who personally took a dislike to me, or maybe the Minister of Tourism who one day got angry at some of my questioning, started to discuss the personal financial situation and the fact that I have a company and started to imply that I was getting money from somewhere or there were shares somewhere or this or that then I would find myself in extreme difficulty. And if I found that my wife was being called or being named as a person here in this House, a person who is struggling struggling to try and keep ends meet, struggling to try and run a business from 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. without any aid from me at all, then I feel that if that was going to happen, I do not know what I would do. I am fairly emotional about things like that. I am fairly hot-tempered, and I do not know what I would do, but I certainly would not intend to remain in the House very much longer. I understand that the member and other people, too, and the press have their own reasons for why they do things, and I do not doubt that there is much sense in what is being said in some cases. But I do not see the point of dragging things in and people's names in who cannot defend themselves here. I have just great difficulty in accepting this whole attitude, and I sometimes wonder why we ever take it at all or why we ever decide to take this job at all. I know for instance that in my case and the Newfoundland Labrador Development Corporation that if I had wanted to there could have been some mechanism set up in which I could have obtained a loan at 10 per cent from the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation in which

Mr. Strachan.

maybe somebody had held my shares in trust or held some other shares in trust or some other mechanism so that I could obtain the same privileges as any other ordinary citizen in this Province.

I refused to do that, and the reason I refused to do it and went and sought money elsewhere was - it was going to cost me \$40,000 to \$50,000 more in the next ten years for the privilege of being here - the reason why I refused to do that was I was afraid, virtually afraid. I was not free. I had heard that one could be attacked for things like that. There would not have been anything wrong in it. It would not have been illegal for me to do that. All I would have been trying to do would be to get the privileges of everyone else in this Province. But because I was a member of the House I did not have these privileges and, therefore, I would have to find a mechanism to get these free privileges, these ordinary privileges of ordinary citizens. And, therefore, it could have been implied that I was hiding my names, hiding my shares, hiding my company and, of course, I would have been caught in the position that many other members are caught in, of continually denying, because they would not have heard the rebuttal. All they would hear would be the first charge that what I did was set up a holding company to obtain finances at a privileged or preferred rate of interest and that is enough for the people of this Province. It is enough for the press. And I would be labelled like everyone else as being a crook and in politics only for what I can get out of it. I do not feel I am in it for that. I feel I am sincerely trying to represent a very difficult district.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. STRACHAN: I feel I am sacrificing a great deal of myself, my family life. Sometimes I wonder what a sacrifice is for, whether the sacrifice is worth it, but I am an internal optimist. I believe that I must do what I have to do. I am not ashamed of stating that I get a certain ego satisfaction out of it, a certain feeling from it. Of course, all members do. It is one of the things which keeps you in here despite all the hardship, despite all the difficulties of being a member of the House of Assembly.

MR. STRACHAN.

But I cannot understand for the life of me this continual naming of people, this continual insinuation or innuendo and forcing people to be on the defensive because I know that people could do it with my company. There is nothing wrong with having a company. There is nothing wrong with trying to develop an industry in a part of the Province which is extremely difficult to develop and it is very dicey, very tricky, and it earns very little. We have taken a chance. We did not ask for one penny of government money. There were no grants to build the hotel in the most Northerly part of this Province. Without a grant at all, without any kind of loan, without any kind of assistance, apart from the Newfoundland and Labrador Development Corporation, which we eventually had to turn down because I became elected to this House, it is very difficult to try and run that business. I am not looking for pity, I do not need it. I am strong enough to do what I have to do and live my life without having to have pity. But I still feel that I want to explain some of the difficulties that many of us face in trying to do a decent job. I would hope that maybe some of this name calling and some of the other things that go on may come to an end. But where there is legitimate cause and if there is legitimate cause and legitimate claims then I can understand the use of it, I can understand the argument but I think it requires a great deal of dedicated research, a great deal of application. I think there are other ways of doing it rather than using the House to attack members of a family.

I do not want to continue much longer. I had something I felt was important to say on the fisheries and now I have passed it off in trying to explain some of our personal difficulties of being a member of this House of Assembly. I hope that - certainly the press will not cover these kind of things nor will they believe us nor will people outside - but I hope there will be a change in attitude towards the members of this House of Assembly.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Justice.

Mr. HICKMAN: Mr. Speaker, if I may just have a few words on the debate of this motion. Firstly may I say to my hon. friend from Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) in answer to the question that he posed, "Is it worth it?". The answer is yes, unqualifiedly, yes. I am sure that I share the concern and dismay of many hon. members from time to time when we run into the frustration of bureaucracy, the frustration of debate or the frustration of lack of debate, the unkind comments that are made from time to time in the heat of debate. When you measure that against the tremendous feeling of elation and accomplishment that one gets from time to time when you meet a constituent, a quiet constituent, an elderly person, who thanks you for what you have done for them, which was only in the course of your duty anyway, it makes the whole effort worth it.

When you have the experience of being part of the worrisome and often tiring job of government but at the same time down the road you see certain changes in society, certain changes in the direction in which we are heading, then I say to hon. gentlemen it is worth it. I do believe that after a few years it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain one's enthusiasm for public life. Most hon. gentlemen, when they are first elected, have certain pet projects, certain ambitions, certain changes that they want to make and regrettably often find that there is some good reason why they cannot be made when once they find themselves in a position to make changes. But then you get some of the things done.

I can recall when I first entered public life I had two ambitions above everything else from the point of view of the people whom I represent. One was to change the Workmen's Compensation Act to make deep sea fishermen come within the scope of that Act and the other was to gain government and provincial recognition for the problems and the tragedies and the disasters that the people of St. Lawrence had suffered under for so many years. In these I am modest enough to think that I was somewhat successful. That kind of thing, I say to the hon. member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) makes

MR. HICKMAN:

being in public life worth-while. If anyone is looking for thanks forget it, you will not receive it. If anyone ever enters public life for the purpose of having the mail blocked this high every day with thank you letters, the mailman really will not be knocking at your door.

I believe that sometimes in our anxiety to help this Province, to help our constituents, we have increased their expectations as to what we are supposed to do as their members. I have pleaded with my constituents time and time again, "If you are going to have a function, if you are going to have a dance, if you are going to have a bun fight, if you are going to open something, how about the middle of the week? How about giving your members Saturdays and Sundays at home? Some of them try. Sometimes they accommodate you. But other times not so. All hon. member are supposed to give up their weekends, give up their family life week after week after week and no one else in the Province is asked to make that same sacrifice. But that is the way it goes. Maybe if we spend a bit more time making certain that the people in this Province are aware of some of the responsibilities and the time that is spent as a member of this House or as a member of government or as a member of the Opposition, we would find - I am sure we would - that our constituents and our people are more understanding.

The motion that is presently before the House which is really a motion of non-confidence, asks that this House reaffirm it's faith in the future of Newfoundland and Labrador and calls upon the ministry to present to the House and the people a detailed and specific outline of their goals for the development of this Province. Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne - and there was some hon. gentleman today - I have forgotten who - was reading from the pen of some writer who undoubtedly has never offered himself for public office and never will, whoever he or she might be, commenting on the length of the Speech from the Throne and the verbosity of it. I am the first to

MR. PICKMAN:

admit that the time, I think, has approached when we should reduce, change the style of our Speech from the Throne. I read the Speech from the Throne given in the Legislature in Alberta a couple of years ago, a Province that has so much money, that ministers boast they are unable to spend all that is voted to them in any one year and can bring in massive programmes of reform and change, their Speech from the Throne, I think, was something less than three pages.

Nova Scotia's was less than two and it simply listed the legislation that was coming in almost like an explanatory note. Surely, or I suspect that this is what the people of the Province would like to see. Certainly the editorial writers would like to see it. But, Mr. Speaker, when we are talking about the future of this Province and the faith we have in this Province we have got to direct. I suggest, our attention and our talk to the reality of the present and the recent past. We are living in a nation and in a Province that over the last twenty years or so is constituted by a society that has been totally transformed by government whether we like it or not, and whether the people like it or not.

Originally governments were created for the purpose of maintaining law and order. If it was the national government, External Affairs and Defense. That was the only reason why people banded themselves together to form legislatures, parliaments and governments. That was the sole purpose of a government at the time.

MR. HICKMAN:

By natural evolution governments took on more and more responsibilities; built roads, installed water and sewers and built public buildings, all that sort of thing. If you look through the New England States the Eastern Seaboard you will notice, and there is some significance in this, Mr. Speaker, that the first building that went up in any of these small towns was the court house, and the town evolved around it, and that was simply symbolic of the way that government developed. Particularly during World War II our national government caught on to the method of extracting huge sums of money from the taxpayer, monies that were necessary for the purpose of defending the free world. But when the war was over, when World War II ended, the politicians had gotten use to the idea of robbing the taxpayers blind for the purpose of providing, in many instances, services that the taxpayers did not want in the first place. And there was no way, no way at all that they were going to cease and desist in their method of bringing in these huge sums of money into the public chest.

There was some restraint, I suppose, Prime Minister St. Laurent was the last of the careful spenders in the Canadian Government. But in the last few years, Mr. Speaker, we have gone stark raving mad when it comes to spending money. Now there is no point in comparing dollars as a valid comparison in one sense, the amount of money that was spent in one - I can get up and say with a great deal of pride that four years ago the budget for the Administration of Justice in Newfoundland was \$9 million and it is now \$24 million. And I can argue with a great deal of justification that that shows and gives proof positive that the Moores Administration is sensitive to the changing needs, and changing demands of society. But that is only part of the answer because it is not a total increase of from \$9 million to \$24 million in four years. Some of it is inflated dollars. What one has to look at and what is very relevant is how much of the Gross National Product is being spent, say by our National Government, and what the rate of expenditure is.

Mr. Hickman:

In 1956, Mr. Speaker, the Federal expenditures were 16 per cent of the Gross National Product. And in 1966 it was about the same. But in 1975 it was 23 per cent of the Gross National Product. And I would suggest to this House that no National Government and no Provincial Government can continue to spend at that rate, and to allow that rate of increase in public expenditures to increase because the tax base is not there to sustain it.

MR. SMALLWOOD: Here in Newfoundland -

MR. HICKMAN: In Newfoundland -

MR. SMALLWOOD: - it is about 50 per cent.

MR. HICKMAN: - it is higher. In Newfoundland it is higher because I believe our expectations have been higher. Some of it goaded on by our determination to try and close the gap between this Province and the other Canadian provinces, particularly our sister Maritime Provinces. And our people are impatient. They are not prepared to, and understandably so, recognize that Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had a head start on us of nearly 100 years, and that the public services that they managed to acquire through the Confederacy during that period we now want all within the one time frame of fifteen or twenty years, and this I suspect, and I am afraid is impossible to achieve.

But, Mr. Speaker, when we look at all this spending, the fact that big government has become so close to us, that they wrap their arms around us, and we are beginning to like it, this is the dangerous thing, we are beginning to like it, Mr. Speaker. We are not noticing it, we are like we are under an anesthetic, that we are oblivious to what is going on around us, that year after year more money is being squeezed out of taxpayers, more money taken from their pockets and spent in programmes that they never dreamed of, that they did not want, that they did not ask for, but unfortunately in our wisdom as legislators we decided they should have them anyway. And now, particularly at the National level, the day of reckoning is coming. That massive effort to whack money into the provinces through medicare and through post-

Mr. Hickman:

secondary education, all great, who can be against it? Who could be against it? Suddenly the fears of the provinces at the time, and I can recall being at the meeting when as Provincial Minister of Health in the Smallwood Administration when we asked the Government of Canada, the Federal Minister, Mr. Munroe, whether this formula for medicare would continue in perpetuity, would they enshrine it in the medicare legislation, because we were suspicious of a clause in that Act which called for a review seven years hence. Well the answer was that any prudent government should have the provision for review somewhere down the road, to see if the programme was meeting all the needs of Canadians, whether there have been an improvement in the health of Canadians, and that sort of approach. But lo and behold we now begin to find that the Government of Canada is no longer prepared to be generous and are looking to the provinces, many of whom like this Province were seduced into joining medicare because we had no alternative, There was no way that the Province of Newfoundland could stay outside of the medicare programme when once the Province of Nova Scotia went in, because there would not have been a doctor left here within a year.

MR. SMALLWOOD: We knew we could not afford it. We knew we had to go in.

MR. HICKMAN: We knew we could not afford it. We knew we had to go in.

MR. CROSBIE: And I was the father.

MR. HICKMAN: And the father of medicare who sits to my left as I stand as I used to when - if you see these old photographs when you see the head of the House standing with his hand on the shoulder of the father - when both of us eventually consummated that deal there was some confidence but some apprehension at the time, the confidence being that no Federal Government would dare, dare change that formula, and dare impose upon, particularly the less affluent provinces, an increased tax burden to continue these services, but it has been done.

Mr. Hickman:

Any responsible educator today will tell you, Mr. Speaker, that arising out of the rapid, sometimes unplanned, rush to spend more and more money on post-secondary education by the Government of Canada which is now again being curtailed somewhat, that the programmes quite often fail to produce what was intended. Universities were almost obliged to keep registration at a maximum level so that they could get the maximum per capita grant coming out of the cost sharing programmes that the Federal Government at that time indicated that they would so generously bestow upon us. And today we hear of university graduates finding it difficult to obtain employment. And I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, that many of these young men and women were admitted to university without their capabilities or their aptitudes or, indeed, their desires being fully assessed because it was in the interest of the university to block her to the hatches. And now they find that a discerning public and discerning employers are taking a second look and are looking behind the parchment, are looking at the programmes that were being given, programmes following which a degree was conferred upon an individual, and saying there is something lacking.

We have a pretty strong university by Canadian standards, but I do hope that our university will be prepared to, from time to time, not simply to reassess its expenditures and see where it can cut here and there, but to really take a look at some of the programmes. There may be entire faculties

Mr. HICKMAN:

that are no longer required at the university today. Maybe in this Province the emphasis should be on, say, the faculty of engineering as opposed to the faculty of commerce, I do not know. But there is one thing. Mr. Speaker, I feel reasonably certain of, that the criteria of ten years ago, that the direction that the university was heading in ten years ago may not be valid today. There should be some very agonizing reappraisals, and there should not be in Atlantic Canada a reluctance on the part of educators to co-operate. We have got more universities East of the Quebec border I would suspect well more than the four Western provinces, I am sure of that, and probably almost as many as the Province of Ontario.

If we wanted an Atlantic Provinces ombudsman or an Atlantic Provinces conciliator, there is where we could use him. Use him to try and eliminate some of the duplication of effort, use him to try and convince educators that in some of the professions one school is needed and if that school is functioning properly it is not necessarily required that there be another in some other university, more as a status symbol, or another scheme whereby grants can be made available or paid to the university.

Now I do not know, Mr. Speaker, what all this has to do with the amendment to the Speech from the Throne except I like to believe that in this Speech from the Throne so graciously delivered to us some months ago, many months ago - I can barely remember it now - that the fact that it is not filled with glowing terms and glowing pronouncements as to what we are going to do and promises of what we are going to do, but rather the tone is one of realism. I would hope that the next Speech from the Throne will even be more realistic because unless we are prepared to indicate to the 520,000 or 530,000 souls in the Province of Newfoundland that we do not have the fiscal capacity of Ontario or British Columbia or Alberta then we are only leading them and ourselves further and further down

MR. HICKMAN:

the garden path and the end is not too far around the corner.

But other than that Newfoundland's future, Newfoundland's determination, Newfoundland's firm, fierce determination and the government's firm and fierce determination to win back a resource which will take us when we get it as get it we will - it may be long but we will get it - that will put us into the category of a have Province. When you look on that plus side then, Mr. Speaker, despite the need for cautious optimism we can look, in my opinion, to a future when Newfoundland based on one or two strong, newly developed resources for which the demand is insatiable will, in my opinion, have a very strong place in the Canadian Confederacy.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for Surgeon-Bay D'Espoir.

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to have some things to say on the amendment moved by my colleague, the Leader of the Opposition. I missed the first hour of tonight's sitting. I was attending a Lion's meeting together with my friend from Terra Nova (Mr. Lush). I have been trying to make up my mind since I got back in whether we were missing something. I had to judge by second hand reports and by the comments being made as I came into the chamber by my friend from Trinity-Bay De Verde (Mr. Rowe) and latterly my friend and colleague from Eagle River (Mr. Strachan). I cannot make up my mind whether we missed something or not. Certainly if I may judge from the second hand reports I have been hearing perhaps we had a much more enjoyable time where we were than we would have had here.

I have known the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) for some time. I listened to him carefully as he made his few remarks earlier this evening. If his emotional involvement is something I can judge from, then I would assume that we had some pretty heavy stuff from our friend from LaPoile (Mr. Neary) tonight, Mr. Speaker. Well it is best left to those who heard it first hand

MR. SIMMONS:

to rebut it if indeed we should dignify it by rebuttal. But I just make reference to it now, Mr. Speaker, as a preamble to referring to the opening remarks of the Minister of Justice. I would say for the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan), and indeed for all of us here in the official Opposition, that if the Minister of Justice feels that it is the bureaucracy we are fed up with, if he feels that it is the bureaucracy that the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) is fed up with then he did not hear a word the hon. member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) said. Am I correct? That is not the issue at all and I believe the Minister of Justice and all of us in this chamber know exactly what the issue is.

The member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) put it pretty clearly when he said that once he became an elected politician peoples' attitudes towards him changed. Indeed they did. I found the same thing. Indeed my very good friend from Green Bay (Mr. Peckford) found the same thing as well and many of us can testify to that kind of a transformation, as it were, in terms of the way people have perceived us since. Perhaps that is one of the more disappointing aspects about having become an elected politician. Because as you go through life and you get involved in a career, and particularly in the job of teaching, a career that many of us were involved in here, or almost any job where you come into pretty constant communication with the public and with people, you tend to know yourself somewhat, to know your limitations, your strength and your weakness and you tend to draw on them accordingly and tend to relate, having due respect for your own knowledge of yourself.

But then at some age - in my case age thirty-three - you get involved in politics and you have to change gears completely because all the things that used to work for people do not work any more because their attitudes of you are changed and they are looking at you and saying, "What is he really up to?" Well, Mr. Speaker, I suppose in many respects it is a fact of life, it is a hazard of the game, it is a contingency of the profession of politics.

MR. SIMMONS:

But there is one aspect of it perhaps that we can correct somewhat. I suppose we can. I say this because I have the sin among others of being the eternal optimist. As I say to the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) - I wrote it down as he spoke - my immediate, gut reaction to what he was saying - I certainly share what he has said about the change in attitude by people - but I had to write down his question in reaction. How can they? How can those people who change their attitudes about us help it if they are being told by warped minds every time they turn on the radio that we in this House are a bunch of crooks anyway?

Particularly Mr. Speaker, if some - or that may be specific - I wish the right people were in the House now. But they have a way of conveniently absenting themselves. Yesterday when we took the vote - I forget which vote it was now - yesterday afternoon it was funny, not funny, pathetic to watch. They who shouted the loudest, who had the most to say in terms of giving the government advice about where they should go and what they should do, who did the most name calling and character assassination, they, or should I say he, slipped out of the House within fifteen seconds of the question being called and was back in the House again as soon as the vote was taken.

Now, Mr. Speaker, one of the things I was taught and learned to practice is to practice what you preach. I do not have too much ear to give to people who are all caught up with great solutions to all our problems and yet when the time comes to put their money where their mouth is, they are nowhere to be seen.

Mr. Simmons:

That is another subject. What I really was saying was this; I cannot control the presence in the House of any member. I wish the member for LaPoile (Mr. Neary) were here right now, Mr. Speaker. Because I find it a difficult thing to counter this attitude people have if one of our kind is telling those people that-

AN HON. MEMBER: He is listening.

MR. SIMMONS: Good I am glad to hear that the member for LaPoile is listening, Mr. Speaker. I am glad to hear it. Because when one of our own kind is out telling everybody we are a bunch of crooks anyway, eventually people begin to say, "Perhaps he is right. Perhaps he knows what he is talking about, Perhaps they are all crooks in there, he sits near them all of the time."

Mr. Speaker, I am also glad that the member is listening because I want to say to him and to all the other members of this House that I am not going to waste my breath trying to convince him, I am not going to waste my breath, Mr. Speaker, trying to convince warped minds, they are of no concern to me. They are. That is wrong. That is non-humanitarian, Mr. Speaker, they are of concern to me. They are of concern to me. I have a particular soft spot in my make-up for people who cannot help themselves, Mr. Speaker.

But apart from that, Mr. Speaker, in terms of the present debate I do not say what I have to say tonight because I expect to change that mind. I say it, Mr. Speaker, because I believe strongly that it is time for all of us not to have a closed shop, no, Mr. Speaker, we are pretty open to the public, the public have their chance to get at us the next time they go to the ballot booth. But, Mr. Speaker, it is time for all of us to defend where we have to defend, And I know the story very well of the member from Eagle River, and I can tell you that every word that he said tonight about his particular circumstance is very, very true. And it is not enough, Mr. Speaker, for a member to have to bear the brunt of that within himself, to know that financially, in terms of family, and in many other contexts

Mr. Simmons:

he is being clobbered over the head every waking minute because of his insane, insatiable desire to get involved in this mad game. But in addition to that, Mr. Speaker, he has to be the play toy of warped minds. He has to be there to cater to every whim of somebody who wants to jump up and in order to get a nice big black headline or to hear himself topping the news the next morning on the various radio stations as he sits there and fiddles with the dial to make sure he does not miss his name anywhere, in the interest of catering to that, Mr. Speaker, the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan) has to be the play toy of that kind of a warped mind. Now, Mr. Speaker, there is something drastically wrong with the system, and perhaps it is wrong with us.

I will tell you one thing I did, Mr. Speaker, a long time ago, it has nothing to do with personal feelings towards people in this Chamber at all, it is part of an overall strategy which I feel I owe to myself and to my colleagues in this House who came here to do a job, and which I owe to the very dignity of this House, I gave up again, not for any personal animosities, it is more pity than blame, but I gave up a long while ago being one of the fans sitting above the bull-ring jeering on the matador down there as he stabs his, you know what I mean, bandoliers is it?

MR. WHITE : Yes, big bull.

MR. SIMMONS: Yes. Well any way I wish I knew enough of the dialogue, the vocabulary of the bull ring to carry the analogy through, but you know what I mean.

MR. WHITE : You are no play toy.

MR. SIMMONS: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, you know what I am saying that half the trouble is ours, and as long as we sit above the bull-ring and cheer the matador for drawing some more innocent blood then we will have to share part of the blame for the blood being drawn, and I am not going to do it. I decided long ago that I am not going to do it. Because

Mr. Simmons:

Immature matadors measure their success by the blood they draw, not by the bulls that live but by the bulls that die, and I am not going to allow any such matadors to measure their success by the vociferousness or the loudness of my cheers. If I sit here in stoney silence it is because I do not like to see the innocent blood being drawn, and I will not give any encouragement to it. And I would say to other members who might find themselves enjoying the bullfight of the moment to keep in mind that all the bullfights end the same way or at least that is the matador's intent.

MR. G. DINN: Most of the matadors get theirs in the end.

MR. SIMMONS: Yes. My friend from Pleasantville puts it very well when he says that most of the matadors get theirs in the end.

MR. DOODY : Not all in the end.

MR. SIMMONS: Most of them. I think, Mr. Speaker, the message gets through very well. I think we would overly dignify the item under discussion if we pursued it. But I think if we are looking for part, not part of the problem, I know where the problem is, in my own mind I do anyway, I have a fairly prejudice view on the subject I am sure, but if we are looking for part of the solution to the problem, Mr. Speaker, it may be best suggested by saying, let us stop for buying tickets to the fight, or let us leave the ring, as the case may be.

Mr. Speaker, it should not be that the member for Eagle River (Mr. Strachan), and I trust he will pardon me for using him as the example in this particular comment, it should not be the member for Eagle River should even have to stand as he did tonight and bare his soul, as it were, about his own particular circumstance. He did it not because he wanted to talk about himself, I assure you of that. Because he has been so nauseated by what has gone on here that by stating the fact of his own case he hopes, and I hope, that all of us will get the message and decide to do something about it.

Mr. Speaker, if I ever leave here one day, and I am sure

Mr. Simmons:

I will, either because the people decide they have had enough of me and they elect someone else in my stead, and that is their choice, or because I do not run again and that is a very good possibility, I want you to know, Mr. Speaker, I will leave here because I will not be able to continue here perhaps for financial reasons. I will not leave here because of the machinations or the spewings of any warped minds. To do that, Mr. Speaker, would be to give the bullring over to them. We have a responsibility to the people who sent us here, despite the odds, to at least not only preserve the dignity, dignity of its ownself is not worth anything unless it is serving a purpose, but not only to preserve the dignity of this House, Mr. Speaker, but to see that the job we were sent here to do is done. So I will leave here someday but it will not be because, as I say, of the spewings of any warped minds.

Mr. Speaker, I suggested one solution; we could all stop buying tickets to the fight or leave the ring as the case may be, But there is another possibility of course, Mr. Speaker, one-I should get the idea, what is the word? - patented or patented or copyrighted or whatever the case might be - when I was in Boston one time I had the occasion to go over to Harvard and see Dr. Skinner's box. We need another box, Mr. Speaker, somewhat larger than Dr. Skinner's, wired for sound, constantly-the box should be certainly six feet high, standing room perhaps, lying down room

MR. SIMMONS:

might be enough, Mr. Speaker, crawling room might be enough - but, Mr. Speaker, a box wired for sound constantly spewing forth newscasts, newscasts centered around one individual all the time, every minute of the day. Two televisions one on each channel, same newscast, photos all around, dinner plates with the same photos on them, a menu of peoples' characters to cut up and chew up and digest. That might be the solution. I do not know. It would certainly be the ideal, the Utopia box, would it not? Because it would have in it all the necessities of life and survival and happiness, for some people.

Mr. Speaker, there are subjects which upset me less, like my district. I am delighted to say that I will not be with you tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, I will be in Burgeo. I would like to talk for a minute about the town of Burgeo. It has a lot of needs, needs which have not really been fully brought to the attention of the Province. Burgeo is a town of about 3,000 and I suppose together with Nanook and the communities in the immediate area, Grand Trout and the community of LaPoile to the west and Gray River, Francois and McCallum to the East, these seven communities, the most isolated part if you like of the Southwest Coast, these communities with their just about 7,000 population altogether, I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, constitute one of the most neglected parts of the whole of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. It is a kind of statement that is not new. It has been made about many parts. Many parts of this Province have been called the forgotten coast and with good reason.

But for a lot of reasons that I will not document tonight, Mr. Speaker, that particular stretch of coast has been particularly forgotten. One of the reasons is it has not over the years had effective voices, or they might have had effective voices but they were not making their voices heard. But another reason, Mr. Speaker, is that the Southwest Coast has always been a fairly confusing

MR. SIMONS:

expression. Very often if you did something for Hermitage or for Bay d'Espoir or Harbour Breton or Port aux Basques it was construed you had done something for the Southwest Coast. Indeed you had done something for part of it, no question.

MR. HICKMAN: On the Southwest Coast is always confused with the South Coast.

MR. SIMONS: The Minister of Justice anticipates my next point and he is as brilliant as he always was. Exactly. The real Southwest Coast, Mr. Speaker, gets very often misconstrued with the whole South Coast west of the Burin Peninsula. That is exactly what I am saying and I thank the minister for getting me to it more quickly. If we are going to talk really about the Southwest Coast we have got to start with Hermitage Bay and go west. Rushthrough as it was, no longer, but McCallum and so on. That area, Mr. Speaker, has not had a lot of attention.

I want very quickly - time is limited - I just want very quickly to identify once again some of the issues that face the people. Perhaps I can take the various communities in my district one by one. Burgeo is the largest community. The new fish plant is under construction there. So Burgeo has an economic future, a very bright economic future depending in large measure on what happens in terms of fish stocks and so on. But if we can assume - and the Minister of Fisheries would be the first to remind me that we cannot really assume anything about fish stocks these days - but if we may assume that for the moment, because that is an issue that we do not have a lot of control over as a Province, but in terms of the facility, the onshore facility, the fish plant and so on, the catch capability and so on, the labour force, Burgeo does have a very bright future, essentially a full employment economy for the foreseeable future.

Burgeo together with the rest of the Southwest Coast belongs to that one area of the Province which can really legitimately boast of a year round fishery. Very few people realize that the

MP. SIMMONS:

men on that coast fish for ten or ten and a half months a year.

They take a short break at Christmas for reasons of Christmas but also to get their gear back in shape. But by the tenth or twelfth or fifteenth of January they are back at it again. Burgeo is going to be a community for a long time to come.

With that in mind, of course, we have to particularly address ourselves to the roads needs. We all know that some work is being done on the Burgeo road this year. I am hoping that some more can be done. But ten miles is better than nothing. There is a need for an airstrip there. There is a need for extensions to the water and sewer system there. We have had some discussions with the officials of the Department of Municipal Affairs on that subject and I am happy to say that they are looking pretty actively into the need because they recognize it is a pressing need. Tied into that water and sewer need is the need for housing. Again the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing, together with Newfoundland and Labrador Housing, are becoming aware of the housing needs in Burgeo.

While still on the town of Burgeo there is the recreation need. I would like to come back to that one a little later on. Moving down the Coast there is Pamea, a community of 1,500 people. Again the need for water and sewer extensions, the need for housing, roads, the need for a good link, a transportation link with Burgeo. I am not discounting the present service, the Senator Penny which operates, and the coastal boats. But with the completion of the Burgeo road whereby people will be able to - in Pamea I should say - people in Pamea will be able to go across to Burgeo and then get out on the highway in a matter of minutes as it were. There will be a need for a faster and more frequent transportation method between Pamea and Burgeo. That is something we have to be looking at. On Saturday, day after tomorrow, I will be in Pamea and I will be convening the first meeting of a new committee, a Burgeo-McCallum

MR. SIMONS:

Transportation Committee. This is a five member committee with a representative from each of the communities, Burgeo, Pamea, Grey River, Francois and McCallum. This committee grew out of the transportation seminar which we had in Burgeo late in March. As I say the first meeting will be on Saturday and the committee will address itself to, not only the transportation needs of Pamea, the subject on which I am talking about now, but the transportation needs of the whole area. I would hope in time that any recommendations which would require provincial government involvement will be forthcoming to the government from the committee in due course.

In talking about Pamea, Mr. Speaker, I could have made many of the same comments that I made a moment ago about Burgeo in terms of the future of the town. It has a viable, continuing fishing industry, complete with a fish plant as most of us well know.

Grey River, Mr. Speaker, though very near Burgeo and Pamea is in many respects a very different kind of community, different in terms of the employment opportunities. It is the one community, Mr. Speaker, along the Southwest Coast which really is without an employment base.

MR. WOODBONE: How many families there?

MR. SIMONS: About forty or forty-four I believe, forty-four families in Grey River.

MR. WOODBONE: How many people there?

MR. SIMONS: About 250, 250 plus probably. Grey River is a community without an employment base. One of the thoughts I have on that particular subject, particularly with the new fish plant coming to Burgeo and the existing plant at Pamea and with the implications of the road going into Burgeo and then the implication of a faster transportation method, which I mentioned just now, I could visualize with the road from Burgeo, some kind of a fast boat which operated, say, from Grey River, Francois, Pamea, Burgeo

MR. SIMMONS:

several times a day, for example. The run from Burgeo to Grey River would only be forty-five minutes or something like that.

MR. WOODROW: How many miles is it, from Grey River to Burgeo?

MR. SIMMONS: Grey River to Burgeo, about twenty plus.

MR. WOODROW: The ferry run would be long in rough weather?

MR. SIMMONS: Yes, well, of course, it is not nearly as bad as it would be, say, after you get West of LaPoile community. But they have a ferry on there which operates into Grey River about four days a week and it is seldom that it has to lay up because of the weather conditions. They operate right through the Winter.

MR. CROSBIE: Who started the ferry by the way?

MR. SIMMONS: Well I would invite the Minister to tell me because I honestly do not know.

MR. ROBERTS: They certainly did.

MR. SIMMONS: Well the Minister of Mines -

MR. ROBERTS: I am sure they did not start, Gaultois to Hermitage.

MR. SIMMONS: The Minister of Mines and Energy reminds me or he says that it was this government that started it. That might well be the case. If so, full credit is due. Having set the precedent, Mr. Speaker, then it is easier. Since the minister is sitting so near the Premier perhaps he will lean over and draw the parallel if it needs to be drawn, between the need in the Namea-Grey River area and the need, which the Premier recognized three years ago, in the McCallum-Gaultois area. Because the same kind of subsidy - indeed the people in McCallum and Gaultois, as my friend from Fortune-Hermitage (Mr. J. Winsor) will recall, asked for a lesser, a smaller subsidy than is presently operative in the Grey River-Namea-Burgoon case. So if the minister wants to talk about ferry subsidies my friend from Fortune-Hermitage (Mr. J. Winsor) and I will talk to him at any time at all. But he might talk to the Premier because the Premier is even more familiar with it than I am because he saw the need and

MR. SIMMONS:

made the commitment.

But, Mr. Speaker, what I prefer to do instead of getting involved in the banter which I would enjoy, I would rather instead just draw attention to the needs of the area. I was talking about Grey River and I was just about to point out that with the coming of the road to Burgeo, in another two or three years or whatever, and with the need of a faster boat service, say to Pamea, Grey River and Burgeo and so on where people could get access to the roads several times a day, I could see people in Grey River commuting to Pamea and Burgeo for job purposes. Once we get the fish plant in Burgeo I am doubtful whether the local people will be able to fill all the jobs in terms of -

MR. LUNDWIGAN: It depends on the volume of fish caught.

MR. SIMMONS: Is that the agreement for the fish plant?

MR. DOODY: For this government.

MR. LUNDWIGAN: Could we straighten it out sometime?

MR. SIMMONS: It is not volume as the minister will know. It is not volume alone that counts. Would the minister tell us what the agreement is about.

MR. LUNDWIGAN: It helps.

MR. SIMMONS: Very good! Very good!

I was saying I can see the day in the next two or three years when the people of Grey River who do not have an employment base in Grey River would be able to commute to Pamea and Burgeo. Indeed there are a number in Grey River right now who have been offered jobs in the existing plant at Burgeo who cannot take them. They could if they could find boarding accommodations in Burgeo but that is a problem in itself.

The community of Grey River though, apart from the need for an employment base, I have mentioned already the desperate need for fire protection. Now the Minister of Municipal Affairs indicated in the House a couple of weeks ago that he was looking at this matter.

MR. SIMONS:

I sincerely hope that he comes up with some solution. I believe the solution is there. It is right at hand. I suggest it is as follows: I have said before, and just let me reiterate, that in the Department of Municipal Affairs they have or there is a mechanism now for looking after water services by way of a Water Services Committee. Equally there is a mechanism for looking after roads in the Department of Transportation and Communications through the Local Roads Board. There are precedents. It would be a simple matter, Mr. Speaker, for the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing or the Department of Rural Development to look at setting up regulations to provide for the establishment of Fire Protection Committees in those communities. The real solution to that problem, Mr. Speaker, is allowing those communities to incorporate.

MR. ROBERTS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMONS: Mr. Speaker, the people of Grey River have other problems which they could address themselves to through incorporation, the water problem.

MR. DOODY: I was just noticing one of their problems.

MR. SIMONS: Yes the Minister is in a very good position to notice one of their problems. He is - no, I will not say it. It is too late at night, Mr. Speaker, and he is such a kind soul, why use the advantage of the mike tonight to do things like that?

The people of Grey River are in desperate need of water. The Minister of Finance does not want to hear these things, but I want to say them. They are in need of roads. They are in need of a mechanism for garbage collection. Now, Mr. Speaker, with the exception of the job employment base, for which there is a need, all the other items I have mentioned relate to the need for a municipal body. The Minister of Municipal Affairs has not yet given any reason - forget plausible reasons or otherwise - has not yet given any reason why there should not be incorporation of small communities. The only

MR. SIMMONS:

reason I have heard is that Professor Whalen did not recommend it. Well Professor Whalen, Mr. Speaker, with all due respect to him - I was much impressed by his report - but I do not think he ever lived in Grey River. I do not think he ever had to wrestle with the lack of a water supply, the lack of a regular garbage collection, the lack of fire protection. It is easy, Mr. Speaker, to sit in St. John's and Corner Brook and in the larger centers of the Province and come to the conclusion that perhaps the best thing to do is pretend that Grey River and McCallum did not exist. But they do, Mr. Speaker, and people make their living there and enjoy the way of life they have there.

We do not have, Mr. Speaker, to make available to them facilities beyond their requirement, the kind of facilities you would make available to an urban center. But we ought, Mr. Speaker, at least to give them their just desserts. We ought at least to make available to them the same mechanisms for local government that exist in larger communities.

MR. DOODY: Who owns the store in Grey River, the general store?

MR. SIMMONS: The general store. The Minister of Finance wants to know who owns the general store. It is Mr. Joshua Rose. It used to be John Penny and Sons, Spencer Lake's wife's family. But they sold out, I do not know how long ago, before my time as a member, some years ago they sold out to Mr. Joshua Rose, a local resident at Grey River and he runs it. Well I should not be singling out one store because there are really two there. I was thinking of the one on the wharf but Mr. Cerfield Young also operates a general store there as well.

Mr. Speaker, I could go further down the coast and I shall very quickly mention Francois. You remember, Mr. Speaker, that money was made available for water services in Francois. There was established there a Water Services Committee and through the auspicious of the Department of Municipal Affairs or Water

Mr. SIMMONS:

Services Division a system has been constructed there. There are some problems with the system. I have been in touch with officials of the minister's department, even today, because during the Winter for whatever reason - we will not go into it - but during the Winter there were some freezeups and the system is far from working as a result. But it is too early to be passing judgement or to say what really caused the problem. Officials of the minister's department are either on their way to Francois or will be in the next day or so to take a first hand look at it. It has to be corrected and it is going to cost some money to do so. But I understand that money is to be made available for that purpose.

Francois, Mr. Speaker, and the next community of McCallum have problems which are very much in common except that McCallum has an acute - Mr. Speaker, it is becoming a little difficult to talk. I can appreciate that a district speech is not of particular interest to other members but I would invite them to either be silent or sleep and snore quietly or something.

Mr. Speaker, the next item I come to affects McCallum and it is one that again the Premier will be familiar with. Indeed I discussed the matter with him today. So I shall leave it with him because he is aware of the acute need that exists for a water supply in McCallum. There is a history behind it but I do not think this is the time or place - it is certainly the place but I do not think it is the time to go into that now. The need is there.

Mr. THOMPSON: Peckford Memorial System?

Mr. SIMMONS: No, no.

MR. SIMMONS: It is too late at night, 'Ed', it really is too late at night.

MR. ROBERTS: You and the Premier have made a private deal or there is another coalition in the House.

MR. SIMMONS: We are in cahoots, we have - Mr. Speaker, I have decided there were so many coalitions on the go I better get in on one of them while there was still time.

MR. ROBERTS: The member is lucky he has one to get in.

MR. SIMMONS: So the Premier and I made our own coalition today. It is not only the latest coalition, Mr. Speaker, that the Premier and I made today, the two member coalition this afternoon, it also has the distinction of being one of the biggest coalitions.

MR. ROBERTS: The two of you.

MR. SIMMONS: Certainly one of the biggest coalitions, this one has two members in it, Mr. Speaker. I say for the Premier's benefit that the coalition he and I made today is not only the latest coalition but one of the biggest ones on the go these days.

MR. ROBERTS: It has two in it.

MR. SIMMONS: It has two members in it.

MR. ROBERTS: One more than most of the other coalitions.

MR. DODDY: That has to be the biggest one.

MR. ROBERTS: It is the biggest one on the go in the house.

MR. SIMMONS: Oh forget about the coalition that the Minister of Forestry is involved in.

MR. ROUSSEAU: You have got two. That is the biggest one.

MR. SIMMONS: Okay, we will leave it there.

Mr. Speaker, I believe to be a little more serious for a moment the point is made that McCallum, as the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Premier and others know, has a very serious water problem, a problem that frightens me really when I think about it because of the health overtone. People are drinking surface water there day and night. Now I have heard that about other communities

Mr. Simmons:

but it is no more literally true about any other community than it is about McCallum, and I am hoping that something can be done. Again an official of the minister's department, Mr. Ken Dominie, and Mr. Frank Nolan of Nolan and White Associates, and I were in McCallum in November at which time Mr. Nolan had a look at the situation and has since made some recommendations to the minister's department.

I am hoping that these recommendations can be acted upon pretty soon, certainly during the coming Summer.

Mr. Speaker, McCallum like Francois and like Grey River, of course, has the fire protection problem, it has the garbage collection problem. In short, it has the need for some local government mechanism to allow them to address themselves to these local needs.

I come now, Mr. Speaker, very quickly to the Bay d'Espoir area. The overriding issue in Bay d'Espoir, Mr. Speaker, has to be and is jobs, the need for an employment base. The Bay d'Espoir area, if you ignore for the moment the present construction project where the Bay d'Espoir generating station is being extended, and that is providing a couple of hundred jobs at the moment, but if you ignore that, because it is not an on-going job provider, if you ignore that, Bay d'Espoir would have to fall into the category of communities which has the highest unemployment rate in the Province. It is very, very chronic. If you look at it in the context of jobs locally provided then it must take the record as being the area of the Province-

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, it is getting pretty unruly in here about now, I hope I get invited to the party after but I would like to have the floor for another five minutes, if I may.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please!

MR. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, it is not a very witty subject. I would like to say to the Minister of Finance that, you know, man cannot live on wit alone, and once and a while he has got to worry, he has

Mr. Simmons:

got to worry about the job problems in Bay d'Espoir. And if he would scratch his head a little bit more about that than about looking for a smart line then perhaps we would be one step nearer to the solution.

MR. FLIGHT

Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS:

Take that 'Bill'.

MR. SIMMONS:

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the chronic unemployment problem in Bay d'Espoir, there are local problems for each area of the community. Housing is a problem right throughout Bay d'Espoir, water and sewer in St. Alban's is a big problem, and I think the department will be addressing itself to that problem, the Department of Municipal Affairs will be addressing itself to that problem this Summer. Recreation is a big need all throughout the district.

And I am sure, Mr. Speaker, what I have had to say about the district needs are, while they are specific to particular communities, are not that different than most members could say about their various communities, particularly if they represent rural areas as most of us do. But the need, Mr. Speaker, needs to be stated again and again. And I would submit that in the case of the communities of Burgeo-Bay d'Espoir we are going to have to recognize that these communities have priority, belong to a priority list of any department of government because of the neglect that they have known for so many years.

Now, Mr. Speaker, before finishing, I just have a minute or two, but I did want to follow up just for a moment what my friend from St. Georges (Mrs. McIsaac) had to say. I was very delighted with her maiden speech in this House tonight, and members who are not involved directly in our caucus had a chance, perhaps for the first time, to realize that the member for St. Georges, not only has a very keen mind and a very real awareness of what this job is all about and the needs of her district, but is able to articulate very clearly when the time comes on what those needs are. And I was very pleased tonight to listen to her

Mr. Simmons:

as she talked about her district. I was also interested to hear her comments about this recreation programme.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot in the last few months about restraint and so on and so forth, and again we can leave that for another time. But insofar as it involves recreation, the government's pronouncements about recreation programmes, I find it very puzzling the set of events that is going on with respect to stadias in the nine communities she has mentioned, and versus the way that government is handling the stadium for Ferryland. And, Mr. Speaker, I lived personally through the Hermitage by-election and I saw how things were done there. And, Mr. Speaker, for some reason, with all of the due respect for the way the Minister without Portfolio or the Acting Minister of Recreation can stand up and say politics had nothing to do with it, I have to say to him, Mr. Speaker, I find it very hard to believe, when I reflect back on the way things were done during the Hermitage by-election days and see this business going on now with Ferryland. It was not even on the list of nine, and now for some reason it gets jumped ahead of the list and it is going to be a fait accompli. Mr. Speaker, the minister is going to have to give us more reasons than that, Mr. Speaker. He is going to have to give us a lot more reasons than that why nine stadiums announced in March do not have priority over one announced six months later, in August of that year.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. ROBERTS: Hear, hear! The minister has to explain it.

MR. SIMMONS: I would hope, Mr. Speaker, -

MR. HICKMAN: The member for Stephenville (Mr. McNeil) wants to say a few words.

MR. SIMMONS: I would hope, Mr. Speaker, that before the stadium goes, if I may just clue up in a word or two, before the stadium goes in Ferryland the people of Whitbourne and Conception Bay South and Windsor and St. Georges and Bishop's Falls and Marystown and Corner Brook, Wabush and St. John's will be told, Mr. Speaker, -

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

MR. SIMMONS: - I hope these people will be told, Mr. Speaker, why it is that for some reason Ferryland was favoured over these others.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SIMMONS: And finally, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest that if the government wants to demonstrate its restraint and its concern for leading this Province in the right direction it talk less, Mr. Speaker, it talk less about stadiums for Ferryland, less about the flag and more about the cronic unemployment problem which we are facing in this Province.

MR. ROBERTS: Hear, hear!

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. John's East.

MR. W. W. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, it is now 11:00 o'clock so I move the adjournment of the debate.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

MR. SPEAKER: It is moved and seconded that the debate be adjourned.

MR. WELLS: Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do now adjourn until 10:00 o'clock tomorrow morning, Friday, May 28, 1967. ,

On motion the House at its rising adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, May 28 at 10:00 A.M.

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Statements by Ministers

Premier Moores announced senior staff changes; Government's decision to retain as a separate department the Department of Recreation and Rehabilitation; organization of changes in the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Environment; and that the Division of Labrador Services will be transferred to the Department of Rural Development, with Mr. Mike Martin retained to act as a special advisor to the minister.

8860

Spoken to by:

Mr. Roberts
Mr. Smallwood

8866
8875

Notices of Motion

Notice was given that on tomorrow leave would be sought to introduce Bills Nos. 65,73,74,69,71,75,76,68, and 70.

8878

Oral Questions

Query as to what representations have been made to Ottawa with reference to the redfish-caplin agreement entered into by Canada and Russia. Mr. Roberts, Mr. W. Carter.

8879

Query as to whether the minister's representations consisted of more than a request for a meeting on the issue. Mr. Roberts, Mr. W. Carter.

8879

Request that a copy of the telegram sent Ottawa be made public. Mr. Roberts, Mr. W. Carter.

8880

Query as to whether Premier Moores made a deal with the National Leader of the P.C. Party that the St. John's West federal by-election would be held prior to three provincial by-elections. Mr. Neary, Premier Moores.

8880

Query as to when the three by-elections will be held. Mr. Neary, Premier Moores.

8880

Query as to the nature of correspondence between Premier Bourassa and Premier Moores concerning electricity generated at Churchill Falls. Mr. Rowe, Premier Moores.

8880

Query as to whether the administration would bring a resolution into the House seeking unanimous consent on its dealings with Quebec. Mr. Rowe, Premier Moores.

8881

Query as to whether the Department of Health is prepared to perform services previously provided by the Child Welfare Association. Mr. Rideout, Mr. H. Collins.

8882

Query as to whether additional staff will be required. Mr. Rideout, Mr. H. Collins.

8883

Changes in the National Employment Act. Mr. Smallwood, Premier Moores.

8883

Query as to whether additional consideration will be given such provinces as Newfoundland because of the high number of seasonal jobs. Mr. Smallwood, Premier Moores.

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Query as to what share of the federal funds allocated for make-work projects will come to Newfoundland this year. Mr. Neary, Premier Moores.	8885
Query as to whether obtaining a major share of such federal fund will be a priority item at the First Ministers' Conference. Mr. Neary, Premier Moores.	8887
Query concerning a fall of ground at Bell Island. Mr. Neary, Mr. Crosbie.	8887
Query as to remedial action. Mr. Neary, Mr. Crosbie.	8888
Future of the post of assistant deputy minister, vocational, in the Department of Education.	8888
Query as to whether financial assistance will be provided the City of St. John's to pay half the cost of meter attendants. Mr. Neary, Mr. Hickman.	8888
Query as to when such a decision can be expected. Mr. Neary, Mr. Hickman.	8889
Query as to whether proposals have been submitted to the Government of Canada concerning job creation programs that could be put into effect in this province this year. Mr. Roberts, Premier Moores.	8889
Specifics sought. Mr. Roberts, Premier Moores.	8890
Query concerning amounts paid Cabot Group 4. Mr. Simmons, Mr. Rousseau.	8890
Road paving program. Mr. Callan, Premier Moores.	8891
Query as to why tenders are being called for some road construction and not for others. Mr. Callan, Premier Moores.	8892
Newsprint markets, and the possibility of downtime at Bowaters and Price (Nfld.). Mr. Neary, Premier Moores.	8893
The Salmonier Wilderness Park. Mr. Roberts, Mr. Hickey.	8894
Query as to the salvaging of pulpwood floating in Red Indian Lake. Mr. Flight, Mr. Rousseau.	8895
Query as to whether salvaging operations are tied in with negotiations for long-term forest management. Mr. Flight, Mr. Rousseau.	8895
Caplin stocks and the USSR-Canada agreement. Mr. Neary, Mr. W. Carter.	8897
Query as to whether that means only Canadian ships should be allowed to take caplin with the 200 mile limit. Mr. Neary, Mr. W. Carter.	8898

Orders of the Day

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